

The Olinda Outpost

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

Sunday Services June 2014



- June 1** **Flower Communion/Volunteer Recognition**
Reverend Christine Hillman Music: Carabel Ringrose
- June 8** **Olinda Community assessment Results: What is Shared Ministry?**
Steve Brennan Music: Lorie Lyons
- June 15** **To Be Resolute**
Reverend Christine Hillman Music: Carabel Ringrose
- June 22** **Syria's Civil War: Why Hasn't It Ended?**
Jake Soderlund Music: Ray Stone String Quartet
- June 29** **Servant Leadership: Living Fully or Following Simply: Which Do You Choose?**
Steve Brennan Music: The Baylis– Somer Wind Quartet
Plus Ray Stone

Summer Services

- July 27** **Bacteria and the Web of Life**
Bill Baylis
- Aug 17** **A View From a Wheelchair**
Gypsy Carroll

September 2014

- Sept 7** **Ingathering & Water Communion**
Reverend Christine Hillman

From the Hillparson



Annie Dillard, my favourite modern mystic, has a wonderful passage, in her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek." In this passage, she transforms biblical text to speak to nature and the present -- the present wherever you find it and truly see it.

"Moses said to God, 'I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.' And God said, 'Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me and live.' But he added, 'There is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: and it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will. . . etc, etc. . . . and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.' So Moses went up on Mount Sinai, waited still in a cleft of the rock, and saw the back parts of God. Forty years later he went up on Mount Pisgah, and saw the promised land across the Jordan, which he was to die without ever being permitted to enter. Just a glimpse, Moses: a cleft in the rock here, a mountaintop there, and the rest is denial and longing. You have to stalk everything. Everything scatters and gathers; everything comes and goes like fish under a bridge. You have to stalk the spirit, too. You can wait forgetful anywhere, for anywhere is the way of his fleet passage, and hope to catch him by the tail and shout something in his ear before he wrests away. Or you can pursue him wherever you dare, risking the shrunken sinew in the hollow of the thigh; you can bang on the door all night till the innkeeper relents, if he ever relents, and you can wait till you're hoarse or worse. . . . I sit on a bridge as on Pisgah or Sinai, and I am both waiting becalmed in a cleft of the rock and banging with all my will, calling like a child beating on a door: Come on out! . . . I know you're there.

And then occasionally the mountains part. The tree with the lights in it appears, the mockingbird falls, and time unfurls across space like an oriflamme. Now we rejoice. . . . The hem of [God's] robe was a Nobel Prize for Heisenberg; he did not go home in disgust. . . . 'Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not.' The fleeing shreds I see, the back parts, are a gift, an abundance."

Faithfully and in faith,

Rev. Christine

From the Board

Reverend Christine Hillman was representing our church at the Annual Meeting and Conference of the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) in Montreal at the time of our Board of Trustees meeting on May 15, and thus she was unable to open our meeting with her thoughtful opening words. By now she should have received a plaque from the CUC recognizing UU Olinda as a Welcoming Congregation. We are already so listed on the CUC website, and we can take pride in this achievement, even though we appear to be the next-to-last congregational member in Canada to achieve "Welcoming" status.

Our order for a polished granite stone from Hallmark for the Stewart Moore Memorial Garden has been placed and we expect it to be installed by the end of June. Also, an Essex lawyer has been engaged to help us incorporate the church, and at this stage, at least, the process appears relatively straightforward. Bobbye Baylis and Helen Moore reported that the International Dinner on April 27 was quite a success, collecting \$519 for the Gleaners.

Gypsy Carroll of the congregation left a request that assistance for the disabled be installed to make our first-floor bathroom more accessible. Walter Sinclair brought in a brochure for a metal pole with handle that could be installed next to the toilet, but after some discussion, the Board opted for trying arm supports. Helen offered to bring in equipment that Stewart Moore had found helpful in their home. She had this set up already on Sunday and it seems to work well. Let us know what you think! Walter also reported on repairs made to the 220 V circuit for the floor heater in Christine's office and to the telephone line there. He also reported that Fernando of Unique Roofing had replaced lost and damaged shingles on the roof, repairing a serious leak. Unique Roofing had replaced shingles a year and a half ago on the three sections of roof where the solar panels were to be installed. The repairs needed now were on an old section unrelated to the solar panels, so we were pleasantly surprised to learn that Unique Roofing was going to absorb the cost of the repairs. Thank you, Fernando!

In other property news, Stuart Miller has asked for quotes to add drainage and seal the exterior of the south wall against moisture. This is important in order to preserve the work done on our basement last year. John Upcott reported that the roof on the garage is in bad shape and if we want to keep the garage, it needs to be replaced. After some discussion, the Board decided that the garage was useful, not only for storage but also for providing shelter to the Memorial Garden. John will look into getting it a new roof.

