

# *The Canadian UNITARIAN*

Volume 39

Number 2

April 1998

## *Inside This Issue:*

[Ottawa delivers special program to seniors](#)

["Sharing Our Faith" with three churches](#)

[President's Column -- CUC and UUA cancel seven-year-old agreement](#)

[Dispatches from the ICE STORM](#)

[MP speaks of love, bigotry, and priorities](#)

[UUA trustee's report -- Herman Boerma](#)

[Across the country](#)

[International briefs](#)

[We have funding for our growth and visibility plans](#)

[Letters to the editor](#)

[Helping the homeless get out of the cold](#)

[Unitarian people](#)

[\(To Home Page\)](#)

---

**THE CANADIAN UNITARIAN**  
Published four times a year by the  
CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL/  
CONSEIL UNITARIEN DU CANADA  
55 Eglinton Ave. East, Suite 705  
Toronto, ON M4P 1G8  
Phone: (416) 489-4121, Fax: 489-9010  
E-mail: [info@cuc.ca](mailto:info@cuc.ca)  
Web: [www.cuc.ca](http://www.cuc.ca)  
ISSN 0527-9860  
Editors: Nichola Martin & Art Kilgour  
CUC Executive Director: Ellen Campbell  
Submit news, photos & letters to  
RR#2, 176 South River Rd.  
Elora, ON N0B 1S0  
Phone: (519) 846-8994  
E-mail: [nic@writedesign.com](mailto:nic@writedesign.com)



## **Ottawa delivers special program to seniors**

**SOMETHING** was wrong. Seniors who were former pillars of our Ottawa church were no longer attending Sunday services. They were largely unknown by current members, and were dropping off the membership list. Yet they were being called to donate to our financial campaigns.

We set out to tackle this problem two years ago, and we think we've got it licked. Here's what we did.

Our Caring Committee contacted key seniors who were still active in the church. They helped the committee compile names and offered to telephone the people they knew best. From a congregation of nearly 900 they produced a list of 100 people who might be interested in a seniors' event.

We agreed on a midweek gathering that would include fellowship, worship, lunch, and future planning. Transportation was offered, large name tags prepared, refreshments and lunch provided.

More than 50 people came to our first meeting in March 1996. Many sent regrets, and it was a lively occasion. People were meeting after many years apart, rekindling friendships, sharing problems and recognizing common interests and concerns. There was unanimous agreement that a seniors' group should be ongoing.

We have met monthly ever since, alternating between Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to accommodate participants and volunteers. Between 11:00 and 2:00 a.m. we enjoy refreshments, worship (led by a minister, chaplain or lay person), lunch, caring updates, a stretch and a program. Rotating groups of church volunteers (including seniors) prepare and serve soup and sandwiches, or casseroles; participants bring sweets to share with tea or coffee. The cost is minimal: \$2 or donation for lunch, and up to \$5 for the occasional paid program. Our programs have included:

- choir, instrumental music or drama performances
- updates on the CUC and the UUA
- seniors' housing and personal security
- planning for hospitalization
- an outdoor barbecue
- museum trip for a Victorian Christmas
- group table games
- reminiscences of former times (church, war, career)

Attendance at the seniors' event varies from 40 to 55, with fewer in the summer. The benefits have been many: fellowship rather than isolation, intergenerational sharing and support, and the revitalization of our church community.

We have learned that our church needs a better sound system for the hard of hearing and more grab bars in the bathrooms. Best of all, we've learned the value of outreach in our own religious community.

-- Susan Van Iterson, First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)



## "Sharing Our Faith" with three churches

**WE RECENTLY** asked all congregations to celebrate *Sharing Our Faith* Sunday in January or February, as we've done over the past two years. Already, nine congregations have raised \$4,350, which will be distributed in May for projects that support Canadian efforts at growth and extension. Three congregations received last year's funds. Here's a brief update on what they're doing.

-- **The Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton**, New Brunswick, has used their \$1,500 grant to place ads in regional newspapers. As a result people are now beginning to attend the congregation from outside Fredericton. One family drives two hours to attend.

The church has purchased more curricula for adult and children's RE programs. They have also established a "rainbow program" to provide interfaith and intercultural programs. Outreach for these events has been paid for by the grant. Three years ago this congregation numbered 40. Now it counts 70 members.

