



UNITARIAN CONGREGATION OF NIAGARA
A Congregation for Everybody

UCN NEWS

March 2024

Our Covenant

We come in peace
To this place of fellowship and love,
Searching for truth and meaning,
Seeking justice and equity through action,
Supporting each other and serving our community,
Acknowledging and preserving the gifts of this world,
This is our covenant with each other and with all.

UPCOMING SERVICES

March 3 - International Women's Day - service presented and led by Sarah McLaren

March 10 - The Fifth Principle: Right of Conscience and Democracy - presented by Matt Virro and service led by Liina Veer

March 17 - Does Healing Energy Work - service presented and led by Jim Glassford

March 24 - Transformation and Hope - presented by Grace Cirocco and service led by Karen Stovell

March 31 - Easter - service presented and led by Shaun Ironside

UPCOMING EVENTS

Circle Dinner

Friday, March 15 at 5:30

Everyone is welcome to this potluck dinner. .

It is always an evening full of fun, laughter and good food!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

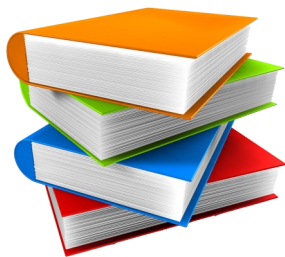
- Mary-lyn Hopper

Walking has always been woven into the fabric of who I am. When I was a teen I spent many hours wandering the river valley of Edmonton puzzling over the purpose and direction of my life. Even then I knew more about what I didn't want of that life than imagining what it would become. And so it is with my place within UCN. I aspire to lead the congregation in continuing to build a community of inclusion as we explore practices we cherish and those we strive to change. What this will look like depends on the interwoven ideas, talents and initiatives of everyone who has chosen to walk here together.

I look forward to this continuous process of exploration and growth.



Book Riot



Book Riot is an annual event to raise money for Birchway, a women's shelter in Niagara Falls. This year's event is scheduled for June. A specific date will be provided later.

If you have useable books that you would like to donate, bring them to UCN and place them in a box or bag in the back room, and be sure to label them

SOCIAL ACTION

Out of the Cold

On March 1 Shaun Ironside led the small team of Sarah McLaren, Maurice and LesLee Turmel in serving meals for the Out of the Cold at Knox Presbyterian Church. UCN contributed lasagna and salad to serve approximately 65 people. In addition buns, fruit and dessert were served to augment the meal. The number that we typically serve was fewer than usual, so the left over food was saved and frozen to be served at a later Out of the Cold event.



UCN's contribution does not go unnoticed by those who benefit from the meals or the volunteers at Knox Presbyterian Church who warmly welcome and guide us through the process.

Consultation Cafe

Queenston Roundtable has extended an invitation to a Consultation Cafe on affordable housing being organized by The Garden City Community Land Trust (GCCLT) on Wednesday, March 20, 8:00 am-12:30 at Robertson Hall, 85 Church Street, St. Catharines.

The event is free and open to anyone interested in affordable housing in our community. No pre-registration is required.

Community Care Food Hamper

Please continue to bring a food item each week for the food hamper situated at the rear of the sanctuary. An item brought weekly by each congregant will provide the equivalent of a week's worth of groceries for a family.

We have received a letter of appreciation from Community Care for our last contribution which was in excess of 25 pounds of food. Let us continue with this trend throughout the New Year. We know our efforts benefit others and are deeply appreciated.



Niagara Mobile Closet



203 Church St (rear door)

Tuesdays and Fridays - open 10:00 am to Noon

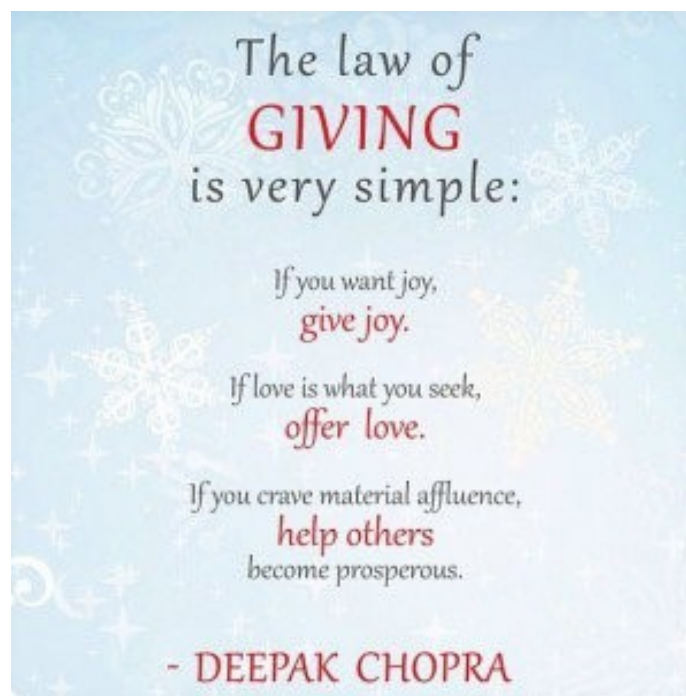
Sunday - open Noon to 2:00 pm

They are currently in need of work wear, job interview clothing, winter wear including boots and, especially, men's coats. You can donate any of these items that are in good repair.

HOW DO I GET MY MONEY TO UCN?

There are several ways of honouring your pledge:

- You can contribute at services via cheque or cash. There are small envelopes where you can insert your contribution and place it on the Offertory plate set out at the table at the bottom of the ramp. Please put your name on the envelope so we can issue you a tax receipt.
- You can mail your pledge directly to Brian Jones c/o UCN, 223 Church Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 3E8.
- You can e-transfer your pledge using Interac. To do this you must be registered with your financial institution on-line. Just set up Unitarian Congregation of Niagara as an Interac payee using the email address ucn.communications@gmail.com.



Unitarian Congregation of Niagara

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St. Catharines, ON L2R 3E8
905-687-8433

unitarian-stcatharines.org
ucn.communications@gmail.com

Board of Directors

President: Mary-lyn Hopper
Vice-president: Shaun Ironside
Past-president: Matt Virro
Secretary: Anita Miecznikowski
Treasurer: Brian Jones
Member-at-large: Eva Schwartzentruber
Program: Eva Schwartzentruber
Social Action: Shaun Ironside

Lay Chaplains: Contact
laychaplainsucn@gmail.com
Beryl Stovell, Karen Stovell

Committee Chairs

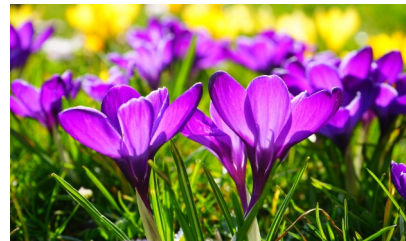
Adult Religious Education: Karen Stovell
Music: Penny Blake, Karen Stovell
Communications: Roy Blake
Denominational Affairs: Jacob Santos
Lay Chaplaincy: Doreen Peever
Membership: Doreen Peever
Newsletter: LesLee Turmel, Penny Blake
Pastoral Care: Doreen Peever
Property: Peter Skelton
Rental: Doreen Peever
Social: Susan Glassford, Jim Glassford,
Karen Stovell, Abu Hosein
Website: Jacob Santos

Trustees

Jim Glassford, Erdwin Hueniken,
Doreen Peever

It was one of those March days
when the sun shines hot
and the wind blows cold:
when it is summer in the light,
and winter in the shade.

- Charles Dickens



**Deadline for April Newsletter:
March 22, 2024**