Steve Brennan, chair of the Committee on Ministry, attended the meeting to give a progress report on the assessment process. The return rate of assessment forms was quite good, and a report to the congregation will be made in June. After discussion with Christine, the date of June 8, just before the church picnic, was set for this.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, June 19. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Important Date

June 4 7 pm
Book Club: *An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*
by Chris Hatfield

June 8 noon
Annual Olinda Picnic,
at John & Linda Upcott's Farm

June 15 noon
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

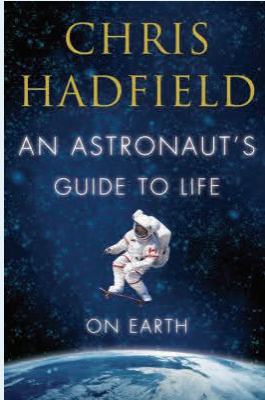
June 19 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

June 26 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal

July 2 7 pm
Book Club

Aug 14 7 pm
Book Club

Olinda Book Club



JUNE 2014

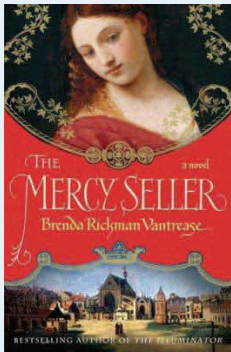
Title: **An Astronaut's Guide To Life On Earth**

Author: Chris Hadfield

Summary: As Commander of the International Space Station, Chris Hadfield captivated the world with stunning photos and commentary from space. Now, in his first book, Chris offers readers extraordinary stories from his life as an astronaut, and shows how to make the impossible a reality.

Location of Meeting: UU Church of Olinda, Ruthven

Leader: Gypsy Carroll



JULY 2014

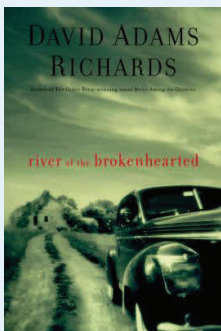
Title: **The Mercy Seller**

Author: **Brenda Rickman - Vantrease**

Summary: In the fifteenth century, with religious intolerance spreading like wild-fire across Europe, English-born Anna Bookman and her grandfather, Finn, earn a living in Prague by illuminating precious books, including forbidden translations of the Bible. Finn subscribes to the heresy that people ought to be able to read the Word of God for themselves, without having to pay a priest for the privilege, but holding that belief is becoming more and more hazardous.

Location of Meeting: UU Church of Olinda, Ruthven **Leader:** Evelyn Fisher

Date: Wednesday, 02 July, 2014; 7 pm



AUGUST 2014

Title: **River of the Brokenhearted**

Author: **David Adams Richards**

Summary: In the 1920s, Janie McLeary and George King run one of the first movie theatres in the Maritimes. The marriage of the young Irish Catholic woman to an older English man is thought scandalous, but they work happily together, playing music to accompany the films. It is a many-layered epic of rivalries, misunderstandings, rumours; the abuse of power, what weak people will do for love, and the true power of doing right; of a pioneer and her legacy in the lives of her son and grandchildren.

Location of Meeting: Crowder Residence, Kingsville

Leader: Leona Crowder

Date: Wednesday, 06 August, 2014; 7 pm

Social Responsibility Committee

This year's International Dinner on April 27 was the result of collaboration between the SRC and the Sunday Services Committee. Following an informative service by Tina Quiring and Jim Founk, founders of the local Gleaners chapter, the focus of the dinner following was on local foods. Largely thanks to Mariette Preyde, the usual bountiful table was presented to the attendees, and \$519 was raised which was given to the Southwestern Ontario Gleaners.

On Mothers' Day, an impressive array of packages appeared that will be taken to the House of Sophrosyne, to help them in their good work with women suffering from addictions. Thanks again to all for your generosity



**Church Picnic
June 8th
Upcott Farm
Join Us**

Caring Committee Report

June is here already and my last report before summer break. Time goes by so fast between Sept. and June and soon another year will be over.

It was so good to see Gypsy doing so well in her recovery and to see her light the challis and walk without any aid was wonderful, and to see Romell Reid back in church again is a real treat. She seems to be doing so well and thank you to Jim for bringing her out. It was so good, also, to hear that Carol Hylton had seen Linda Goyette while out for a walk and that she seems to be doing so well in her recovery. Thank you, Carol, for all your work with the congregation and that you know that all the congregation is part of the caring committee. We hope to see Linda back in church soon.

I want to wish both Albertina Bell and Jean Wallis the very best for the summer and I want you to know that you are both in the thoughts and minds of all the congregation.

I hope all have a wonderful summer and if you know anyone who needs the caring committee during the summer please let us know.

P.S. I am writing this while sitting on the deck in the sun with a glass of wine on a great Victoria Day- who even remembers the winter!

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Rev. Christine Hillman