-- **The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kamloops** is only two years old. It has received grants for the past two years. "To be honest, I'm not sure if we can tell what kind of difference the grant has made," says Julia Wallace. "But we couldn't have put on two services a month without it."

She also emphasized how important it is to discuss how you define growth. "It's not just about numbers. All the key people are growing personally. As the key people are pulling back, people who previously sat on the outside are now coming forward," she says. "We are sharing the load as our identity evolves."

-- May Partridge of the **Capital Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Ottawa** says they've used their *Sharing Our Faith* grant to fill out the generational profile and provide a stronger children's Religious Education program. Out of 45 members, they have only three young families. One of the most positive aspects of the grant, according to May, was the "vote of confidence from the denomination at large, and that's a good feeling."

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)



## ***President's Column -- John Hopewell*** **CUC and UUA cancel seven-year-old agreement**

**The Canadian** Unitarian Council and the Unitarian Universalist Assembly agreed last January to cancel the Accord that has governed our relationship since 1991. The UUA will continue to provide services to Canadian congregations and, for this and next year, the CUC will pay the UUA agreed amounts. A new arrangement will be negotiated after the CUC Commission on Services to Congregations presents its final report in 1999.

The financial arrangements in the Accord took into account UUA income and costs applicable to Canada, and resulted in a net amount to be paid annually by the CUC. The formula included a "protection clause" to ensure that payments by the CUC to the UUA did not escalate by unreasonable amounts.

In recent years the UUA budget has increased faster than the CUC budget. In addition, the UUA has properly reduced the income it takes from certain endowment monies to ensure that the capital is protected. This has caused a rapid escalation in the annual amount that the CUC would pay to the UUA if the protection clause did not exist.

Even with the protection clause, the CUC payment has increased by more than 12 per cent in recent years. By 1997-98 the difference between what the CUC pays and what we would pay without the protection clause had increased to about \$57,000 (Canadian). UUA President John Buehrens said last year that this situation couldn't continue.

Representatives of the CUC and UUA Boards met in Boston in January and agreed to terminate the current Accord. They agreed that the CUC will pay the UUA \$17,500 (US) for 1997-98 and \$20,000 (US) for 1998-99. Under the Accord, the 1997-98 payment would have been \$19,778 (US). The Boards will hold a second meeting in October.

Before October, working groups will examine various options for future service delivery. This is in keeping with the mandate of the CUC Commission, whose members will be our representatives on the working groups. In addition, we will be jointly examining the UUA endowment and other income, which the CUC believes is applicable to Canada.

As I write, the Commission is obtaining input from all congregations so that options for service delivery can be developed. At the same time, the UUA is engaged in the "Fulfilling the Promise" process, which could produce significant changes in service delivery across the continent. We are maintaining ongoing communication with the UUA, in a mutual spirit of openness and good will, to ensure we meet the future needs of our congregations.

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)



## Dispatches from the ICE STORM

*On-the-spot reflections from Rev. Ray Drennan, Unitarian Church of Montreal -- January 1998*

### **HIERARCHY OF NEEDS**

I think it was Alan Watts who said that much of the illness in the West is a luxury of our modern society. In other words, when we have nothing else better to fret about, we worry too much about "self." It hardly seemed possible that anyone in Quebec or eastern Ontario has had much time to brood over self this past week. We were all far too busy simply trying to stay warm and get a hot meal. Abraham Maslow was right. There is a hierarchy of needs, and when the most basic of our needs -- food and shelter -- are not taken care of, nothing else matters.

### **FREEZING ALL BUT THE HEART**

On Sunday I adapted a reading from Nancy Wood's *Many Winters*, like this: "Mother Nature blew winter in on a cloud of rain and wrapped our city in ice. Her fingers reached out, cracking trees and crumbling electric towers into powerless matchsticks. Her hands closed around water, gripping it with ice. Her icy breath stopped furnaces, metros, bank machines... She walked through our city freezing all -- all but the human heart."

### **MELTING THE WALLS**

In some ways, the ice storm is like Christmas all over again. Without TV, work or lights we were forced to be with each other. Such emergencies show me how much we do need one another and how easily the silly walls that divide us melt away when there is real need.

### **TRUST AND GENEROSITY**

It warms my heart to see how our church and the Montreal community is responding to this crisis. There are very few cases of people taking advantage of others. On Friday night I was trudging along a darkened Sherbrooke Street trying to buy a few ingredients for a communal meal at the church. I had \$10 and a useless bank card. Even though the store was in semi-darkness and all the machines down, they filled out my Interac slip by hand and even allowed me to take an extra \$20 from my account.

