

The Olinda Outpost

Monthly Newsletter of the [Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda](#)

Sunday Services

- April 6 Critique is an Invitation Not an Indictment**
Rev. Christine Hillman Music: Lorie Lyons
- April 13 Leadership Dilemmas**
Rev. Christine Hillman Music: Carabel Ringrose
- April 20 The Zealots of Palestine**
Rev. Christine Hillman Music: Bobbye & Bill Baylis,
Ray Stone
- April 27 Solutions to Hunger**
Tina Quiring and Jim Founk Music: Toni Janik



Congregational Meeting Held

On March 16, a congregational meeting was held at which the congregation approved the motion: `The congregation authorizes the expenditure of approximately \$3500 for a granite memorial stone in the Memorial Garden.` This authorizes the purchase of a Canadian sourced Laurentian pink granite stone, to be polished, to be placed in the Memorial Garden, with the names of those whose ashes have been scattered in the garden to be engraved on it, and henceforth, the names of any others whose ashes are scattered will be engraved on the stone.



Calling on yard help! Our parking lot needs some serious relocation of gravel. Please come out about 9 AM to help Walt Sinclair, our Property Trustee, on the first clear and above-freezing Saturday in April. Bring gloves and a rake if possible. Thanks!

From the Hillparson



March, Women's History month, is coming to a close, but why should the history of a given group be stuck in just one month of the year! Olinda's wonderful and dedicated choir participated in the combined choirs concert of some eight plus UU congregations, all but one from Michigan. That one: Olinda. This year they sang in concert at the historic Unitarian Universalist conversation in downtown Detroit. For long decades First Church Detroit was known as "the mother church" as it had been at the heart of the beginnings of a number of other regional congregations. For a long time, a Thanksgiving service was hosted by the Detroit congregation and people from the other local congregations attended. As to women's history there have been amazing women as members of the congregation. One of them was Viola Liuzzo. If that name doesn't strike a chord I wouldn't be surprised but she is a woman to remember. Ms. Liuzzo was not a long time UU but when things started going pear shape in the civil rights movement in the south, particularly in the March, 1965 attempt to march en masse from Selma to Montgomery in Alabama, Liuzzo made a momentous decision. She would leave her home and family to help with the march – and help she did. Numbers of times she drove various participants from one place to another in the car she drove from Michigan to Alabama. One of those drives, the last, took her life. She and several young African American men were on the highway when they were forced to the side of the road and shot to death. All but one of the young men and Viola Liuzzo died for their determination to support equality and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. She is now in the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and is remembered by the church she called home, the church that was part of the stirring of her intentions to live her values. So, the Olinda choir sat in seats where Viola Liuzzo might have sat as member. And other Olindans, youth from the 20s, who attended a young people's convention in that church, sat in seats that one day Viola Liuzzo might sit in. History crosses well more than decades, into millennia, but even in the course of decades, events make it so that differing generations touch one another in some way that helps us find our way into what articulates and lives our own core values.

Planning Your Memorial Service & More

A weekly adult education class to help you reflect on the meanings you wish to express and the expectations you would like to pass along to loved ones for 1) Your Dying Wishes/Advance Directives; 2) Your directions to family for your Memorial Service. Both of these accomplishments have the capacity to help you get what you want and to ease the hard decisions your family will be making. "A good time will be had by all" was always the closing phrase by the secretary of my family reunion, back to earlier than my grandmother's teen years! This course won't be exactly that but I do hope it will be meaningful and satisfying! LET THE MINISTER KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE
Rev. Christine

3-4:30 PM Thursdays -- April 10, 17, 24 (And perhaps the first Thursday in May)

