



# 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 March 2012

- Mar 4**      **Fourth Smooth Stone:** Religious liberalism affirms the moral obligation to direct one's effort toward the establishment of a just and loving community.  
Reverend Christine Hillman      Music: Carabel Ringrose
- Mar 11**      **We are the ones we have been waiting for.**  
Reverend Christine Hillman      Music: Bobbye & Bill Baylis  
with Ray Stone
- Mar18**      **God Grant Me the Serenity to Know Who I Am.**  
Reverend Christine Hillman      Music: Toni Janik
- Mar 25**      **Standing in Loss– Gateway to Change**  
Steve Brennan      Music: Lorie Lyons



Carabel & Hector Ringrose  
invite you to join them in celebration of their  
**60th Wedding Anniversary**

Open House  
Saturday, March 10, 2012  
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion  
145 Division Street S., Kingsville, ON

Love and Friendship are cherished gifts.  
We respectfully request no other.



## From the Hillparson

Many of you already know that I am a fan of Facebook and post regularly enough on my own page, while also posting thoughts or links to the UU Church of Olinda Facebook page, which Charlotte Innerd and I manage together. On both pages, and very occasionally, on my son's in memorium page, I find people, see what's going on in their lives, keep up with colleagues who say much, share great links to websites to political and religious articles, etc. and also to wonderful music and hilarious pictures, blogs (something like an opinion piece one might find in a newspaper) and other sites. For instance, colleague Rev. Meg Barnhouse posted a blog by someone in Austin, TX (where Meg is now settled minister) who wrote about his experience in a thrift store where the owners had moved the books to a new spot and put shoes where the books had originally been. What the owner or employee failed to do was remove the tags saying what kind of books would be found on a given shelf to assist the shopper. For shoe shoppers the tags weren't nearly as helpful, or maybe I'm wrong. As the blogger described the top left pair on the picture posted here, they look like late trimester shoes, based on what the shelf label says purchasers will find there. I don't think I've laughed that hard in awhile. Thanks, Meg!

I went from that post straight to a post from Lillian Dean, a woman whom I knew at BUC (back in the day), who taught me how to compost most efficiently, and whose daughter Cathy was in a Grade 4/5 R.E. class my husband and I taught one year. Cathy was a bright and thoughtful girl with whom I was quite impressed. I was, apparently, right to be impressed. (Image me patting my own back here.) A link Lillian posted took me straight to Amazon.com where you can buy a book by Cathy! The page had a photo of the book as well as the following:  
Jamestown (Postcard History) [Paperback]  
Catherine E. Dean (Author)

Unfortunately Amazon wouldn't allow me to copy and paste the picture of the book cover. It looks like a post card, just sos ya know. I'm thrilled for Cathy's accomplishment and I can now confidently report that one of my R.E. kids is a full-fledged author!.

What can I say, there's so much to Facebook. BTW (By the Way) I learned on FB (Facebook) that Tuesday, February 21 was Nina Simone's birthday and to make it a real celebration the poster included a YouTube link to Simone's version of "I put a Spell on You" and I sang along with it at least three times. Beautiful.

Seems like Winter's hardly started and yet this month Spring will arrive with all its promises and all our hopes held in its hands. May the best that can be for you, come to you.



Faithfully and in faith,  
Rev. Christine

### CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION SESSION ON SOLAR PANELS

**Sunday, March 11, 2012, at 12 Noon**

Financial details will be presented on the proposal to install solar panels on the roof of the church under Ontario's microFIT program. The Board recommends that we move forward with the project. What does the congregation think? And if we decide to install panels, what is the best way to finance them? A second meeting will be required to approve any actual expenditure of funds.



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## From the Board

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At the second Board meeting of 2012 on February 16, we welcomed newly elected trustee Linda Goyette as Vice-President. Carol Hylton, who was our VP last year, moved from that position to Membership Trustee. The other change was that Walter Sinclair is returning to the Trustee position for Property after an absence of six years. Fortunately Stuart Miller, who during his term as Property Trustee guided the church through major improvements, including new sanctuary windows and stucco exterior, will continue to play a key role on the Property Committee. We look forward to welcoming Walter to the Board at its meeting in February, once he has recovered from a nasty bout of pneumonia.