### **UNITARIANS HAVE POWER**

I happened to run into a United Church friend of mine on Friday night, when the remaining points of light in our fair city were few and getting fewer. The Unitarian Church was still full of light and heat. With a smile on my face, I said to my friend in my most sanctimonious tone, "Now you know where the true light is located. The Unitarians have power!"

### **PUSHING AHEAD THE CYCLE OF LIFE**

What about the trees? Many are lamenting over the trees and talking about an ecological disaster. Maybe, but I can't help but feel that the crisis of the trees is simply nature's way of pushing ahead the cycle of life. The disaster for us is that we were stupid enough to string our hydro lines underneath them.

### **A LESSON IN HUMILITY**

The storm caused me, and I suppose a lot of us, to stop. We were brought face-to-face with the

fragility of our modern lives. "The only one with real power around here is Mother Nature," said one Quebecer. We are not that far ahead of (or maybe even behind) our ancestors. Our ultra-modern, hi-tech society comes crashing to a halt simply by some water freezing. Credit card gas pumps, cash machines, and even gas furnaces that have electric ignition systems are not much good. It's an illusion to believe we're masters of our own fate and beyond the whims of nature. Maybe we've been taught a lesson in humility.

---

## 'REMINDERS' FROM THE STORM

**I AM REMINDED** how fragile we and our lives are, how vulnerable we are to nature's whims. I am reminded how love and loss go hand-in-hand. I am reminded that nature is the great equalizer, giving special privilege to no one. I am reminded how privileged I am as I huddle against the cold thinking about Kingston's homeless people. I am also reminded how wonderful, ingenious, and generous we humans can be when the spirit moves us, how great it feels when we work and pull together. I am reminded that it shouldn't take a disaster for us to find the time to get acquainted with our neighbours.  
-- Rev. Carol Meyer, Kingston

---

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)

## MP speaks of love, bigotry, and priorities

**EIGHT DAYS** before addressing western Unitarians, Svend Robinson still had his jaw wired shut. His surgeon removed the wires and gave the okay for Svend Robinson, MP for Burnaby-Douglas, to give an address to the annual meeting to the Pacific North West District on "Getting Real -- Meeting the Challenge of Social Responsibility."

Delegates from Canada's West Coast, Alaska, Idaho, Washington and Oregon heard Robinson give his first speech since his horrifying accident on Dec. 30, 1997. He talked about how his life has changed profoundly after slipping on moss while hiking, waking up two hours later further down the mountain with head wounds, a crushed foot, broken ribs and severe blood loss.

The well-known NDP MP hopped and dragged himself down towards the water, where neighbours eventually helped him. He pushed himself to give the speech to the PNWD on Feb. 14, because he wanted to thank Unitarians for the work that they have done in social action.

He said the highest duty of an MP is love. "We sometimes forget this in our desire to do good, globally and nationally," he told the Unitarian delegates. "We can make a personal and profound difference; we must not lose sight of the importance of our own immediate human relationships."

He warned us all not to take those we love for granted and he said he learned this in the most

profound way. He believes that it was the thought of his partner Matthew that got him down the mountain despite his intense pain. At one point he considered not being able to continue.

Robinson went on to speak about the pain of bigotry, again thanking the Unitarian Church for being at the forefront of issues like the book banning in Surrey, B.C. In his speech he linked many of the issues Unitarians are involved with, and with which he has been involved over his 18 years in politics.

He warned Unitarians that we have to set our own priorities, and especially not to let the media set the agenda for us.

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)



## ***UUA Trustee's Report -- Herman Boerma*** **I like the bottom-up process we're using for reform**

**WHILE I NEVER** watch TV otherwise, I was glued to the set during the Winter Olympics. Seeing the Dutch win all the medals in the 10 km race showed that the passion for long distance skating is alive and well in the Low Countries. For me, it brought back memories of the sound of steel blades on newly formed ice as we toured from town to town along the canals in the 1950s.

In spite of the commercialism, I still believe the Games are a positive experience that brings together people from different parts of the world.

As you can read in John Hopewell's column, the CUC--UUA Accord Olympics are entering a new stage. We hoped that the Accord formula negotiated in 1991 and amended in 1994 would serve us for a long time. But large, unanticipated changes in the way the UUA puts its budget together led to drastic changes in the net outcome of the formula.

