

A message from Mary
Mary Bennett, Executive Director
CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL

March 15, 2007

THE CUC BOOK MINISTRY – WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN IN OUR MISSION?

My older sisters taught me to read before I went to school. My Grade 5 teacher let us look at her white-leather covered World Book encyclopedia when we finished our work. I break out in a sweat when I even think about the movie Fahrenheit 451. Can you imagine a world where books do not exist?

A decade ago, conflict was challenging my home church. I thought we couldn't be the only church to ever experience conflict, and went in search of books on the topic. My "book ministry" was born. I would take my collection (purchased from the United Church bookstore) to church in a special briefcase. At coffee hour, I might pull out a book and press it on the person talking to me. "I think you'd enjoy reading this book. I found it really helpful. May I lend it to you?"

Last weekend, I was sorting books in order to send five boxes of books to Comox Valley with Sue Spyker for the new CUC BC Regional Library. (We plan to have a library in the other three regions, as soon as volunteers are found.)

Some say, a personal ministry lies, "where the world's greatest need and a person's greatest joy meet." If "joy" comes to mind when you think about receiving a box of brand-new books and then sharing with others, think about volunteer to help with a library or book sales table.

You can participate in the CUC's Book Ministry, whether as lender, borrower, vendor or purchaser. Drop me a note or give me a call, if you'd like more information.

CUC Volunteer Opportunities can be found at:
http://cuc.ca/whos_who/volunteer_opportunities.htm

Take care of yourselves and each other,
Mary

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SHORT SNIPPETS

Please circulate, post or include in your newsletter or order of service.

CanU is online

The spring issue of The Canadian Unitarian is now on our website. It's gone to the printers and you should receive a paper copy in two to three weeks. On the web it's in full colour. Check it out at www.cuc.ca/canu

Annual Conference & Meeting

A summary of the CUC Annual Conference & Meeting is in this issue of CanU (www.cuc.ca/canu). You can find registration information; accommodation choices and a complete schedule at www.cuc.ca/conference/2007 Any questions? Just ask info@cuc.ca or call 1-888-568-5723 (Toronto: 416-489-4121; Vancouver: 604-264-0088).

Regional Fall Gatherings

BC	First Victoria	November 2-4, 2007
Western	UCEdmonton	October 19-21, 2007
Central	South Peel (Mississauga)	November 11-13, 2007
Eastern	Avalon (St. John's, NL)	November 2-4, 2007

Details and other event information can be found at www.cuc.ca/calendar.htm

Canadian Unitarian Council – Annual Meeting

Information on delegates, resolutions and nominations can be found at:

<http://cuc.ca/programs/mailings/mar07/index.htm>

This material was mailed to your congregation, minister and director of religious education on March 9, 2007.

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL UU EVENTS

From cuc.ca/calendar.htm

April 10-13

British Unitarian General Assembly, Hatfield, England

<http://www.unitarian.org.uk/events.htm>

June 20-24

UUA General Assembly - Portland, Oregon.

www.uua.org/ga

Sept 10-23

Prairie Pilgrimage to the Cradle of Unitarianism

<http://members.shaw.ca/global-unitarians/>

Nov. 1-5

6th Biennial Meeting of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists

Oberwesel, Germany (near Frankfurt)

http://icuu.net/CM07Adbkb_jcc.html and http://icuu.net/events_icuu.html