

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 January 2015



Jan. 4 The Living Tradition

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Carabel Ringrose

Jan. 11 Resolving into Integrity

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Lorie Lyons

Jan. 18 What Shall We Worship?

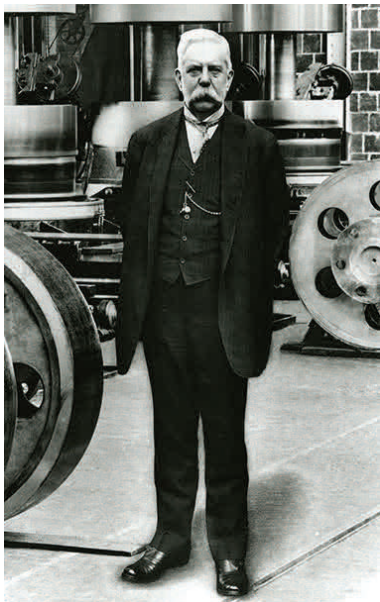
Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Toni Janik

Jan. 25 On Being Whole Instead of Perfect

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Bill & Bobbye Baylis , Ray Stone

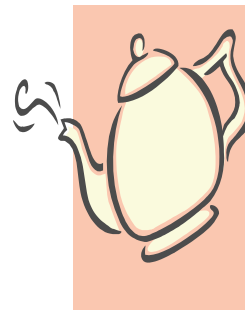


Westinghouse A Documentary January 25, 2015

After the service, following Sandwiches,

The documentary film
Westinghouse

A biography of George Westinghouse,
A progressive inventive industrialist in
the time of robber barons.



Tea with the Minister

This year will be the first
and third Wednesday of
each month from 3-4:30
pm.

Join Rev. Christine and
whomever else show up to enjoy
afternoon tea and conversation.
In January, Jan 7 and Jan 21.



From the Hillparson

HOW TO BEGIN A NEW YEAR WITH WORDS AND THOUGHTS!

- "Promise me you'll remember, you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think." Christopher Robin
- "A person's a person, no matter how small." Dr. Seuss
- "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." Aesop
- "...how lucky I am to have something makes saying goodbye so hard..." A. A. Milne, *Winnie the Pooh*
- "If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely." Roald Dahl
- "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the one who'll decide where to go." Dr. Seuss, *Oh the Places You'll Go*
- "How much good inside a day? Depends how good you live 'em. How much love inside a friend? Depends how much you give 'em. Shel Silverstein, *A Light in the Attic*
- "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." Antoine de Saint-Exupery, *The Little Prince*
- "There's no place like home." L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- "Piglet: 'How do you spell love?' Pooh: 'You don't spell it, you feel it.'" A. A. Milne, *Winnie the Pooh*
- "'Why did you do all this for me?' he asked. 'I don't deserve it. I've never done anything for you.' 'You have been my friend.' Replied Charlotte. 'That in itself is a tremendous thing.'" E. B. White, *Charlotte's Web*
- "Numbing the pain for a while will only make it worse when you finally feel it." J. K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*
- "The moment where you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever being able to do it." J. M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*
- "Listen to the mustn'ts, child, listen to the don'ts. Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossible, the won'ts. Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me. Anything can happen, child. Anything can be." Shel Silverstein
- "Above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you, because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it." Roald Dahl, *The Minpins*
- "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*
- "In every job that must be done, there is an element of fun. You find the fun, and the job's a game." P. L. Travers, *Mary Poppins*
- "The true courage is in facing danger when you are afraid." Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- "It's no use to go back to yesterday because I was a different person then." Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
- "'Sometimes,' said Pooh; 'the smallest things take up the most room in your heart.'" A. A. Milne, *Winnie the Pooh*.

Faithfully and in faith,
Rev. Christine

From the Board

The Board meeting on December 18, 2014, was well attended and well dispatched. We were all happy with the Christmas potluck, held on December 14 in our newly floored basement: the food was bountiful and tasteful, with no discernible competition from the musty or mouldy smells of the past. The vinyl flooring has been cut so precisely that the common quarter-round or shoe molding at the walls is generally not needed. A strip of clear caulking at the base of the walls will provide a sufficient seal. We are still waiting for P&S Building Systems to find time to finish the exterior blanket and grade the ground on the south wall, while trusting that all this work will ensure that no more water seeps into the basement during stormy weather.

One of the major problems identified by the assessment last year was that many experienced some difficulty hearing the Sunday services. The Board considered several possible remedies but felt that the first step should be improvement of our old---and partly failing---sound system. It approved the purchase of new loud speakers and a new mixer-amplifier with several times the power of our old system, together with a new lavalier microphone system. It chose highly rated equipment by Yorkville, manufactured in Canada and supplied by Long and McQuade in Windsor. As the cost was well under \$2000, no congregational meeting was needed to approve the expenditure. Once it is in place, which should be in early January, we will see whether further steps such as an inductive loop system (common in England, especially helpful for listeners with T-coils in their hearing aids, and recommended by several CUC ministers) or an FM broadcast/receiver system (common in the USA) are also needed. As always, feedback from church members will be important.

Another important step taken by the Board was to approve dates for the coming year. The Annual General Meeting of the church has been set for February 22, and this requires that the Annual Report for 2014 be distributed two weeks earlier and that individual reports be submitted already by January 18. The International Dinner is scheduled to be held on March 15 and the AUUction on April 18.

