

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 November 2014



Nov. 2 In the Warmth of Solitude

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Baylis-Stone Trio

Nov. 9 The War to End all Wars—That Wasn't

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Carabel Ringrose

Nov. 16 Adam's First Wife

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Toni Janik

Nov. 23 The Man Muhammad

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Lorie Lyons

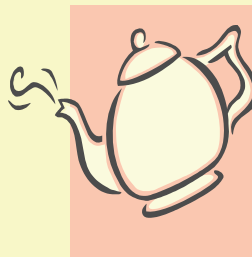
Nov. 30 Life's Lessons

Howard Pawley

Music: Bobbye and Bill Baylis

Congregational Budget Meeting

Vote on the 2015 Budget
December 7, 2014
Immediately after the Service
(with time to grab a cup of tea)



Tea with the Minister
this year will be the
first and third Wednes-
days of each month
from 3-4:30 pm. Join
Rev. Christine and
other guests to enjoy afternoon tea and
conversation.

Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 17.

From the Hillparson



As November's newsletter comes together, many international issues are stirring furiously. Among them is the grave conditions in parts of West Africa over the presence of Ebola and how many are being affected. And that disease has moved beyond that contact in two other countries, Spain and the U.S. In those two countries, though, the numbers of affected have been very small. And the two countries have responded to the presence of the disease in their countries has been profoundly different. Spain is taking it in stride; much of the U.S. is not. How these countries are responding tells a tale that speaks to issues that go on, not only in countries, but also in any grouping of people, and how well they manage through difficult times and circumstances. So, what do you think of how the U.S. is responding to the Ebola epidemic? Here's what I think. A large number of people in the States are crying "The sky is falling!" as the rather poorly run treatment of Mr. Duncan plays out beyond his death, with two health care givers now infected. The responses have been on high hysteria including the removal of a child from school because he had VISITED Texas, with no indication that the child had been anywhere near the Ebola virus. Caution is powerful, quarantine has its place (our house was quarantined once when I was a child; I can't remember if it was because of German Measles in the house or Chicken Pox) in order to stop a disease before the infection becomes epidemic in a community. But to do that, one needs to know how the disease is transmitted and respond to that. In the States whole populations of people either do not have that information or are actively dismissing it. Ebola cannot be transmitted like flu, through the air or by the spray of a sneeze, and it cannot be transmitted before someone has actual symptoms like fever, vomiting and diarrhea. But that concrete, medical knowledge seems not to be stopping hysteria. Inaccuracy and fear are driving the public. Of course it is not just in the States that some stunningly inaccurate information drove a rather hysterical response. An entire cruise ship of people were not allowed to dock at a Caribbean port because one passenger aboard had had some level of contact with Mr. Duncan's blood, as a supervisor in the lab where the blood was tested. As soon as it was known that this individual had had this contact, she was isolated and blood taken for testing. It came back negative, but the ship was already on its way back to the States.

Concrete, scientific knowledge, which though is not stopping Ebola in West Africa has not made the disease spread like wildfire. Thousands are ill or dead but many more thousands are not ill at all. Ebola can be stopped as Nigeria and Senegal, countries with little resources and who had Ebola showing up in their countries, have now passed the 42 day period of freedom from any new outbreaks and are free of the disease.

That is to say that when bad things happen, or we think they are happening, hysteria and assumption-making will only inflame the pain and panic, possibly breaking the institution. As Spain, Nigeria and Senegal demonstrate, and I believe the U.S. will also, this hysteria and reactionary thinking in any organization does not make things better. Knowledge and reasonable care are what is called for. May we be mindful of these truths as we move along in our lives.

Faithfully and in faith,

Rev. Christine

From the Board

Major objectives of our October Board meeting were ensuring that we have finally and fully vanquished our moisture and mold problems in the basement, and setting up the basement as a hygienic but friendly venue for gatherings and potluck meals.

