



Winter  
2022-23



LUF NEWSLETTER

## Chalica Choir

Emily Lauzon takes a break from recording a small choir of LUF-ers performing the “Chalica” song, originally written by Daniel Flores, and edited by Michelle Landry including the Canadian 8th principle.

Chalica is acknowledged by Unitarian Universalists during the first week of December, by lighting a candle for one of the UU principles each night for seven (or eight) nights.

Pictured are local talents, standing: Phyllis Danu, Fred Maycock, Sally Palmer Woods, Rosemary Burris; and seated: Michelle Landry, and Rob Van Wyck.

This recording of the Chalica song has been viewed nationally after being shared far and wide by the Canadian Unitarian Council, and also resulted in a monetary gift, which the performers donated to Shelter House.



The recording of the Chalica song can be viewed on our website:  
<https://luf.ca/news-events/chalica-song/>

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## Planning for the 2022-23 Year

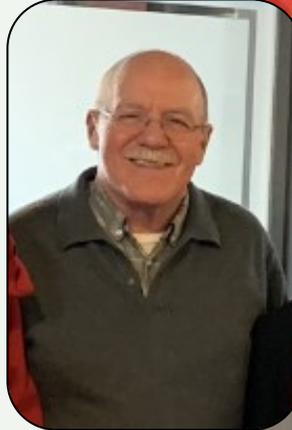
Some of the Sunday Services / Worship Committee members (and spouses) enjoying an outdoor planning meeting in August. This was the first time the committee had met in person since before the Covid Pandemic.

Pictured are Michelle Landry, Sue Woods, Sally Palmer Woods, Rob Van Wyck, Bettina Siebenmann, and David Belrose. Photo by Brenda Diebel.



## In Joy and in Sorrow

Some significant 2022 celebrations have included the official marriage of a decades-long partnership between Sandra McIver and Brian Hornblower, in June, with their two adult sons in attendance, and Lay Chaplain, Brenda Diebel officiating. (photo not available).



In the summer, Chris Moss turned 99!  
In October, Beverley Leaman celebrated 85 years.  
In November, David Belrose celebrated his 80th Birthday. Happy Birthdays everyone.

Also in November, Maynard Merits died at the age of 90. A celebration of life is being planned for the spring.

# Trunk Treasures 2022

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL!

On Saturday, September 10th, the second outdoor "Trunk" Fundraiser was held in the parking lot of Birch Point Dental. Despite much rain in the days leading up to the event, the weather cooperated beautifully.



We made \$500.00 after expenses, to be split between our local and global charities. A special thank you to everyone who worked so make this happen:



Bakers of delicious goods: Chris Sapay, Pyteke Blaauw, Rosemary Burris, Sue Dailey and Carl Etter, Teresa Kelly, Michelle Landry, Beverley Leaman, Teresa Parr, Frank Pollari, Bettina Siebenmann, Cynthia Stewart, Sue Woods and Hanusia Tkaczyk and a special thank you to Trudi Jones for reaching out to all of you. All the baking was sold!!!

BBQ Masters - Rob VanWyck and Bettina Siebenmann -- provided much needed nourishment :)

Musicians - Fred Upshaw and his band with Frank Pollari -- they were awesome!!

The LUF Table - everyone who donated, and to Hanusia for being our salesperson throughout the day. Elizabeth MacFarlane for helping to collect the baking and helping to set up and take down



The Lauzons: Emily, Saturn, Ramona, and friends, for providing face painting and children's crafts  
Jean Armstrong - for managing our cash  
David Belrose for helping to promote LUF  
Angie Bach for her creative talents on the posters and her organizational skills with registrations and so much more!

And my sincere apologies to anyone whose name I may have missed that helped with this event. I am so grateful for every one of you precious people!

Thank you again for all your support -- it truly was a lot of fun.

*- Brenda Diebel*



*the fundraiser that helps build community.*

# Mapping Our Future

## Criteria Established thus-far

An enthusiastic crew of 25 people attended LUF's "Mapping Our Future" session on November 13, 2022. People were asked to think about the criteria that a future home would need to meet whether it be owned, rented or a partnership.

Following is a summary of the group's thinking? Did we get it right? Is there anything that you would add, subtract or change?

Please send in any proposed edits to the office (lufship@tbaytel.net) by January 18, 2023

Here are a few interesting points:

- People felt that very similar criteria would apply to an ownership, rental and partnership situation.
- There were a lot of commonalities in people's ideas, in other words, a lots of agreement in what people feel is important.
- Being able to express ourselves in our space as Unitarian Universalists is important.
- And there was also the realization that our budget just might not be large enough to get us everything we could dream of! And so there was a call to be realistic about our aspirations.

The Board will confirm the criteria once we have received all the congregant feedback. In the meantime, eyes are open about future possibilities for us.

Thanks to all for your participation in our ongoing quest to express Unitarian Universalism and liberal religion on the shores of Lake Superior.

### **Rent vs. Own**

The proposed lists are virtually identical. We are looking for the same features and qualities regardless of whether we own or rent.

### **Worship Space:**

Large enough for room to grow but not too big, up to 100

Permanent space for audio visual equipment and piano

Bright, airy, natural light

Flexibility re furniture arrangement

### **Space for:**

Worship

Small group meetings

Office

Storage

Kitchen

Children's R.E.