From the Board

Our new Board of Trustees met for the first time on March 20. It's smaller than last year's Board because there are three vacancies: Vice President, Treasurer, and Trustee for Membership and Publicity. Peter LeClair announced his decision to retire from the position of Treasurer, although he will continue to finish reporting business from the fiscal year that ended at the end of December. During the next month or so, he will pass the treasurer's reigns to Helen Moore. Helen, of course, is the Trustee for Sunday Services, but she also has experience as past treasurer. She has kindly agreed to add the duties of Acting Treasurer to her Sunday Services responsibilities in order to keep our books in order until a new Treasurer is appointed. She has been promised support by Peter and Finance Chair Bobbye Baylis in the interim. John Upcott and Carol Hylton both resigned their positions of Vice President and Membership & Publicity Chair, respectively, with the hope of encouraging other members to bring fresh faces and ideas to the Board. If you are willing to try one of the vacant positions, please let me or any other Board member know. Fortunately, John will continue to attend Board meetings as Chair of the Caring Committee. The Board does have one new face: Mireya Campbell has generously taken on the important position of Secretary. Thanks, Mireya and a warm welcome!!

The Board voted to move ahead with the acquisition of a polished granite stone from Hallmark for the Stewart Moore Memorial Garden, as approved in the Congregational meeting on March 16. Names and dates of those whose ashes have been buried there will be inscribed on the stone. Walter Sinclair, our Property Trustee, is asking for help redistributing gravel in the parking lot that had been pushed aside by the winter plowing. He asks for helpers to arrive around 9 AM on the first clear and comfortable (well, at least above freezing!) Saturday in April. Bring work gloves and a rake if possible. The church garage may have a new and not particularly welcome occupant. A neighbour has reported seeing an opossum crawling under the garage door and is worried about her chickens. John volunteered to investigate.

John also reported for the Committee on Ministry that Steve Brennan is taking over as sole chair of the committee, and that while both Carol and Jane Innerd are planning to retire from the committee this summer, they will continue on long enough to complete the assessment process. The assessment forms are to be returned by the end of March, when you receive this Newsletter, but if you can participate but need a few more days to complete the forms, just return them to a committee member as soon as you can; they will still be accepted! Steve and Jane will compile the information.

Please remember that the Annual Conference and Meeting of the Canadian Unitarian Council will be held May 15-18 in Montreal. We are looking for one or two delegates, whose travel costs can be subsidized. Please let the Board know if you are interested in representing us there. Our next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, April 17. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Important Dates

Apr. 2 7 pm

Book Club: Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese

Apr. 3 3 pm

Tea with Christine

Apr. 10 3 pm

Planning Your Memorial Service & More

Apr. 10 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Apr. 12 5:30 pm

Lasagna Dinner

Apr. 12 7 pm

Auuction

Apr. 13 noon

Sunday Services Meeting

Apr. 17 3 pm

Planning Your Memorial Service & More

Apr. 17 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting

Apr. 20 noon

Social Responsibility Committee

Apr. 24 3 pm

Planning Your Memorial Service & More

Apr. 24 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Apr. 27 noon

International Dinner

Social Responsibility Committee

On February 16 we saw the second half of the Harry Belafonte film, *Sing Your Song*, and were again moved by his music and inspired by his life's work in the Civil Rights movement. This replaced the SRC meeting for that month. As you may remember, the first half of this film was an inspiration to Karen Miller, and the Leamington Rally in November in support of the Heinz workers was a result.

Another committee member has been active lately. Sue Markham helped organize a very well-attended Community Discussion on Canada Post held March 20. Those of us who attended learned a great deal about the true state of things at Canada Post. For instance, that, contrary to what they have been saying, Canada Post has been turning a profit every year except for the one year they locked out the postal workers for a period of weeks. It was shown that it would be quite feasible to increase the profitability of the organization by a few simple steps. So it is not at all clear why we should become the only country in the OECD that "cannot afford" home delivery of the mail.

Our meeting on March 23 was enriched by the presence of Adam Vasey, director of Pathway to Potential, an anti-poverty group in Windsor. His talk during the service focused on the need for structural change to eliminate poverty, not relying solely on charity. His optimistic tone made it clear that there are obvious paths that can be taken, it is only a question of collective will. At the committee meeting we learned about Pathway to Potential's next project, to distribute a survey asking everyone what aspect of municipal life was most important to them. They will present the results of this survey to candidates during this fall's municipal elections, in the hope of making sure all-candidates meetings will be discussing topics of real importance to voters and not on fringe or wedge issues brought in by political partisans. Over the next months, the committee will be asking other social activists to come and tell us about their projects.