While the work excavating around the exterior south wall, applying sealant and a rubberized membrane below grade, and improving the drainage was completed last month, there was a lingering concern that water could still enter around the basement windows and at the top of the membrane, especially since the exterior of the wall there is crumbling in places. The Board therefore agreed to a recommendation by Board member and resident architect, Stuart Miller, to spend \$1475 more to cap the window sills and add siding above the membrane. This should have the additional benefit of improving the looks of the church and increasing its insulation. We trust that this will finally solve the problems of water incursion, but we will obviously be monitoring the situation carefully, even in the unfinished area below the sanctuary, which accumulated traces of water after the recent down-pours.

The next step is replacing the basement carpet, which had become soaked and was a suspected source of mold, with good-quality, easy-to-clean vinyl. John Upcott heroically removed most of the old carpet and several of us worked at lowering the level of dust and removing remaining signs of mold. The exposed cement surface is quite rough and will need some patching, something the vinyl installers are prepared to tackle. At the special congregational on October 26, the Board will recommend work by A&A Flooring of Essex, whose quotation includes new flooring in the basement hall, toilet, and kitchen at a cost of about \$6,000 plus tax. We'll have work to do removing (and eventually returning!) chairs, tables, cabinets and the toilet bowl during the week of the installation.

In other news, our garage now sports a new roof, thanks to John Upcott with assistance from Walt Sinclair and Stuart Miller. Peter LeClair has officially transferred accounting and treasurer responsibilities to Helen Moore, although he continues to consult on the use of his specialized accounting software. Also, we have submitted our annual membership certification to the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC). We currently have 57 official (voting) members. This number determines the pledge of our Annual Program Contribution to the CUC.

By now, everyone who is interested should have received the results of last spring's Assessment of Church Ministries. These will form the starting point for our Visioning Session on Sunday afternoon, November 2. Chilli and salad will be served after church service to fortify us for the session, which we expect to run from about 1 to 4 PM. Please join us for this important session to map our vision of the future of our church and lay the groundwork for concrete steps to realize that vision!

Our next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday, November 20. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis

Important Dates

Nov. 2 after church

Chili buffet followed by Visioning Workshop

Nov. 2 1 pm

Visioning Workshop on Assessment of Ministry (1 – 4 pm)

Nov. 5 3 pm

Tea with the Minister

Nov. 9 noon

Finance Committee Meeting on Budget

Nov. 13 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Nov. 16 noon

Sunday Services Committee Meeting

Nov. 19 3 pm

Tea with the Minister

Nov. 19 7 pm

Book Club: *The Orenda* by Joseph Boyden

Nov. 20 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting

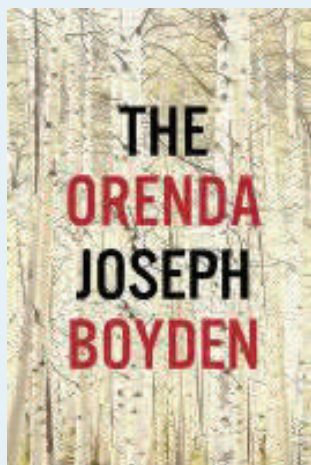
Nov. 23 noon

Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Nov. 27 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 – November 2014

Title: The Orenda

Author: Joseph Boyden

Summary: An epic story of first contact between radically different worlds, steeped in the natural beauty and brutality of our country's formative years. A visceral portrait of life at a crossroads, A charismatic Jesuit missionary, has found his calling among the Huron, and devotes himself to learning and understanding their customs and language in order to lead them to Christ. As three souls dance with each other through intricately woven acts of duplicity, small battles erupt into bigger wars and a nation emerges from worlds in flux.

Location of Meeting: Haynes Residence

Leader: Pat Haynes

Date: Wed., 19 November, 2014; 7 pm

Finance Committee Report

On Nov. 9 after church, we will have the Open Finance Meeting to decide on the 2015 Budget to be presented to the Board and then to the Congregation on Dec. 7. All members of that committee, please make a point to be there for that meeting. Committee members are Helen Moore (Acting Treasurer), Doug Whaley (Lloyd Fund), Gypsy Carroll, Mireya Campbell (Lloyd Fund), Carol Hylton, Mariette Preyde (Lloyd Fund), Bobbye Baylis (Chair), Bill Baylis (President) and Rev. Christine Hillman. Anyone else interested in the financial affairs of the church is also welcome to come.