One of our first items of business at the February meeting was to find another day to meet! Sue Markham, our Trustee for Lifespan Religious Education is not able to attend on Thursday evenings. After eliminating practically all other alternatives, we settled on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is thus on March 13, 2012. Several other dates were fixed and in some cases altered, including the aUuction on April 14 and the UU Olinda picnic on June 10 (thanks to John and Linda Upcott!). Karen Miller suggested a Wild West theme for the aUuction, but whatever the theme, we will probably stick with a pasta dinner beforehand. Another pair of dates that will affect us all are those that frame Christine Hillman's planned sabbatical next year. The Board approved the time frame from January 7 to June 6, 2013. The Sunday Services Committee, chaired by Helen Moore, will be busy! Perhaps you have suggestions or would be willing to volunteer to help with a service or two: please see Helen or another member of the Sunday Service Committee.

Other initiatives being pursued include the replacement of carpeting in the sanctuary, as approved in the Congregational meeting that followed the AGM on February 12, and as led by the carpet committee: Helen Moore, chair, Carol Hylton, John Haynes, and Karen Miller. The first class on the Welcoming Congregation is scheduled for March 4 after the service (moved from March 11). Please attend to learn what becoming a welcoming congregation would mean for Olinda. On March 11, a relatively short informational meeting of the congregation on solar panels will be held to gauge the level of support and help settle on funding methods if we decide to move forward. The decision whether to commit to the expenditure could be made at a Special Congregational Meeting a couple weeks later.

Finally, the Board encourages church members to consider enrolling in the Northern Lights Chalice Lighter Program. You would commit to making tax-deductible donations of \$25, \$50, or more dollars once or twice a year to projects approved by a grant selection panel that support UUs in "grassroots, transformative initiatives" in Canada. Grants in the range of \$25,000 to \$50,000 are envisioned. If 20% or more of us join, we will be eligible to apply for funds for our own worthwhile projects. See [www.northernlightsgrant.ca](http://www.northernlightsgrant.ca) for more information.

The next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. All church members are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

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## Financial Committee Report

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The sign-up sheets for the aUuction are in the coffee room. Please start writing down the goodies you plan to bring to be auctioned so that we have a list to advertise, when the time comes. Also seating is limited for the famous Upcott Pasta Dinner, so to be safe, sign up now. Oh yes, incidentally notice that the date has been changed to **April 14, 2012**. Anyone interested in helping out with this event, please let me (Bobbye Baylis) know.

## Important Dates in March

Mar. 4	12 noon	First Class, Welcoming Congregations
Mar. 7	7 PM	Book Club, <u>One Thousand White Women</u>
Mar. 11	12 noon	Congregational Meeting, Solar Panels
Mar. 13	7 PM	Board Meeting
Mar. 14	7 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Mar. 17		Dinner for 8 at the Hylton's
Mar. 18	12 noon	Social Responsibility Committee
Mar. 28	7 PM	Choir Rehearsal

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## Social Responsibility Committee Report

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Our KIVA team now has 12 members, one of whom is not actually a member of our church and simply likes to join teams. Oh well, he or she is certainly welcome. If you would like to know more about joining or making micro-loans, see either Bill Baylis, Linda Goyette, or Sue Markham. As a church, we have used our \$425 to make a total of 11 \$100 loans, and Linda and Sue have also made several loans each, for a total of 19 loans for our team.

This year our International Dinner will be somewhat earlier than usual. On **April 29** during the service, Jake Soderlund, a retired Political Scientist from the University of Windsor will be speaking about Africa. Therefore the theme for the Dinner, which will follow the service, will involve at least some African dishes, prepared by the members of the committee and any other willing volunteers. Donations made at the Dinner will go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. If you would like to know more about the foundation, see [www.Stephenlewisfoundation.org](http://www.Stephenlewisfoundation.org).

Bobbye Baylis, Secretary, Social Responsibility Committee

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## Membership

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I am learning about my new duties on the Board. I have set up a Committee, it is Gypsy Carroll and Kathy Brennan and we will be finding our way together. The first task I wish to take care of is getting a new 'Phone Tree' distributed. As you know, Karen Miller is working on the new 'Olinda Directory'.

There is interest shown in having 'Dinners for Eight'. It is a relaxing evening getting to know each other and having lots of interesting Olinda UU conversation. In case you are unsure about how hosting a dinner works, here is a brief outline. There are a total of eight people, including the host, however if you have extra room, you can have more. The host supplies the basics such as beverages and difficult to transport items. The host/hostess usually decides the theme of the dinner and works it out with the guests about who is contributing what to complete the menu. The host can make the focus part of the menu or a guest can supply it. There is no set rule.

In order to get the dinners started, Laurie & I are hosting a dinner on March 17th. If you are interested in hosting a dinner any time this next year, please let me know.

