



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 May 2013

- May 5** **MWCP: Mandate and Programs**
Lorraine Gibson Music: Lorie Lyons
- May 12** **Inequality in the New Gilded Age: Part 3**
Bobbye Baylis Music: Carabel Ringrose
- May 19** **A Celebration of the Continuation of the Future**
Alisa McClurg Music: Bill & Bobbye Baylis,
Ray Stone
- May 26** **What's a Risk.....to CHANGE**
Steve Brennan Music: Lorie Lyons



Congregational Meeting: Sunday, May 19th following church service to approve basement renovations and replacement of 6 basement windows.

Important Dates in May

May 5	Noon	International Dinner
May 8	7 PM	Book Club Meeting, <i>The Hundred Secret Senses</i> by Amy Tan
May 9	7 PM	Choir Rehearsal
May 12	10:30 AM	Toiletries for the House of Sophrosyne
May 12	Noon	Social Responsibility Committee Meeting
May 16	7 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
May 19	9:15 AM	Sunday Services Meeting
May 19	Noon	Congregational Meeting on Basement
May 22	7 PM	Choir Rehearsal
May 25	9 - 4	Bake and Trunk Sale
May 26	Noon	Sunday Services Scorecard



From the Hillparson

Reverend Christine Hillman is on Sabbatical. Her column will resume upon her return.

Our big sale is coming . . . how can you help?



We hope to raise more money for our church with this year's spring sale ~ and have fun together at the same time.

Please consider how you can help out on **Saturday, May 25th**. Once again, here's what we need:

Fresh baking: Pies, cakes, tarts, loaves, muffins, cookies, etc. This is the most popular part of the sale so we would like to expand our baking table this year.

Food bazaar items: homemade pickles, jellies and jams, as well as salad dressings, flavoured vinegars, dried herbs or herbs in pots.

Crafts: new, handmade items such as soaps and lotions, dish cloths and placemats, handmade wooden items, and other crafts.

Trunk Sale items. We are also asking volunteers to sell quality second-hand items from the trunks of their cars, vans or trucks, parked in our parking lot on the day of the sale. We will have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for a place in the parking lot. We hope for at least ten volunteers. If you can't volunteer, but have a quality item to sell, please contact Linda Goyette or Carol Hylton and we will arrange to pick it up and sell it for you.

Volunteers: To help us with sign posting, to help at the sale tables, or to help with special children's activities we will tell you about soon.

Customers: We want many more families to attend our sale this year, and get to know our church. We are asking each church member to invite friends, family and neighbours to our sale and barbecue. Please help us to spread the word.

Contact Linda or Carol with your ideas.

Membership Committee

First and foremost, we want all of you to participate in some way on May 25th, our Trunk Sale and Bake Sale/Food Bazaar. Read all about it in Linda's notice. It doesn't matter if you are selling something or not, just come and support us. This can be a fun day, bring your lawn chair, sit and visit with your friends, enjoy your lunch from the barbeque provided by John & Linda Upcott.

If you would like to contribute your 'story' for our Olinda Connections, we would appreciate it. Please let me know.

Happy Mother's Day and enjoy your Victoria Day Weekend.

Gypsy Carroll, Kathy Brennan & Carol Hylton

From the Board

The Board meeting was relatively short, lasting less than one and a half hours on April 18. The fact that four of us (Bobbie Baylis, Stuart Miller, Linda Goyette, and me) were unable to attend no doubt helped to hasten the proceedings. John Upcott chaired the meeting with Carol Hylton, Peter LeClair, Helen Moore, and Walter Sinclair, and it was productive

Stuart, although absent, submitted a report on his efforts to get quotations for basement work, namely repairing the walls and replacing the windows. Board approvals or recommendations will have to wait a week or two until the quotations are in hand, but in order to secure congregational approval for the expenditure, a congregational meeting on May 19th after church service is being announced in this newsletter. Once the work on the walls and windows in the basement is finished, plans are in place to replace basement flooring, as well.

Stuart also submitted a report in his role as Trustee for Lifespan Religious Education. New curricula are being assembled for off-the-shelf use with youth by RE leaders and assistants. They would include stories and activities that require little if any further preparation. Topics designed to coordinate with Sunday Service topics are given priority. Care is also often required for toddlers and infants. We have been fortunate to have Logan Schmidt volunteer his time for RE, but his service is expected to end this June. More adult congregants are needed who are willing to step in and help, but they will need to provide police clearances. Possible adult RE is also under consideration. Helen and Carol are slated to be liaisons for RE. Anyone willing to help or to offer suggestions for adult RE topics should speak with them or with Stuart.

