

The Olinda Outpost

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

Sunday Services September 2014

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



Sept. 7 Homecoming and Water Communion

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Toni Janik

Sept. 14 The Golden Rule in Less Than Twenty Minutes and For Always

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Bobbye & Bill Baylis & Ray Stone

Sept. 21 Our Interdependent Web

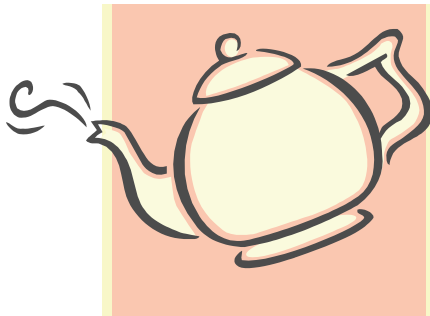
Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Carabel Ringrose

Sept. 28 Radical Hospitality in Times Like These

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Lorie Lyons



Tea with the Minister this year will be the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 3-4:30 pm. Join Rev. Christine and whomever else show up to enjoy afternoon tea and conversation.

Sept. 17; Oct. 1 and 15

From the Hillparson



Welcome and Welcome home! The official, and most active part of the church year will begin September 7 at 10:30 AM. It will include the gathering of the waters from all who wish to contribute. This worship element and experience is meant for many reasons, primarily for each of us to very briefly tell our story since our last gathering in worship. It is not a travelogue, but the place may add to the meaning you wish to share. Despite my extraordinary experiences in Montreal in May and Providence, RI in June, I will be sharing water from Michigan this year. That is because my younger daughter Courtney and I were caught up in the flash floods there on August 11. That experience totaled my wonderful Pontiac with just two payments left! We were bug-eyed but were never in danger. We were out and safe before we had any idea how large and dangerous these waters were. Also, my thanks to Mr. Hillman for safely bringing his truck around to us dead in the water on Thirteen Mile Road near I-75 in Royal Oak and pushing the car up on the public sidewalk of that neighbourhood. What that event meant I will share September 7. And do note that there will be a new container this year as the one that had lasted 13 years and was dense with the waters all had shared those many years froze and burst as I think I didn't pour a little out for expansion or the intense cold of the Winter of 2013-2014.

A most remarkable experience for me, as we close Summer and begin Autumn that in the same election year I have two UU (Unitarian Universalist) friends both campaigning for a city council seat in their respective seats. Victoria Cross in Windsor and Rev. Stefan Jonasson in Winnipeg. All the best to them both! Much joy hearing of their campaigning exploits, of much walking and stairs climbing.

UU Rev. John Wolff was asked by a search committee once whether he was 'theist or atheist' and his response was something like "if you're atheist then I will be theist; if you are theist I will be atheist'. Such a statement is part of the charge of the minister in all our congregations. To assist all in the congregation of whatever theological (or not) stripe to grow as much welcomeness and hospitality to all others in the congregation and out. For that is much of what Unitarian Universalism is about and it makes us strong as an oak and bendable as the willow.

Faithfully and in faith,

Rev. Christine



My faith is so important to me,
because it speaks of salvation in this life,
through knowing you are loved
just as you are,
and discovering who you are
and your place in the Universe
so you can live out your purpose in life.

- Katie Norris, Unitarian Universalist Minister

From the Board

At its final meeting before the summer break, held June 19, the Board dealt with several special items in addition to its usual agenda, which consists of reports from trustees, the minister, and the caring committee, and covers such important things as oversight of church finances and Sunday services. The special items involved the assessment of the ministry of the church, repairs to protect the church basement from water incursion, the installation of the memorial stone, a wheelchair purchase, and preparation for a song fest by Jim Scott honoring Pete Seeger. As usual, I will let our Minister, Reverend Christine Hillman, speak for herself while John Upcott will report for the Caring Committee.

As for church finances, although Peter LeClair, as reported by Helen Moore, is still projecting a deficit for the year, we are currently in somewhat better shape than last year, thanks to generous and timely donations as well as frugal operations. The planned Sunday services reported in June have practically all been held. The summer weather was kind to us and allowed good turnouts at the July and August services to enjoy them in relative comfort. One service still to come as I write this is the traditional ingathering service and water ceremony on September 7.

Steve Brennan reported for the Committee on Ministry (CoM) that all comments on 16 ministries of the church were being organized by ministry and will be presented to the Board. The presentation protects the identities of the respondents and omits the self-assessment parts. The Board agreed with the CoM's recommendation that after review, these should be sent to all members of the Olinda Church community. It further agreed that a visioning session should be held this fall in order to consider next steps in the light of the assessment.

