

# iNTERFAITH iNSIDER

SAIT Interfaith Centre Monthly Newsletter.

## Remembering For the Future

November is a somewhat quiet month for celebrating diverse Religious Holy Days. There are some, but other months seem to contain many more from an array of religions. This gives us time to consider a day of commemoration that affects us all, Remembrance Day. In 1918 on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the First World War finally came to an end. And since then, Remembrance Day/Armistice Day/Veterans Day has been celebrated on the same day for most of the world.

In Canada, most people begin wearing plastic poppies beginning Nov 1 and keep it on till several days after Remembrance Day, or at least till they eventually lose it and need to buy another one. In an article from the CBC website in Nov 2021, they cited that somewhere between 18-20 million poppies are distributed each year. I wonder how many people are multi-time purchasers as I am due to loss. Which leads us to the conversation of how do we deal with the use of plastics in 2022 while still wanting to honour those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for my freedom by the simple gesture of wearing the Poppy?

The first worn poppies were actually made of fabric, a fund raising effort by French humanitarian Anne Guérin to rebuild parts of France devastated by the war. More recently, an Indigenous Artist in Long Lake 58 First Nation in Ontario named Sherman Patapon has been creating beaded

poppies that contain quill work and detailed with sweetgrass for the Royal Canadian Legion. This, to me, is very inspiring. I would love to purchase a handmade artisan poppy to honour Remembrance Day instead of perpetuating more use of plastics that will likely fall from my lapel and end up in a garbage somewhere. Since such things are not so accessible, the Interfaith Centre is offering for visitors to come and make their own felt poppies AND still donate to the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund!



### Make Your Own Poppy

Come drop into the Interfaith Centre and make your own reusable poppy. And as you annually reuse your new felt poppy, please don't forget to also donate annually to the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund at your nearest donation box.

## November Events

Interfaith Interface Topics  
(Fridays 10am in MB305):

Nov 4 - Addicted to Poppies

Nov 11 - SAIT CLOSED

Nov 18 - What makes foods forbidden?

Nov 25 - What is Advent?

Interfaith Centre Open House -  
Nov 16 @ 11am-1pm

## Interfaith Centre LEADS Student Basanta Dahal



"Hi! I am Basanta Dahal. I was born in Nepal, and I am currently attending SAIT College pursuing a Business Administration Diploma. My interest in Business began as a teenager when I started looking at company websites and made my first investments in the stock market and cryptocurrencies. I enjoy being outside and I enjoy hiking, rock climbing, and mountain climbing. As I am writing this bio, I am in the middle of the Grassi Lake Trail. Apart from being passionate about the outdoors, I'm also interested in leadership and cultural pursuits. I'd like to learn more about and have experience with diverse religious and cultural norms. My primary guiding principle for being a member of the Interfaith family is to experience and understand the diversity we have and to assist others, especially my colleagues and the Chaplains, with the knowledge I gain from my time in the Centre. I am thrilled to be a part of SAIT's Interfaith Centre and hope that I will have the opportunity to learn about the cultural and religious backgrounds of my fellow students. So, whether you encounter me at an Interfaith Centre or elsewhere in the world, don't be afraid to talk to me about your experiences and cultural beliefs."

## Mark your calendar for the Interfaith Centre Drop-in Open House!

So much has happened over the years at our Interfaith Centre, especially since 2015 when we came under the umbrella of Student Engagement. Since then, we've grown tremendously and in many ways; we've acquired many new chaplains, increased our spaces with the addition of the Interfaith Meeting Space and most recently, relocated our Interfaith Centre to Stan Grad, MB305!

Unfortunately, our move was amidst all the Covid restriction protocols in 2021 and, therefore, we were unable to fully welcome people into the beautiful, bright, new space and celebrate its wonderful offerings. Until now, that is.

We are so excited to announce that our Drop-In OPEN HOUSE Party will take place **Nov 16 from 11am to 1pm** and we would love you to come drop in, share a cup of tea or coffee and snacks! If you've never taken the time to visit the Interfaith Centre, please take time during our Open House to meet a chaplain, an Interfaith Student Leader and other supporters and advocates of the Interfaith Centre.



## Introducing Our New Lutheran Chaplain: Reverend Margaret Propp



The Interfaith Centre is so excited to have Reverend Margaret Propp join our already vibrant and fantastic team of chaplains. She is a very welcome addition that extends our diversity in many ways. Not only is she the only female chaplain, but she is also of Japanese descent and brings that wonderful cultural dynamic as well.

Born and raised in Calgary, Margaret completed her post-secondary at U of A and Augustana University and her MDiv. in Saskatoon. Ordained into the Lutheran church, she serves not only as chaplain, but also a pastor of Historic Trinity Lutheran Church downtown. Although she's not an athlete herself, she loves watching her children play sports and seeing them excel with gifts so differently from her own. Margaret loves the arts, especially painting, ceramics, stained glass, jewelry, sculpture, and architecture.

She is a wonderful conversationalist with a constant and contagious smile.