Parking

Outdoor greenspace or nearby

### **Qualities:**

Safe

Mould-free

Fully accessible

Good acoustics

In good condition, minor repairs/update only

Helps others as well as ourselves

Welcoming to all, including Indigenous, LGBTQ, Children and Young people

### **Financial:**

Affordable

Can generate revenue through rentals

Reasonably energy efficient

### **Location:**

On a bus route

Central

## Partnership

Suitable physical space, as above, plus

Shared values, compatible, social justice oriented, progressive, liberal

Accept and respect each others' values

Allows us to be fully ourselves, e.g., fly Pride flag

Availability of space that allows us to carry on all our activities

Helps others as well as ourselves

No time conflicts

Some designated space and times

Without insurance issues re sharing

Ideas: with Thunder Bay Masjid, Women's shelter – support, at the University, with

Presbyterians – “spiritual” space

*- Margaret Wanlin  
and the Board of Directors*

## Family Fun



At right are Lemuel, Khaneesha, Ramona, and Barak gathered around the fire.

On Saturday, December 10th, Friends of LUF gathered for a day of tree-harvesting, winter hiking, hill-sledding, and fireside snacks. Pictured at Left is Rob and his selected tree.



## LUF is Back at Shelter House



After a long hiatus, LUF volunteers have returned to preparing and serving meals at Shelter House under the leadership of Robin Cooper, assisted by Pyteke Blaauw.

Robin has been bringing a wealth of experience, creativity and enthusiasm along with large quantity, culturally diverse recipes on a tight budget. October's meal, pictured at right was a Hoisin beef casserole over oven fried rice, Asian slaw with a peanut-sesame-lime dressing, and a roll on the side.



Many thanks to those who have lent a helping hand, not only with lovely lunches. but sometimes also with making sandwiches for the take out window or prepping veggies for the next meal. The clients enjoy the meals made and the staff appreciate the help. Without a volunteer group, they are on the hook to organize the meal in addition to their regular duties.

As Shelter House welcomes back volunteers and new groups. If anyone is interested in bringing a group of their own, it can be daunting to get started but help is not far away.

Our next lunch time meal is scheduled for **Sunday, January 29th** and the last Sunday of each month following. Please contact Angie at the office to sign up for a shift if you are interested.

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## Global and Local 2022 and 2023

LUF's year ended with a flurry of activity in support of Global and Local charities:

- We served lunch at Shelter House one Sunday a month in the fall. Special thanks to Robin Cooper and Pyteke Blaauw for helping us get that back on track after the Covid hiatus. Thanks also to the many helping hands.
- We contributed coats to the "Spread the Warmth" community coat drive hosted for the 16th time by Gear Up for the Outdoors.
- And we have written our cheques for our Global and Local charities for 2022.

Global: Canadian Red Cross to support people in the Ukraine:

\$3,000 in March plus \$709 in December.

Local: Elizabeth Fry Society of Northwestern Ontario will receive \$702.

Local: Shelter House will receive \$927.

The funds come from individual donations and fundraising, especially Hanusia's Easter eggs for Ukraine, trunk sale proceeds which were divided among the three groups, and the honorarium received by the Chalica singers which came from the CUC and was directed to Shelter House.

And now we need to think ahead to 2023! What Global and Local charities would you like to see us support in the New Year?

Send your suggestions to me ([mwanlin@tbaytel.net](mailto:mwanlin@tbaytel.net)) or tell me at church by January 15.

We will include the information in the January 18 e-update and will include the vote with the Annual Budget meeting on January 22.

And guess what?? We are going to have Souper Soup Sunday on January 22. Can you volunteer to bring a crock pot of soup? Please let me know if you can bring soup or something that could go along with it. And we will ask people to bring their own bowl and spoon – and take them home dirty – our adaptation to our current meeting place! The proceeds will be divided between our Global and Local charity. And speaking of proceeds – should be stay with \$5.00, or increase to \$10.00 or leave the option open to people? Kids will remain free. Let me know your thoughts – we want participation to be accessible for people and we want to raise money for our chosen charities.

- Margaret Wanlin

## Empty Bowls donates \$23,000.00

The Empty Bowls Planning Committee held yet another modified drive-thru fundraiser, for the third year in a row. There is always hope of returning to a sit-down dinner next October, but the community of Thunder Bay, has shown great support for the drive-thru and a total of \$23,000 has been split between the Thunder Bay Food Bank and Shelter House.

Pictured L-R are Robin Cooper, Chair of Empty Bowls, Allison Hill, Board Chair of TB Food Bank; Cal Rankin, Executive Director of Shelter House; and Jay Stapleton, co-chair of Empty Bowls.

The event has been largely supported by the LUF Congregation, and would not be possible without the dedication of the potters, quilters, and many volunteers.



# LUF CONTACTS

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

President:	Sandra McIver	luf.president@gmail.com
Vice President:		
Secretary:	Elizabeth McFarlane	633-8698
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	Irene Semenuk	475-5786



## AFFILIATES AND ASSOCIATES

Canadian Unitarian Council (cuc.ca)  
Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice (cusj.org)  
Unitarian Universalist Association (uua.org)

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	Greg Brumpton		
	Christine Meronyk		

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The newsletter is distributed by email or by surface mail, two or three times per year, as submissions are received.

Website: [www.luf.ca](http://www.luf.ca)

*The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors of the articles.*

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND CONTACT PEOPLE

Bylaw & Policy	David Belrose
Care Coordinators	Carol Ann Brumpton
Fellowship Life/Membership	Rosemary Burris
Finance	Margaret Wanlin
Lay Chaplaincy	Sally Palmer Woods
Newsletter	Angela Bach
Nominating	David Belrose
Sunday Services	Brenda Diebel

We hope that you enjoy receiving/reading the LUF Letter, provided free to all members and friends.

Receiving the LUF Letter via the website, saves money and trees.

Please notify the office at 344-5980 if you no longer require the newsletter to be sent by post.

Thank you for your contributions to LUF that make it possible to produce the LUF Letter.