Don't forget the International Dinner on April 27!

Caring Committee Report

As of this writing green grass is showing, the snow is going and spring is in the air, I hope.

The congregation's sympathies are extended to Hector and Carabel Ringrose on the loss of Buster's sister. She passed away suddenly March 1st and our thoughts are with Buster and Carabel and their family. Marion Thompson is still having some mobility problems but it was nice to see her back at church and back driving. Gypsy Carroll is recovering nicely from her broken ankle and is now without the boot that was on her foot and starting to take some steps. Hopefully she will be back home before the end of the month.

Thanks to all who have made visits and given rides to church for people. I know your kindness is appreciated by all.

I hope everyone has a great Easter and spring, by that time, will be in full swing with birds singing, flowers sprouting and a big yellow sun in the sky.

Special Easter greetings to Albertina Bell in Leamington and Jean Wallis in Brantford.

John Upcott

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Rev. Christine Hillman

Olinda 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 – April 2014:

Title: Indian Horse, a Novel

Author: Richard Wagamese

Summary: Touching and sad story that sheds light on the issues natives face. The struggles the main character goes through are heart breaking, but his perseverance and strength come through in the end. This story is a reminder that everyone has demons they have to battle or come to terms with.

Location of Meeting: Erie Glen Manor, Leamington

Leader: Joyse Gilbert

Date: Wednesday, 02 April, 2014; 7 pm

Report from the Choir

The mass UU Choir of about 120 voices gave a lovely and inspirational concert at the First UU Church of Detroit on Sunday, March 9. Two drummers from the Ann Arbor church joined us in the piece selected by our Olinda choir: *Caught in the Rhythm*. Check our website for a photograph. We're looking forward to hearing the recording that was made. Our choir will be performing a few of the pieces we learned during services over the next few months, but they won't sound quite the same from 8 singers as from 120! If you can sing or play an instrument, please join us!

Finance Committee Report

The annual Olinda aUuction is almost here! On April 12 at 7 PM the aUuctioneer's gavel will fall and you will have a chance to bid on wonderful products of the talents of our congregation. Examples:

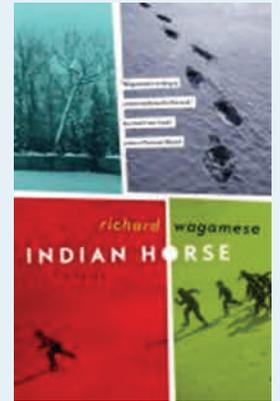
Crafts: Scarves, towels, T-shirt, coat rack, lazy Susan, tray, cutting boards, lamp

Food: preserves, Bailey's Cream, pies, muffins, cabbage rolls, sherry, nutmeg, lasagnas

Other items such as gift certificates, a book and a gorgeous Buddha statue

You can also sign up for various lunches, dinners, and the summer Bar-B-Q

If you want to start off the aUuction in the right mood, sign up for the 5:30 Lasagna Supper that precedes the aUuction. There is a sign-up sheet for this luncheon (there is only room for 30 people) with the sheets for aUuction items, in the Tranquility room.



Health Fair: Understanding Our Changing Senses

When: Wednesday, April 16, 2014

10 a.m. to Noon

Where: Essex Retirees Social Club

32 Russell Street

Essex, ON

at the corner of

Centre Street and Russell.

Discussions

10:30 Canadian Diabetes
Canadian Hearing Society
Canadian National Institute for the Blind
Canadian Mental Health

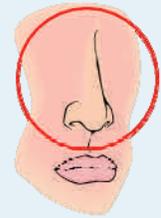
Interactive displays at the tables

Canadian South Science City, Windsor
Pharmacist
Smell
Tactile

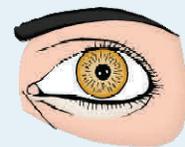
Open to the public

Please considering carpooling with a friend.

Smell



Taste



Sight



Hearing



Touch

April — 6