

A Visit to Shaar Shalom Synagogue with *Rabbi Ari Isenberg*, Oxford & Pepperell, Halifax, Thursday, Oct 30, 10:30 AM, followed by lunch on Quinpool. Sign-up in the Tobin St. lobby.

The Book Club will be reading *Living the Questions* by Felten and Procter-Murphy. We'll gather the last Thursday of the months of Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, Mar, & Apr, from 7:30 to 9 PM, at the *Fireside* on Brunswick St. Sign-up in the Tobin St. lobby. Anyone from last year's Thursday morning group who would like to loan/sell their copy is asked to contact the minister.

No Safe Harbour: *A diary of the Halifax Explosion* is the story of one of Halifax's most tragic events, told through the innocent eyes of Charlotte Blackburn, a fictional twelve-year-old girl who records the Explosion's devastating aftermath in her diary. Don't miss this story of courage, generosity, and triumph of the human spirit! East Coast Caroling, under the direction of John Lindsay-Botten, will also sing music from the era. Admission by donation. One show this afternoon (Sep 7) at 3 p.m. – Cathedral Church of All Saints, 1330 Martello St., Halifax.

A brief history...

The Name: The unique name of Fort Massey Church recalls the early years of the garrison town when there was a blockhouse on the site. The fort was named after *General Eyre Massey* who was commander-in-chief at Halifax from 1776-1780.

The Building: From the *Halifax Reporter*, 1871: "The interior ... has almost a cathedral appearance. In form and style there is nothing like it in Nova Scotia." From the *Canadian Illustrated News*, 1873: "...one of the most handsome specimens of Gothic architecture to be met in the Dominion." Opened in 1871, the Scottish architect, *David Stirling*, made skilful use of Gothic designs with more than a dozen window shapes and sizes and numerous versions of decorative window tracery. Inside there are richly-carved ceiling braces supported by hammer-beams, ornamental kings' heads and bands of trefoil arches punctuated by protruding, small winged creatures which gaze down into the nave below. The church hall with gymnasium was added in 1898, and is shared with numerous community groups.

The Organ: The three manual Casavant organ, installed in 1913, was played by television's first lady of the organ, *Diane Bish* (Joy of Music) to a full house; and each October the local chapter of the *Royal Canadian College of Organists* (RCCO) brings together organists and musical guests for an evening of 'frighteningly fine music' at the *Phantoms of the Pipes* concert!

The People: Fort Massey, along with many other Presbyterian churches, joined the Methodists and Congregationalists in the union of *The United Church of Canada* in 1925. Over the years many notable Halifaxians attended Fort Massey including *Lucy Maud Montgomery* (author of *Anne of Green Gables*) and *Anna Leonowens* (Governess to the King of Siam's children).

Today, the congregation consists of long-time south-enders, students, seniors, and new residents who live in the neighbouring buildings, as well as people from throughout the HRM. We strive to be a welcoming oasis in the midst of city living.



Fort Massey by-the-Sea

*Watching over Halifax
Harbour since 1871*

*A Congregation of
The United Church of
Canada*



T. D. Cleveland-Thompson, Minister
Simon Abbott, Organist/Music Director
Leah Collins-Lipsett, Pianist/Jr. Choir

Kevin Robarts, Flutist
Elliott Prouty, Head Usher
Sancia Knorr, SS Co-ordinator
Janna Janson, Nursery
Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons
Kathy Cochran, Office Administrator
Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
Alasdair Sinclair, Clerk Emeritus
Alan G. Hayman, Sr. Trustee
Ruth MacKenzie, Chief Steward

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Warning! *To enter into the life of this people of God is
to encounter God's soul-challenging, life-changing,
radicalizing love. Will you join us? Do you dare?*

THE GATHERING

* Indicates all who are able may stand

PRELUDE

The bell is sounded three times in the name of Creating God, Jesus, and Spirit.
The Community Candle is lit reminding us that we are bearers of light & love.

OPENING WORDS

*We come looking desperately for the blueprints
for the Christianity of the future.*

Fear not! God will aid us in our search.

Will we know them when we see them?

Will we know what to do with them?

Fear not! The Holy Spirit will help discern their meaning.

Then let's start searching!

Let the construction begin! (Karen Boivin, Carp/Dunrobin PC, Carp, ON)

*OPENING HYMN Let Us Build a House MV 1

OPENING PRAYER & CONFESSION

PRAYER OF JESUS The Lord's Prayer VU 921

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

MINUTE FOR MISSION "New Tenants" – Colleen Estabrooks

OFFERING Offertory Music:

*DOXOLOGY **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One. Amen** VU 541

*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."

CHILDREN'S TIME "The Golden Rule" – with the Sunday's Cool Crowd

*HYMN Oh a Song Must Rise MV 142

READINGS "The Seashell Theory" by David Wolpe
Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Offered as wisdom for the journey.
May we walk in its light.

SERMON A New School Year With or Without
God - Your Choice

PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** A New Creed VU 918

***CLOSING HYMN** How Firm a Foundation VU 660

***PARTING WORDS & BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

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Welcome to *Fort Massey by-the-Sea*. A special welcome back to the students! We are delighted to have you with us today. **Visitors** are invited to fill out a **Welcome Card** at the left of the main doors upon exiting the nave, leaving it with the guest book. Join us after the Service for **Coffee & Conversation** in the lower hall. Our Outreach Committee welcomes you to contribute \$1 per cup for the *Alzheimer Society* during the month of September. Our hosts are *Catherine* and *Wendy*.

Mandate, UCC mission magazine is available in the Tobin St. lobby – FREE!

Volunteers: to create Prayers of the People for the Sunday liturgy; teach the Junior High class. Please send interest & inquiries to the minister.

Two Fringe Plays in the Fort Massey gym today: 2PM - *Ida and Daisy*; 6PM – *Variables*. Tickets at the door (\$6.50 min. per play)

Taizé Prayer, St. John's United Church, Halifax, TODAY, Sept. 7th – 7 p.m., 6199 Chebucto Rd., St. Mathias Lane entrance. All welcome!

YOGA with Jenny starts Sep 9, Tuesdays at 7 PM, in the lower hall.

Fridays at the Fort we will be hosting *St. David's Presbyterian Church's* two outreach programs – David's Place lunch 10-12; Muslim Prayers 1-3.

Hallelujah! Celebrating Leonard Cohn's 80th Birthday with the *Blue Engine String Quartet*, *Cliff Le Jeune* – Vocals, *Lisa St. Clair* – Keyboards, Sat, Sep 20, 7:30 PM, Fort Massey Church. \$20 & \$25. www.blueenginestringquartet.com

Welcome Back Sunday will be held on September 28th. Please speak with *Nancy Riggs* or the minister if you would like to help organize this year's event.

Men's Breakfasts, 9:30 am, every other Friday, starting Oct 3, *Athens Restaurant* on Quinpool Rd.

Thursday morning discussion group, Oct 9 - Nov 27, *Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith*, a seven part DVD series, will gather in the lower hall from 10:30-11:45 am, except for Oct 30. Suggested donation to cover the cost of the printed material & binder is \$10. Please sign up in the Tobin St. lobby.