

Friday, September 13, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

You are invited to join in the Celebration as the United Church Chaplaincy at Dalhousie University's Multifaith Services is designated an Affirming Ministry. Ours will be the first UCC university Chaplaincy in Canada to become an Affirming Ministry!

What does this mean? Becoming an Affirming Ministry requires the ongoing and intentional commitment of the Chaplaincy to inclusion and justice in all we do and to working with other partners on campus who are also focused on creating safe space. It means that, with the support and oversight of Affirm United/S'Affirmer Ensemble (affirmunited.ause.ca) the UCC Chaplain and Chaplaincy Committee have participated in an extensive process of discernment and an evaluation of the Chaplaincy's life and work on campus. It means that we've developed an updated Vision Statement, Action Plan and Marriage Policy. The final step in the process is... to hold a Celebration!

The Affirming Celebration will be held on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 303 of the Dalhousie Student Union Building, 6136 University Avenue, Halifax**. There will be a Celebration Ceremony, Music, Mingling and Munchies! Musical leadership for the Ceremony will be offered by Rick Gunn, Minister of Music at Bedford United Church, and Music to move to will be provided by Generous Space Ministries. A poster with all the details is attached – please share this information with your organization or community of faith.

There will be a **“Shout OUT”** during the Ceremony – an opportunity for your group, organization or community of faith to be acknowledged. This will be a chance for your work on campus or your ministry in the neighborhood to be recognized. Please provide the name of the person(s) who will represent you at the Celebration by contacting: Robyn.Brown-Hewitt@dal.ca.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me!

And, please let me know whether or not you expect that members of your group or community of faith will be in attendance – we want to have enough space and food prepared!

Respectfully,

Rev. Robyn Brown-Hewitt

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