



The Olinda Outpost

Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda

R.E. Class and Service held at 10:30
(followed by refreshments)
Rev. Christine Hillman

Sunday Services Summer 2009 Edition

Summer Services

July 19 **Book Sunday: Two Views of India**
Gypsy Carroll and Pat Haynes

August 2 **Report from the UUA**
Arthur Hillman

First Fall Sunday Service

Sept 13 **Ingathering Sunday: Water Celebration**
Rev. Christine Hillman



CHURCH AUCTION BARBECUE **August 2, 2009** **Following Sunday Service**

Tickets to this fund-raising event were sold at the services and goods AUuction on April 18, 2009, for \$25 each. At the time of writing, a few places are still available. Please call Bobbye Baylis if you are interested in attending but have not yet added your name to the signup sheet and bought a ticket.

Please Note: Sunday Service Committee Meeting at 9:15 am, Sept 13, 2009



From the Hillparson

Soon this fickle spring will be over and we will begin to see how fickle 2009's summer will be. That we dare not depend on the seasons to conform to our standards for the season we're in: cold when we expect it to be hot, hot instead of cold, wet competing with dry, etc., is much as we dare not have expectations on any aspect of our lives that don't also include a note of reality that we will be beset by unexpected misfortunes, surprised by unexpected joy, startled by institutional change or change even in our bodies, minds, spirits.

This past year at Olinda has been one of change and status quo in places not surprising and others quite surprising. We enter June as the close of our official full church year and anticipate the June 7 picnic, closing services and several summer activities and two opportunities to worship. For those of you who will not be part of these this summer, we look forward to seeing you this month and again when September arrives. And as to June and September remember to bring a flower June 7 and water Sept. 13.

"Summer's End", by Anthony Friess Perrino

One day a little boy was playing in front of his house, when it occurred to him that he had never seen an adult playing with a red wagon like his. And he burst into tears.

When his mother asked why he was crying, the boy said he was afraid that when he grew up he wouldn't be able to play with his red wagon anymore.

The mother assured the child that when he grew up he could play with his red wagon if he wanted to. That quieted him for a moment. Then he burst into even greater sobs.

The mother asked, "What's the matter now?" The boy replied, "I'm afraid that when I grow up, I won't want to play with the red wagon anymore."

Thus, many of us in more sophisticated ways borrow trouble from tomorrow and let today, the only time we have to live, be consumed by the interest we pay on the loan.

From The Numbering of Our Days, 1988

*In faith,
Rev. Christine*

Committee on Ministry

The committee, which consists of Jane Innerd, Carol Hylton, Rev. Christine Hillman, and John Upcott as chair, held a meeting on May 5th. The committee wants the congregation to know that if you have a concern or problem please contact anyone on the committee. Each member is important and any matter will be held in strictest confidence. Thanks to Pat Haynes for her work on the committee.

John Upcott

From the Board

We began the May Board Meeting on May 12 and finished on May 26. No, we did not meet for that entire time. We adjourned just after 9:00 p.m. on the 12th when we realised that we could not complete the Agenda in a reasonable time and agreed to convene at the later date.

It did not look like a particularly crowded Agenda, but discussion on a number of matters took time. For example, it had been agreed that in the interests of moving forward the operationalization of the Mission Statement, I should draft a Mission Statement Checklist. It was decided that this was too limited a way to approach the topic and that we needed a more sophisticated way of approaching the way we evaluate our success in achieving our mission. You will hear more on this in the near future.

We also heard from John Haynes about his preparation of material for Convo 2009, the North American wide meeting of UU Ministers this fall. It was agreed that he had done an excellent job. (In passing, I should mention that while I was in Thunder Bay, a member of the Organizing Committee for the Convo told me how delighted they were by our submission).

Reports were submitted as usual. The Board received the latest version of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Ministry from Jane Innerd. Jane thanked previous members of the Committee who had worked on the document for their efforts, especially Pat Haynes who had provided a copy of the penultimate version. Rev. Christine reported on her pastoral duties. She said how impressed she was by the news that Harriette Sinclair had insisted on travelling to Chicago for a family re-union. Harriette's will-power and determination are only to be marveled at, and provide inspiration for us all. She reported that the CUC had appointed a new Executive Director, Jennifer Dickson and that it looked like a very good appointment.