In January, the CUC Commission on Delivery of Services met for the first time. I was pleased with the unanimity among the Commission members about the process we will follow: we'll start by involving the CUC's members, the congregations. The same attitude prevails among the members of the CUC Board. It too sees the congregations as central in the process of making decisions about our future together. I think this bottom-up process is the Canadian way of doing things. I find it encouraging.

In February I interviewed leaders from my assigned list of congregations over the phone for the Commission's survey. The respondents had put much thought and effort into completing the survey, and it was a pleasure to talk with both old friends and people I had never met before. The one conclusion I can draw at this early date is that we all care a great deal about our movement and want to see it flourish here in Canada.

\* \* \*

**IF YOU'RE** a board member for your congregation, watch for a new, bimonthly UUA publication,

*InterConnections*. The first issue is chock full of information, attractively laid out in black and orange. It is thoughtfully pre-punched for inclusion in three-ring binders. The first issue should have reached congregations in February.

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)

## **Across the country**

### **UU HYMNS ON CD**

A new CD titled *Sing & Rejoice* contains the accompaniment for 34 tunes representing the music for 70 hymns from "Singing the Living Tradition." Cliff Regehr of the Comox Valley Unitarian Church was the brains behind the project. It's available for \$20 from SingLoud, #9-700 Grenville Ave., Victoria, BC, V9A 7J7, Phone/Fax: 250-360-1903, E-mail: [singloud@vanisle.net](mailto:singloud@vanisle.net).

### **GROWING TOO FAST**

Some churches are trying to grow and attract new members. Others, like the Unitarian Church of Edmonton, have grown -- but too fast. Since last fall their Sunday morning attendance has increased by one-third and the worship space is full. The church is looking for a solution to this problem right now. They're considering two services, with a common coffee time in between.

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)

## **International briefs**

### **UNITARIANS IN JAIL AFTER ANTI-MILITARY PROTEST**

Rev. Nick Cardell and five Unitarians from May Memorial Church in Syracuse, New York were arrested last fall for taking part in an anti-military protest at the School of the Americas in Georgia.

They were convicted of criminal trespassing last January, and will likely serve up to six months in a federal prison.

As he was sentenced, Cardell explained his actions to the judge. "Our conduct was a peaceful, non-violent, funeral procession aimed at delivering petitions to close the SOA," he said. He explained that graduates of the school have been responsible for human rights atrocities throughout Latin America. (Latin Americans first called it *Escuela de Assassinos*, or School of Assassins.)

Contributions to further the campaign to close the SOA and defend Cardell and his fellow protesters can be sent to: SOA Watch Upstate New York, South Presbyterian Church, W. Colvin and S. Salina, Syracuse, NY, 13205, USA. You can also find further information at: [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org).

### **GETTING READY FOR 1999 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CONFERENCE**

Have you heard about the "practical" Bhuddists, or Rhisso Kosei-Kai (pronounced Risho Cosi-Ki)?

The group was founded in 1938 and believes that religious people have the greatest potential for transcending the differences of race and nationality. They now count six million members in Japan, belonging to 245 branches.

The Risho Kosei-Kai are also the largest member group of the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), a world organization founded in 1900 by Unitarians. The Bhuddists joined in 1970 and are now very active, especially in organizing the next triennial IARF Congress, July 29-Aug. 4, 1999 at the University of British Columbia. Sikhs, Moslems, Jews, Christians, and Bahais are also involved.

The Canadian chapter of IARF is holding a preparatory conference, July 17-19, this summer at UBC. It aims to identify themes and issues for the 1999 conference. There will be six workshops to choose from this summer, such as multi-faith worship and revering nature. There will be circle groups and a keynote panel on *Creating an Earth Community*.

For further details about this summer's conference contact Harold Rosen, IARF Canada President, Phone: 604-926-1621, Fax: 604-926-7533, E-mail: [nsuc@istar.ca](mailto:nsuc@istar.ca).

#### **UNITARIAN AT THE UN**

CUC representative Elaine Harvey will be at the UN this month as it prepares to establish the International Criminal Court. The court will be a permanent tribunal with universal jurisdiction for international crimes. When it comes into being later this year, the UN will no longer create ad hoc tribunals, as it has done recently in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. The ICC will consider crimes like genocide, aggression, crimes against humanity, serious violations of the laws of armed conflict, and grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva conventions.