The Letter of Appeal will also be distributed on that date. It will include information from your Treasurer on your 2014 Pledge and how much you have already contributed toward that pledge. Please return your 2014 Pledge card as soon as possible to Helen Moore or myself so that we have the information for the 2015 Budget.

For the last two years we have been focussing on our historic building and have made major improvements that will assure our continuance well into the next decades. This focus was largely a result of an earlier Visioning session. On Nov. 2 we will have another Visioning session, based on the responses to the Assessment of Ministry undertaken last spring. This will help guide us in deciding where to direct our resources, including financial, in the next years. This Visioning session is therefore very important and I hope everyone can attend.

Notice from Your Nominating Committee

We still have some positions on the Board that are not filled. Of course, if there is another position you are interested in, please bring it to our attention.

VICE PRESIDENT - I want you to know that should you be VP, it does not mean that when the position of President becomes open, that you have to be the President. Your duty would be to fill in for the President should the President not be able to attend a meeting etc. It is also a good position to observe what the others do on the Board. You might become interested.

MEMBERSHIP/PUBLICITY - It is important that we have someone filling that position.

If you think that if you take on any Board position, it is for 5 years, not so - that 5 years means the maximum of your period .

Please contact any of us on the Nominating Committee if you are interested or have any questions. Thank you.

Carol Hylton, Gypsy Carroll & Steve Brennan

Caring Committee Report

The weather is getting colder and fall is definitely in the air. I had the good fortune of standing on the Plains of Abraham on a short trip to Quebec City and to be at a place where so much history was made. It was impressive.

There is not such good news from our congregation however and I ask that you all keep Arnold and Marion Thompson in your thoughts as you go forward. Arn is fighting a very serious condition and Marion is still in pain and having trouble getting around. I want them both to know that the whole congregation is behind them and giving as much strength and support as we can.

Dorothy Brown was admitted to Leamington Hospital with high blood pressure and it was discovered that she has a small heart valve leak. While waiting for an appointment with a vascular surgeon she was released and went home but had some problems and was readmitted. She is feeling better however.

John Dresser had a small spot removed from his face but is now better and Donna Upcott had a fall but is now on the mend. It has not been a good month. Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Nov. 2 and I will see you in church.

A special good health wish to Albertina Bell and Jean Wallis

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Rev. Christine Hillman

Important Notices

Christmas Family



As the autumn leaves turn their magnificent colours and fall, it is time once again to think, perhaps reluctantly, of the approaching season.

The Board of Trustees approved sponsorship of a Children`s Aid Society family for Christmas. We collect money to enable the Christmas elves, members who are generous with their time to make good decisions to purchase items that a Children`s Aid family, with needs but limited income, have listed as items they could use and appreciate.

If you are willing and able to contribute to our Christmas family, please mark your donation envelope with Christmas family.

Thank you!

ADULT PROGRAMMING – COME YE!! COME YE!! COME YE ALL!!!

Tuesdays, November 4, 11, 18, 25 (December 9 and 16 in addition, as the group decides)

From 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

REGISTER by calling the minister or signing the sheet on the bulletin board
A service created before our eyes, over the course of an hour, on a given topic. It is not necessary to attend all sessions, but the more sessions each attends, the more deeply the group will grow. Sample topics: Worship, Simplicity, Nature of Service, Our Knowledge of Death

Newsletter

You have all noticed that the price of postage has increased to 96¢ per letter. If you are able to read the newsletter from your computer at uolinda.org, please do so. You will still be able to pick up the newsletter at church and some newsletters will continue to be mailed. Please let me know if you are able to read the newsletter online or if you no longer wish to have the newsletter mailed to you. Contact me at hemoore@bell.net or by phone at (519) 776-4068 if you no longer wish to receive the newsletter by mail.
Thanks.

Birthday Bank Yields

Thanks to many generous contributors, the blue birthday bank, donated by Reverend Stewart Moore when he was minister at the church in the mid -`50`s, yielded its contents at the Thursday evening Board of Trustees meeting with eight present to witness the occasion. Birthdays are celebrated by putting donations into the bank. Donations become a part of the Minister`s Discretionary Fund which the minister uses to assist those in need at her discretion. The yield was \$156.86. Thanks for your generosity!