Stuart Miller suggested that we hire an expert to evaluate the building and this suggestion was approved. Helen Moore presented the Statement of Expenses for April and indicated that the Church was in reasonably good financial shape. Bill Baylis informed the Board that all was well with Sunday Services and that the Committee was now well into the planning of Summer Services

Then there was a long discussion on the second Information Meeting. Stuart was very informative on the Upgrades to the Building segment and much debate ensued, so much so that it was decided to postpone the discussion on Procedures for Minister's Salary Determination and Letter of Agreement Modifications until May 26th. We reconvened on May 26th and had a very good discussion on these topics. It was agreed that there is a need for transparency in this, as in all governance areas. Bobbye Baylis agreed to develop a Policy document regarding the procedures we use are in determining the Minister's salary, and Christine and I will review the Letter of Agreement.

Wilf

Activities & Meetings

June 7 – Noon
Church Picnic at Upcott's

CUC AMG Report

The Rev. Christine and I both attended the CUC ACM in Thunder Bay as delegates. Beside the Business Meetings, the Opening Ceremonies and the Keynote Address we did not see much of each other, as Christine was engaged in Board business and I was attending workshops and also giving one. At the Opening Ceremony on Friday evening I carried the Olinda Banner, a task which I embraced with a great deal of pleasure and a sense of privilege at being the representative of this beloved congregation of ours. The banners from all across Canada paraded twice around the hall and were received with tumultuous applause, clapping and cheering, and music. It really was a thrilling moment, as it always is. After the Ceremony, I stood beside our banner and received numerous compliments on it. It really is beautiful. It matches up to any other banner, and in my view, is easily the most attractive. I may be biased.

On the Saturday morning, the Keynote address was given by the Rev. Chris Buice of the Knoxville Unitarian Church. He had been asked to give the address before the tragic events of last July. He attended last year's Conference in Ottawa with his daughter and son, and is an admirer of all things Canadian. His address was witty, thoughtful, stimulating and at times deeply moving as he spoke about the awful events that transpired in their sanctuary. There will be a Service of Remembrance this July and Jane and I hope to attend.

On Saturday afternoon I gave my workshop on "The Intersect between Religion and Philosophy". It was very well received and very well attended, I am glad to say. I was honoured by the attendance of Rev. Buice, and he and I had an extended conversation afterwards. Christine also had some time with him the previous day. He really is a remarkable man and clearly an outstanding Minister. I believe the Knoxville Church was fortunate that they had him to help them through their time of terrible trouble.

The Sunday Morning Service was very good, with some wonderful music, an excellent choir and a very good French Horn player. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Julie Stoneberg of the Peterborough Fellowship on the Conference Theme "Answering the Call" and provided much food for thought. I had to leave immediately afterwards to fly back to Toronto and pick up Jane who was returning with Charlotte from a wedding in downstate New York.

I saw a lot of old friends at the Conference and made a number of new ones. Calvin Drake who served with me on the Task Force on the Principles and Sources was elected President of the CUC. Art Brewer, with whom I had a long conversation, was given the very-well deserved Knight Award for long service to the CUC. I met the new Executive Director of the CUC, Jennifer Dickson and was most impressed by her. All in all it was a very worthwhile three days.

Wilf Innerd.

Caring Committee Report

A warm June "Hello" to all. Do hope you are out and about enjoying the summer time weather.

We send "Get Well" wishes to Arn Thompson who is recuperating from a hip replacement operation - take it easy Arn - look forward to seeing you at the June County Lunch!

A Caring Hello to Albertina Bell, Walter and Harriette Sinclair and Ruth Whaley.

We wish Lisa Janik, daughter of Dan and Toni and her husband to be Brian Alexander McMurachy many best wishes and happiness upon their June wedding.

Sending a big summertime "Hello" to Cathy Thompson Alberta and Jean Upcott Wallis of London, Ont.

If you have a joy or concern or a need you wish the Caring Committee to know please contact the following - Rev. Christine Hillman, June Blacker, Eunice Goyette, or Carabel Ringrose.

May you all have a warm, healthy and peaceful summer.

Carabel

"To sit in the shade on a fine day, and look upon the verdure is most perfect refreshment" Jane Austen