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)



### ***Executive Director***

**-- Ellen Campbell**

## **WE HAVE FUNDING FOR OUR GROWTH AND VISIBILITY PLANS**

**IN 1995**, CUC Board members visited a number of Canadian congregations to discuss their visions for their congregations and for our religious community nationally.

There was a remarkable consistency in the responses they received: our members want to see our movement grow, they want it to be more visible in the larger community, they want a clearer sense of our identity, and they want better communication between our congregations.

This consultation helped us develop our second long-range plan. Some of the activities could be done right away. Others needed further planning, particularly in the areas of growth and visibility. In February 1996, a board task force came up with 20 proposals for action. Of these, we identified four that needed additional funding:

- *A Nation of Extension Congregations* -- a training and development program delivered regionally to enhance the ability of all our congregations to reach out into their communities more effectively;
- a new adult program to focus on our identity as Canadian Unitarians and Universalists;
- some Canadian materials on effective fund-raising;
- the development of French-language Unitarian and Universalist materials.

We made an application to the UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock, NY for funding. We learned late last year that we'd been awarded funding for the first year of our four-year proposal, and the cheque arrived in February. I was invited to "Veatch Sunday" at Shelter Rock in January, when they were highlighting grants they've made to UU groups. (They do not make grants to congregations.)

Now our challenge is to flesh out those proposals into real plans, find the best people to carry them out, and move ahead. It's very exciting, and perhaps a little nerve-wracking.

At the same time, we are applying for funding to carry out the recommendations made last summer by the task force on national visibility, and raising money for a second video, this time on religious education. There's never a dull moment in a growing, exciting religious community like this one!

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

### **LIKE THE "NEW LOOK" UNITARIAN**

Congratulations on the new format of the Canadian Unitarian. The typography and layout are excellent. The editorial content must also receive hearty congratulations. And thanks must be extended to you for mentioning JustNews. Members of the Social Responsibility Committee of the Unitarian Church of Victoria have prepared a workshop on globalization for the Pacific Northwest District in February and CUC meeting in May. We'll keep you posted.

-- *Mel Johnston, JustNews, Victoria, BC*

**Editor's note:** *We didn't have space to print contact information for JustNews in our last issue. Here it is: 55 St. Phillips Rd., Toronto, ON, M9P 2N8, Fax: 416.249.7278.*

*E-mail: [mel\\_johnston@bc.sympatico.ca](mailto:mel_johnston@bc.sympatico.ca). Any financial contribution is appreciated!*

### **LEFT-WING DEMAGOGUERY**

Your front-page article, *Connecting Theology and Economics (January 1998)*, points to the ultra left-wing agenda of certain Canadian Unitarians. A statement like, "Under the MAI, as proposed,

[investors'] right to make a profit cannot be hampered by environmental codes, or child labour laws, or even taxation," is left-wing demagoguery.

The MAI would do nothing of the kind. Instead, it would provide more certainty to investors, leading to more investment, jobs, revenue to government, and more money for education, health and welfare.

To me, being a Unitarian means challenging all ideas in a quest to arrive at the truth. It does not mean being captive to a political ideology.

-- *Don McPherson, West Vancouver, BC*

### **IT'S UP TO US**

Your January issue was a bonus -- from front to back. Rev. Morris and her call to the theological community for a world of peace and justice in the corporate world was a unique contribution (*Connecting theology and economics*). The corporate world is globalizing the world community, and it is now up to us in the theological community to introduce the humanitarian concepts.

-- *Duncan Graham, Vancouver, BC*

### **VISUAL APPEAL**

I'd like to congratulate you on the new Canadian Unitarian. You have high editorial standards, with visual appeal as well. Keep up the good work.

-- *John Cox, Vancouver, BC*

### **WRONG IMPRESSION**

The impression left by your article *Against book-banning and for gay rights (January 1998)* is that Brian Kiely is the minister of the South Fraser Unitarian Church. He is, of course, the minister at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton.

-- *Laura Winopol, Edmonton, AB*

### **ERROR OF ENTHUSIASM**

I like the new Canadian Unitarian very much. It has presence and style.

