



# THE CHALICE

## FEBRUARY 2018

### ***A Note from The Rev. Peter Boullata***

This month, as we reflect together on our theme of “Faith,” I think it might be important for us to distinguish “faith” from “belief.”

Many people, in speaking of their “faith,” seem to be referring to a set of propositions. These can be liberal affirmations or assertions, to be sure, but I think this misses something basic about faith. Faith is a quality of relationship, marked by trust and confidence. Belief is an intellectual assent to ideas. Believing is an activity of the mind; faith is a path of the heart.

In whom or in what have we placed our faith? In whom or in what can we be confident, assured that our trust has not been misplaced?

For many, it is the divine that commands this confidence and assurance. The relationship with the divine—higher power, God, the Goddess—is marked by the trust at the core of the word “faith.” For others, faithfulness is a matter of staying true to what we know to be right, beautiful, and good.

For us as Unitarian Universalists, I suggest that fidelity to our gathered, covenanted community is a fair measure of our faith. Do we bring the best of what we have to our common life? Are we as generous as we can be toward others with whom we are covenanted? Are we generous in our fiduciary responsibilities as members and participants in our congregation?

This month, we are also considering our financial and other obligations to our beloved congregation. Faithfulness, fidelity, fiduciary—these words are all rooted in what we mean by “faith” and highlight its relationality. Are we trustworthy in our commitments to this network of friends, this fellowship?

Let our generosity be a sign of faith—faith in the goodness of our ministry, the beauty of what we create together, and the rightness of our mission to bring our principled, humane way to our wider world.

Faithfully yours,  
Peter Boullata

## ***From the CUC***

The [January eNews](#) was published earlier, and in case you haven't had a chance to read it, here are some highlights and need-to-know items:

- **Annual General Meeting**, May 18, 2018 – McMaster University, Hamilton ON:
  
- **National Conference**, May 18-20, 2018, McMaster University, Hamilton ON
  
- **2018 Sharing Our Faith Worship package**, prepared by Rev. Anne Barker & Rosemary Morrison:
  
- **Upcoming Webinars:**
  - Congregational Database Management  
Feb 10, 9:30 am PST | 12:30 pm EST
  
  - Alternative Experiences Roundtable: Feb 24, 9:30 am PST | 12:30 pm EST

There's more - on the CUC website under Communications.

## ***Sunday Worship Schedule 10:45 a.m.***

**February 4 - First Sunday Potluck**  
Theme for February is "Faith".  
Service Leader is Bob Harrington.

**February 11 - Unitarian Universalist  
Faith: Four Pivotal Perspectives**

Worship Leader - Bill Ratcliffe  
Service Leader - Rev. Peter Boullata

How we live our Unitarian Universalist faith matters. Four pivotal perspectives will be explored. They are: mindfulness; discerning consideration; striving; balance. Our relative often paradoxical faith requires continuing re-examination.

**February 18 - Whole Church Service**

Service Leaders - Lori Turner Otte and Children and Youth of RE

**February 25 - "Love Will Keep Us Together"**

Worship Leader - Rev. Peter Boullata

Relationships, including the network of intentional relationships called community, require commitments. To what or to whom do we commit when we are members of a congregation? Are we faithful in those commitments?

## ***President's Message***

It is hard to believe I am already writing this message for the February *Chalice*. January has flown past so quickly.

January's theme was *Leadership* and we started the month with a meaningful and interactive pot-luck service led by Ann Klinck. She challenged us to name and rank the character traits necessary for both Leadership and Followership. I feel it got everyone thinking about the gifts they bring to our community.

On January 14<sup>th</sup> we were pleased to welcome back The Rev. Linda Thomson, as a guest speaker. It was lovely to see her again.

January 27<sup>th</sup> was our Services Auction and Dinner, the kick-off to our Stewardship campaign. I want to thank everyone who helped organize, brought food and set up or cleaned up. It takes a village of helpers and we had one! As well, thank-you, thank-you, thank-you for your generosity! In the days to come you will receive a Stewardship pledge form. Please include the UFL in your financial planning this year and pledge an amount that is right for you. All that this congregation has and all that this congregation is, we bring to it- our talents, our spirit, our time, our imagination, our passion, our dedication, and our money.

There will be a soup lunch after the service on February 25<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our wonderful congregation. Please plan to attend.

Thank-you for doing everything that you are doing. Together, we are the Unitarian Fellowship of London.

- Judith Warren

## ***Services Auction - January 27th***

"Thank you to every person who helped make the 2018 Services Auction a success! Your gifts, your presence, and you, created an ambiance of warmth and fellowship."