The church finances appear to be in relatively good shape, with the solar panels producing a bit more than their projected 10% return on investment to the Lloyd fund, as summarized on our website. The budget that the Board passed last month was approved at the congregational meeting on December 7.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled at 7 PM on Thursday January 15, 2015. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Important Dates

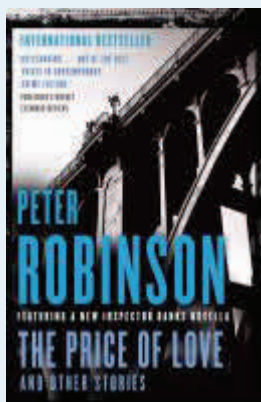
- Jan. 4 noon**
Taking Down of Christmas Tree
- Jan. 7 3 pm**
Tea with the Minister
- Jan. 7 7 pm**
Book Club: Your Choice of any Book by Peter Robinson
- Jan. 8 7 pm**
Choir Rehearsal
- Jan. 11 noon**
Sunday Services Meeting
- Jan. 15 7 pm**
Board of Trustees Meeting
- Jan. 18 noon**
Annual Reports due in to Secretary
- Jan. 18 noon**
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting
- Jan. 21 3 pm**
Tea with the Minister
- Jan. 22 7 pm**
Choir Rehearsal
- Jan. 25 after church**
Sandwiches followed by Film:
The Story of Westinghouse

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 – January 2015: _____

Title: Your Choice

Author: Peter Robinson

Summary: Mystery stories from crime-fiction's maestro. Best known -- and much admired -- for his long-running and bestselling Inspector Banks series, Peter Robinson is also widely and highly praised by mystery mavens for his riveting short stories. Spellbinding plots, suspense that grips and won't let go, utterly unpredictable twists, psychological truths both sweet and scary, characters you'd like to meet.

You pick your choice from over 35 titles !

Location of Meeting: UU Church of Olinda

Leader: Gypsy Carroll

Date: Wed., 07 January, 2015; 7 pm

Finance Committee Report

Many thanks to all who attended the Congregational Meeting on the Budget on Dec. 7. The 2015 budget passed unanimously in what may have been the shortest Budget meeting on record! It is always a comfort going into the New Year with a legally approved budget!

Social Responsibility Committee Report

On January 25, the documentary *Westinghouse* will be shown after church, following sandwiches supplied by the Social Responsibility Committee. This film illustrates how inventive and relatively progressive George Westinghouse was. At a time when the powerful industrialists were narrowly focused on making millions, Westinghouse was interested in solving problems and also saving lives. Further, his insistence on a system of alternating current, rather than the direct current being promoted by Thomas Edison, made modern electrical grids possible. This is a fascinating trip into our social and technological past.

The International Dinner will be earlier this year; it will occur on March 15. The theme will be based on 2015 as International Women's Year.

The committee would like to work on projects of special interest to the congregation. The last page of this newsletter is a survey for you to fill out to help us serve you better in the future. There will be a box on the table in the library for your completed survey forms, or you can email them to bbaylis@xplornet.com. Those of you who receive this Newsletter by email will also receive this survey as a word document, for ease in filling it out and emailing it.

Caring Committee Report

I am writing this on Friday Dec. 19th, just after the board meeting, and I know it is early but with the holidays coming and my habit of procrastinating if I do not do it now my report will be late. From now on until my next report you all must stay well and out of trouble.

Your caring committee has been busy this December and the first thing I want to do is to thank Linda Upcott for all the work in baking cookies to give to some long time members and friends of the congregation and people who are shut-in or in recovery. Plants were also delivered with the cookies to some very important members.

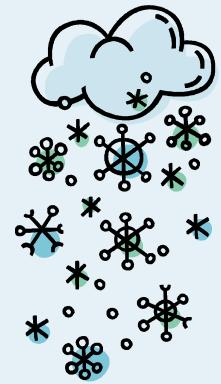
A new friend of the congregation, John van Abbema, has been recovering in Erie Glen Manor from hip replacement surgery but is home now. We want to welcome John and Sharon as friends of the church and soon to be members.

Arnold and Marion Thompson are now residing at Erie Glen in Leamington and all the congregation wishes them the very best.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, got all they wanted for Christmas, and are ready to get back to "real life" and move the church forward.

The caring committee wishes everyone a healthy and wonderful coming year. We know that every year has some up and down times but the church is here and will help in any way they can.

Happy New Year to Albertina Bell at Erie Glen and Jean Wallace at the John Noble Home in Brantford.



Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Rev. Christine Hillman

Social Justice Issues Survey

This is a survey to determine our congregation's interests and priorities regarding social justice issues. Please indicate how important the following issues are to you:

(4 = most important, 3 = very important, 2 = somewhat important, 1 = low importance, and 0 = not important)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ___ Environmental issues | ___ Racism |
| ___ Climate Change | ___ First Nations, Inuit, Meti |
| ___ Immigration issues | ___ Reproductive rights |
| ___ LGBTQIA Rights | ___ Transportation equity |
| ___ Income/Wealth Inequality | ___ Urban sustainable development |
| ___ Net neutrality | ___ Voter rights |
| ___ Prison reform | ___ Public Service (Postal, parks, etc.) |
| ___ Water issues (control of resource, pollution, etc.) | ___ Access to Public Data, Freedom of Speech for Public Servants (e.g., scientists) |

Another Issue that is important to you _____

What organization(s) are you currently involved in or actively support?

Would you like to join the Social Responsibility Committee? _____

Name: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email address: _____

Please place this completed form in the box on the table in the library or email it to bbaylis@xplornet.com.