With so many ministers floating around it is to be expected that the term Rev. is going to be abused. You overused it in *Against book-banning*. Style guides recommend using it in the first instance of a story, then using a regular salutation (Mr., Ms.) in subsequent references. It is an error of enthusiasm rather than taste. Best wishes. -- *Rowland Hill, St. Catharines, ON*

[\*\(Table of Contents\)\*](#)



## **EXPLORING OUR FAITH -- *Pamela MacIsaac*** **Helping the homeless get out of the cold**

*Pamela MacIsaac has been a member of the First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto for two years. She is one of 75 volunteers from the congregation who work for **Out of the Cold**, an interfaith*

*program that provides food and shelter to homeless people.*

Since November 1996, I've helped serve dinners with the *Out of the Cold* program on a more or less weekly basis. I signed up on impulse after service one Sunday. My motives were unclear, even to me. In retrospect, I think I was ready to do something concrete to relieve suffering, rather than continuing to talk, write and think about doing so.

Signing up was easy. Following through was another matter. I was fearful of the people I might encounter, and the situations I might face. Like many people, I feel fear when approached by a homeless person on the street. I'm afraid when I pass a knot of people drinking in the park. And I fear the desperation, shame and anger I imagine is inherent in life on the street.

When you live in a big city, it's easy to think of the homeless poor as a faceless, menacing mass. My fear and aversion probably drove me to *Out of the Cold*. Whatever I encountered, I reasoned, could not be worse than what I imagined.

### **Here's what I found**

In fact, some things were just as I anticipated; others were entirely different. But in spite of the broken windows and burning sofas of my first night, I came home strangely exhilarated, because I had also found camaraderie, great loyalty, friendliness, and best of all, humour, among the guests and volunteers.

I feel humble at our guests' ability to survive in the face of great odds, by their sense of community and their willingness to help one another. Some of them are alienated. Some are violent. But the majority travel together, eat together, drink together and sleep together in tightly knit groups. They make sure that their sick are attended to and that pregnant women get extra food.

My work has also confirmed what most people suspect about life on the street. It is dangerous, squalid and degrading. The people who come to *Out of the Cold* would rather not be there. Very few, if any of them, have made a conscious choice to live without shelter, proper food and clothing.

### **Does my work help?**

I know that the "success" of programs like *Out of the Cold* is the result of our failure as a society to ensure basic human rights. I worry that my work helps the government escape responsibility for social welfare. But I also know there'd be far more human suffering in Toronto without the program. *Out of the Cold* fills a crucial gap in the social welfare system and helps thousands of people survive the winter.

We try to treat our guests with respect, using as much patience and humour as we can muster. We allow couples and street families to stay together, and no one has to prove to us that they need our services.

### **It's dignity that counts**

Every Tuesday night I watch the program volunteers step over and ignore the imaginary line that divides "us" from "them," to make sure that guests receive a portion of dignity and respect along with their dinner. I think that this humane treatment -- as much as food and shelter -- is the reason our

guests return each week. I know that's why I do.

Every week some guests annoy me, some make me laugh and others just plain scare me. But now they do so as individuals, nothing more and nothing less than fellow human beings.

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)

## Unitarian People

### **WESTWOODS VISIT WESTWOOD**

The Westwood Unitarian Congregation in Edmonton is the namesake of the **Rev. Horace Westwood**, who early in this century was minister of the Unitarian Church in Winnipeg. He had a history in evangelical ministry and was keen to spread the liberal faith throughout Western Canada. He occasionally took to the road preaching to packed houses across the West. Edmonton was on his itinerary. He was a prolific reader and writer as well, preparing two different weekly religious columns for the Winnipeg newspapers in addition to his weekly sermon.

In November, the Westwood congregation was honored to have his youngest son and his wife, **Rev. Arnold and Carolyn Westwood**, visit for a weekend. Horace became a real person for us as Arnold told the inspiring story of his father's life and ministry.

### **SUPPORTING ST. LAWRENCE GROWTH**

**Linda Hicks** of Hamilton was recently hired part-time by the St. Lawrence District to support growth initiatives. She has been a UU since 1984, and recently completed a term as chair of the Eagles committee. She'll be a facilitator and resource for members of volunteer Boards. She's already working with several start-up congregations, and is eager to work with others. She can be reached at 905-332-1736, or by e-mail at [lhicks@cgocable.net](mailto:lhicks@cgocable.net).

[\(Table of Contents\)](#)



[\(To Home Page\)](#)