Advertising and improvements to our web presence were discussed following a membership report by Carol. Paper advertising is relatively expensive and its value in times of financial constraint may often be questioned. We currently advertise only in the Kingsville Reporter. An attractive and accessible website may be more important and does not need to be costly. However, it does require regular submissions of articles, photos, and videos and a volunteer or two to maintain it. The WordPress software on our uuolinda.org website does allow for an attractive layout and simple postings, and I am just learning about using tags to improve its search-engine optimization (SEO). However, more work is clearly needed and other options, such as starting an entirely new website are also being evaluated.

Peter reported that because donations this year are lower than last year and some expenses are higher, the current deficit is about \$18,000, roughly \$7000 higher than our projected annual one. Walter reported that thanks to John Haynes, John Upcott, and Helen Moore, work on the gardens and raking stones has been undertaken. There is still much more to be done, so please come lend a hand if you can any Saturday morning when weather permits. Helen reported that Sunday services have been scheduled for all services up to Reverend Christine Hillman's return from sabbatical leave on June 9, 2013. Helen also reminded us of the meeting scheduled after the service on May 26 to discuss the success of Sunday services during the sabbatical period.

John and Linda Upcott have once again kindly invited the congregation to a June picnic at their farm. After the service on June 9, please join us as we gather with our potluck contributions to celebrate Christine's return, the survival of church operations during her sabbatical leave, and of course, the approach of summer!

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, May 16, 2013. All church members are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Finance Committee

No report this month.

Social Responsibility Committee



May 5, 2013: International Dinner following the service. Since the speaker for the May 5 service is Lorraine Gibson of the MWCP, the Migrant Workers support group in Leamington, our theme will be Mexican & Caribbean.

As usual, the food will be supplied by members of the Social Responsibility Committee, but additional contributions by others are welcome. Please let Mariette Preyde or me know, in person or through my email, what you can bring. Although the theme is Mexican, Jamaican, etc., your favourite standard Canadian fare is also welcome!

Financial donations for the dinner will go to the MWCP.



May 12, 2013: Toiletries for the House of Sophrosyne. On Mothers' Day we have been gathering a collection of toiletries for the House of Sophrosyne, a Windsor live-in treatment centre for chemically dependent women. As these women often come to the two-week sessions without bringing any toiletries, the cost of supplying tooth paste, brushes, soap (not bars), shampoo, etc. falls on the House. They much appreciate the help we have been giving them. Incidentally, no remotely drinkable liquids (mouthwash for example) should be included. Over the years our congregation has been amazingly creative in coming up with additional ideas. We have also learned that the House sells second-hand clothes as a

fundraising activity, so a donation of women's or children's clothing in good condition is also welcome.

Facility Tour

Sunday Services: Anaerobic Digester Tour

Following our Sunday Service on April 14th entitled 'Let's Stop Wasting Our Waste', Dennis Dick, based on an enthusiastic interest in his anaerobic digesters, offered to give a tour of his facility, perhaps on a Saturday afternoon. If you have an interest in such a tour, please contact Mariette.

Book Club

This group of congregants and friends gathers once a month (1st 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 – May 2013:

Title: **The Hundred Secret Senses**

Author: Amy Tan

Summary:

Set in California and Southern China, this novel tells the story of a woman and her half-sister, who see ghosts and tells ghost stories set in the 19th century.

The Club has previously read & enjoyed the author's 'Saving Fish from Drowning', and now revisits this prolific writer's subsequent novel.

Location of Meeting: Crowder Residence, Kingsville

Leader: Joyse Gilbert

Hostess: Leona Crowder

Date: Wednesday, 08 May, 2013; 7 pm

Caring Committee Report

Here it is May and we are still waiting for spring.

This is going to be a very busy month with Mothers' Day, Victoria Day, the church bake and trunk sale and all the other spring things to do. Linda is looking forward to a trip to Chicago with friends for some shopping and sightseeing and I am looking forward to her trip too.

We were all shocked to hear of Romell Reid's illness on their way to Texas. Fortunately they had some good care on the way. Since returning she has been steadily improving, and we are so grateful for that. She is in our thoughts and I know she will have a complete recovery. Recovering nicely also is Trudy Ware after her surgery. She is still on one leg, but after her upcoming doctor's appointment perhaps she can start her rehab. Pat Haynes has been seen riding around in a car so I know she is getting better every day.

I want to thank all for their visits and help to those who have had health problems; we are all the caring committee.

A big hello to Albertina Bell in Leamington and Jean Wallace in her new place in Brantford. I hope all is well. If anyone knows of a way we can help, let the caring committee know and we will try.

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

John Upcott

Rev Christine Hillman on sabbatical