If you have any suggestions regarding what Membership might do for you, please let me know.

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## Book Club

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This group of congregants and friends gathers once a month (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday) at the home of book club members, the Church, or other arranged venues.

During the meeting a selected book, author, or theme previously selected by each member in turn is discussed. The 'fun-loving' group is into another year of reading, learning and socializing.

Everyone is welcome – *Contact Chairperson Pat Haynes, or Stuart Miller*

### **Book for Month – March 2012:**

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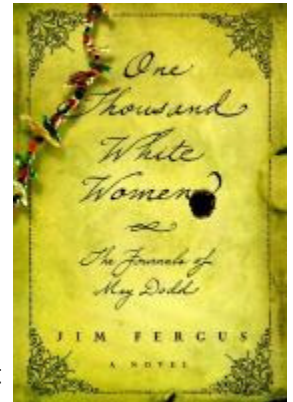
**Title: One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd**

**Author: Jim Fergus**

**Summary:**

An historical novel about something that never happened: help to "civilize the Indians". The government of American President U.S. Grant recruits women from the fringes of society to become the brides of Cheyenne warriors. May and the other Cheyenne brides are a fascinating group of dynamic characters that really come to life over the course of the novel.

This book provides a "what if?" alternative to a relatively unexplored part of American history; that of the Cheyennes in the 1870s.



**Location of Meeting:** The Crowder Residence, Kingsville

**Leader:** Leona Crowder

**Date:** 07 March, 2012; 7 pm

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## Caring Committee Report

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Spring begins March 20th and even with the winter being as kind as it has been, we look forward to the season where new hope always begins.

It is good to hear Evelyn Dresser is getting better slowly but surely and soon maybe we will be able to see both her and John back in church.

Walter Sinclair is out of the hospital and is recuperating with the help of his family. Get better real soon Walt, the congregation needs you!

A springtime hello to Albertina Bell at Erie Glen and to Jean Upcott Wallis in London.

Remember people do not have to be in the hospital or at death's door to receive a card from the church, but we cannot send one if we do not know. Please call or talk to a committee person if you know anyone who could use a "pick me up" card from the church.

John

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## Sunday Services Committee

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### The Chalice

Karen Miller asked to have one of her two chalices placed at the front of the church so that it could occasionally replace the pewter chalice which we light each week at our Sunday service. That initiated a discussion which eventually moved to the Sunday Services Committee meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Martha Munson, in a response to my inquiry, wrote that in 1982 the Reverend Joan Kahn-Schneider was asked to preach at Martha Munson`s Installation service. She was compensated for preaching, did not expect to be, and she spent the money to buy the chalice and gave it to the congregation.

Part of the discussion at the meeting was what connection the members of the congregation have to the chalice. How important is the chalice to you? Since we will soon have an afternoon workshop on democracy, on February 26<sup>th</sup>, it seemed appropriate for members to have the opportunity to express their preference regarding the chalice.

If you have an opinion about whether to keep the current pewter chalice, alternate occasionally with other chalices, permanently replace the chalice, or some other version of the chalice's place in our Sunday service, please respond to me by email, phone or in person at church: [hemoore@bell.net](mailto:hemoore@bell.net) or (519) 776-4068. Thank you for your consideration.

Helen Moore

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## Other Business

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### The Carpet

On February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Congregational Meeting following the Annual Meeting, the congregation passed the motion to approve expenditure of a maximum of \$4,000 (four thousand) to replace the carpet runners and the carpet surrounding the pulpit in the sanctuary. The expenditures are to be paid for from the Memorial Fund. At the January 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting a Carpet Committee consisting of John Haynes, Karen Miller, Carol Hylton and Helen Moore had been struck. Following email correspondence, visits to A & A Flooring in Kingsville and Essex, four carpet sample boards with 44 colours were brought to the sanctuary on February 19<sup>th</sup> for the committee to choose the carpet and colour. Thanks very much to all members of the congregation who offered their opinion. Until the carpet is installed, please be assured that lime green and hot pink have not been chosen. Thanks to the Carpet Committee.

### Capital Campaign 2011

The Capital Campaign ended on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. With the money donated in the past two years, proceeds of the past seven auctions, and monies pledged for the next two years, we reached our goal. Congratulations and thank you!

The new windows are installed and the exterior walls of the sanctuary have been insulated and resurfaced with a white textured stucco covering. Additional improvements are planned.

Though the Capital Campaign is complete there will henceforth be a line item where donations for improvements to the church can be made.

Thank you.  
Helen Moore