Stuart Miller and Walt Sinclair discussed the need for waterproofing the south wall of the basement. Stuart presented quotes from P&S Building Systems for the repair as well as for other possible work, including installation of a new walkway and basement entrance and an electric wheelchair lift. Stuart will ask for additional quotes for the work. The Board set July 27 as the date of a special congregational meeting to consider the work and its cost. By the time of the Congregational meeting, one more quotation from Selective Contractors of Windsor had been received for the waterproofing. While it was more expensive than the P&S Building quote, it laid out more details about the work. Stuart was not available to answer questions, and the congregation voted to proceed with the waterproofing, even at the price of the higher quote if necessary to ensure proper drainage, but it postponed a decision on the ramp and new entrance.

In other property-related news, the Memorial Stone was approved for installation and engraving. In the interim, thanks to Helen's efforts, the stone has been finished and installed. Take a look, perhaps at the end of the water ceremony: it is quite handsome!

Our next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, September 18, 2014. All members are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis

Important Dates

Sept. 10 7 pm

Book Club: *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks

Sept. 14 Noon

Sunday Services Meeting

Sept. 17 3-4:30 pm

Tea with the Minister

Sept. 18 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting

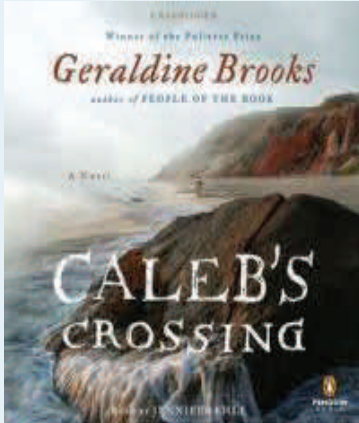
Sept. 21 Noon

Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Sept. 25 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

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 – September 2014:

Title: Caleb's Crossing

Author: Geraldine Brooks

Summary: Growing up in the tiny settlement of Great Harbor amid a small band of pioneers and Puritans, Bethia Mayfield yearns for an education that is closed to her due to her gender. As soon as she can, she slips away to explore the island's glistening beaches and observes its native Wampanoag inhabitants. At twelve, she encounters Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge a secret friendship that draws each into the alien world of the other.

Location of Meeting: Crowder Residence, Kingsville

Leader: Leona Crowder

Date: Wednesday, 10 September, 2014; 7 pm

Finance Committee Report

In October we will start the process of creating an Operating Budget for the 2015. The following schedule is being presented to inform everyone who would like to be part of this process. There are always openings on the Finance Committee for anyone who is interested in the financial health of our church.

Date	Time	Description
5 Oct.	After church	Open meeting to discuss budget items. Anyone desiring to be on the Finance Committee should definitely attend this meeting and volunteer to become a member.
26 Oct.		By this date, all budget details must have been submitted to the finance trustee or the treasurer so that they can prepare the budget. Items needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suggested ministerial salary (part of total cost to the Congregation)• Committee Chair's budget requests
9 Nov.	After Church	Meeting of the Finance Comm. to approve the Budget & Letter of Agreement.
20 Nov.	7 PM	Board Meeting at which Budget and Letter of Agreement will be presented for approval.
24 Nov.	Before Church	Copies of the budget will be available to the congregation.
7 Dec.	After Church	Congregational Budget meeting.

Caring Committee Report

The start of another church year after what I hope was a very nice summer for all of you. Linda Goyette has recovered from her surgery and it was so good to see her at the Aug. church service and at the Baylis B. B. Q. She was in such good spirits and her wonderful personality always shines bright and makes everyone around her feel great. Eunice Goyette seems to be fine also even with some small setbacks but she will never complain and it is hard to know just how she feels because nothing ever seems to get her down. Gypsy Carroll has recovered from her ankle injury and as far as I know at the time of this writing is in Las Vegas having a great time with Elvis. Marion Thompson is still having trouble with her knee and was to have a cortisone shot to help with the pain.

I truly hope everyone is well and ready to begin to work together and move this church, which I know is important to all of us, forward. We will never agree on everything but we need to listen to each other and try to do the best for all the congregation.

The Caring Com. is made up of the same people, at least for the start of the year, so if you think we can help with a card, with a visit or in any way please let us know.

Committee Members:

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Rev. Christine Hillman