The bidding results will be distributed in an email, as well as posted on the UFL bulletin board. If you would like your own copy, send a request to Patricia (519-451-0424) or email at [ufl@execulink.com](mailto:ufl@execulink.com), and she will mail a copy to you.

Kat Proctor, Vice President and Services Auction Coordinator

## ***Remembering Pat Chefurka***

We have been saddened to learn of the death of Pat Chefurka on January 21, 2018.

In 1953, Pat became a founding member of our beloved Unitarian Fellowship of London and remained a committed and engaged member for many years. She and her husband Bill moved to Penetanguishene last year to be closer to family as they experienced increasing health challenges. Pat died from complications of Parkinson's' Disease.

Pat's commitment to Social Justice defined everything she did. She championed many progressive causes over the years and was an inspiration to many.

Many at the UFL will remember the *Londoners for Afghanistan's Women* which Pat spearheaded in 2000. This group was focused on raising awareness of the conditions faced by Afghanistan's women and children and raising funds for them through *Care Canada*. She organized fundraising dinners and speaking events. At one such event, the guest speaker was former foreign affairs minister, The Honourable Flora MacDonald. There was standing room only at the Wolf Performance Hall.

Pat was a mover and shaker in London electoral politics. She was active in numerous election campaigns and also ran for office herself more than once. She managed the successful NDP provincial campaign for Irene Matthyssen in 1990. No one had believed the NDP could win that year. When recruiting volunteers or fundraising, she often led with the statement "I'm up to my elbows in democracy here!"

Pat never strayed from her principles. She never lost hope. She had a strong sense of self. She was a wonderful role model for young women and girls.

Our sincere condolences go to her husband Bill and their family. In keeping with Pat's wishes there will be a memorial service at a later date for immediate family only.

~ Judith Warren

## **LEADERS WANTED**

Over the past month, our congregation has been exploring the topic of leadership. We had a lively potluck discussion about leadership and followership. All ages explored leadership through Leo Tolstoy's children's book *The Three Questions*, Rev. Linda Thomson spoke about leadership in spiritual communities, and Rev. Peter introduced the idea of servant-leadership.

During our Potluck Service, groups were asked to consider and sort a group of characteristics into those which best described leaders, followers, both, or neither within the context of our community. Interestingly, all groups decided that most of the characteristics could describe both leaders and followers (e.g., generosity, respect, open-mindedness, communication).

When one considers the idea of shared ministry, this makes a lot of sense. Peter explained how servant-leadership focuses on the growth and well-being of the people and communities they serve. Good followership has been defined as working together to support the mission, work and growth of an organization.

The nominating committee has been entrusted with identifying people who may want to serve in key leadership roles in our congregation. People at the potluck thought that it was important that leaders be adaptable, accountable, creative, focused on mission, collaborative, and committed. I know that there are many among us who share at least some of those attributes. We may approach you. Of course, in the spirit of shared ministry you are welcome to come to us too if you want to find out more, offer your services, or to make suggestions.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee,

Ann Klinck, Past President, UFL Board of Trustees

## **To Reach Rev. Boullata**

I am available to meet and visit with you primarily on Sundays that I am at the UFL, (generally, but not always, the second and fourth Sunday of the month) between 3 and 6 p.m. It is best to email or call ahead, and to arrange with me in advance if you'd like to make an appointment or have me visit with you during those times. I am sometimes available at other times, so check with me.

Email: [rev.peter.boullata@gmail.com](mailto:rev.peter.boullata@gmail.com)

Telephone: 519-451-0424, press 2.

## **The Unitarian Fellowship of London**

557 Clarke Road, London, ON, N5V 2E1

**Minister:** The Reverend Peter Boullata

Sunday Services 10:45am

### **The Board**

President.....Judith Warren  
Vice President & Congregational Health  
Trustee .....Kathleen Proctor  
Past President .....Ann Klinck  
Treasurer .....Alastair Henry  
Living Tradition Trustee.....Allan Grose  
Secretary.....Vacant  
Youth Rep..... Vacant

### **Lay Chaplains**

Christine McKinlay-Smith  
and Joyce Orchard

### **Director Children's Religious Exploration**

Lori Turner-Otte

### **Child Care Provider**

Melissa Phillips

### **Office Manager**

Patricia Daly

### **Pianist**

Eric Charbonneau and Alex Chen

### **Contact us...**

Telephone (519) 451-0424

Email [ufl@execulink.com](mailto:ufl@execulink.com)

[www.unitarianfellowshipoflondon.org](http://www.unitarianfellowshipoflondon.org)

### **Office Hours**

Please telephone the Office Manager  
(519-451-0424)  
to arrange a time to accommodate you.