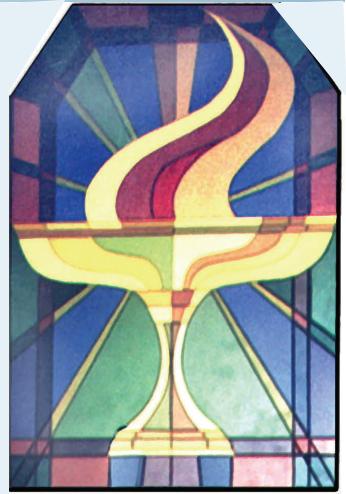


The Olinda Outpost

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 March 2015

Mar. 1 **A Text of Terror: Tamar**

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Lorie Lyons

Mar. 8 **Violence on Women, Even as We Are Better**

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Carabel Ringrose

Mar. 15 **Bringing Back the F Word, A Discussion on Feminism in 2015**

Eveyln Piggott Washington

Music: Toni Janik

Mar. 22 **Sophia Lyon Fahs**

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Bobbye & Bill Baylis & Ray Stone

Mar. 29 **On Being Whole Instead of Perfect**

Reverend Christine Hillman

Music: Lorie Lyons

Adult Program – Growing Better as We Grow Older

March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7

10 am to Noon

A photograph showing a group of approximately ten people of various ages standing outdoors. They are all wearing white t-shirts. The background is a bright, cloudy sky.

I used to think adults knew everything they needed to know about aging/growing older. Now I know better. It is a gift to have folks around us to talk to about different aspects of growing older, wrinkles but definitely not just wrinkles! Hoping you will join us. Let the minister know you're coming for the first session. Christine will bring lunch that first gathering, and join if you'd like!

From the Board

The last meeting of the old Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, February 19, 2015. We've been blessed with an excellent Board for the past year: friendly, constructive, operating largely by consensus, and efficient, accomplishing important business with little unnecessary diversions. We did operate with vacancies in the positions of Vice-President and Membership & Publicity Trustee, and while that may have shortened the length of meetings, on occasion we felt the absence of additional input and insight. Our new Board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, March 17, and I am very pleased that all positions on the Board are now covered, even if two of our members will each be filling two chairs: Helen Moore will continue as both Sunday Services Leader and Treasurer, and Stuart Miller will be serving as chair of both Religious Education and Property.

After opening words from Reverend Christine Hillman, reminding us that February was Black History Month, and following the approval and posting of the minutes from January, the Board briefly discussed arrangements for installing the new toilet in the first-floor bathroom, mounting the new speakers, and preparing for the Annual General Meeting on February 22, the International Dinner on March 15 and the Big Sing celebrating the First UU Church of Ann Arbor's 150th anniversary on the same date. Then Stuart Miller discussed his delight at having enough children to make religious education meaningful and fun. He appreciates support from other members but would welcome more and has some concerns about the appropriateness of some RE material from the UUA. Christine, with her strong background in RE, suggested they discuss this. Walt Sinclair reported for the Property Committee that the parking lot had been cleared four times—not bad considering past history and all the snow we've had this winter.

Helen Moore presented her Treasurer's report, showing a balance so much better than in January 2014 that she warned us that timing of payments to the Canadian Unitarian Council and donations have painted a rosier financial picture than is warranted. Bobbye's Financial report confirmed preparations for the AUUction on Saturday evening, April 18, with sign-up sheets for donated functions and plans for an in-house meal before the main event. As secretary of the Social Responsibility Committee, she also reported on its activities: its new support for a Kiva loan, concern about reductions in postal service, and the success of the film on George Westinghouse. She suggested we keep an appropriate DVD available for showing when the scheduled speaker is unavailable on short notice. Christine thought the Church might have some that would work. In her Minister's Report, Christine discussed the UU meeting she attended in California in early February, her concern about the elimination of a paid chaplain at the Leamington Hospital, and her plans to give an adult RE series on aging. She also requested that to reduce time spent on announcements that items listed on the order of service not be repeated verbally. She also urged, now that Steve Brennan is back, that the Committee on Ministry become active and ensure follow-through on recommendations made during the visioning session last fall.

Finally, Karen Miller sent a request to be one of our two official delegates to the annual ACM of the CUC in Ottawa on May 15-17, and this request was approved by the Board. Future Board meetings have been moved to 7 PM on the third Tuesday evening of the month, and on March 17, we will be welcoming new Board members Bonnie Showers-Malanoski, Trustee for Membership and Publicity, and John van Abbema, Vice-President. All members of the Church are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

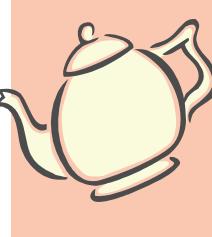


From the Hillparson

The first week of February, that frigid and snow-covered week, I spent in northern California where temps made it over 20 by a bit and as “low” as 16 perhaps. You’ll think I missed the mess and I almost did, except for the timing of the snow overnight from Sunday to Monday when I was to drive to the airport. I got up well early enough Monday morning but didn’t count on that additional snow while I was sleeping. I ended getting stuck in my driveway about two feet from the road and had to get a tow. Because I arrived back at 3:30 in the morning to the dark and my eyes blurry in tiredness, I didn’t realize my drive had not yet been plowed so I once again had to get a tow when my car got stuck half in drive/half in road this time. But I made it there and I made it home! This was UUMA Institute 2015, UU Ministers Association gathering, generally every other year. It is a remarkably rich week-day experience with multiple hundreds of other UU ministers from across the continent, including probably a dozen and a half who serve congregations in Canada. Held at a California state park called Asilomar, not far from Pebble Beach (for golfers reading this), we shared three meals a day together crossing the grounds where at most any vantage one can see at least a corner of the Pacific Ocean. After breakfast worship that stirred all our souls, perhaps 15% or so of us gathered in the choir. One can easily see that music is, for many, a part of the path toward ministry! And each of us then would walk the grounds through early twentieth century buildings to our own seminar sites. I participated in a writing workshop where I got to “dance” with my hands not quite touching the hands of another minister, one time leader of an Alban Institute seminar I attended in 2013. That wasn’t writing but keeping watch on one another’s eyes as we took turns leading the choreography of our hands between was inspiration enough for much writing. Trusting, cooperating, expressing joy and humour, learning from one another.... Joining in the fellowship and food, walking together or sitting by the fire (yeah, the Californians thought it was cold) what struck me most was how young my colleagues are getting. I think of my fellow students during seminary as young but the reality is that they are all no younger than forty. There were some “kids” who are ordained present among us! And so it is, we age and change and explore new ventures. What a gift that week was as well as the blessings of so many remarkable colleagues!

So, we here in SW Ontario head soon into Spring to which I pray that Spring knows what its responsibilities are. We’ll get along nonetheless, but really!

Faithfully and in faith,
Rev. Christine



Tea with the Minister

will be on the first and third Wednesday of this month, from 3-4:30 pm. Join her and whomever else show up to enjoy afternoon tea and conversation on March 4th and March 18th.

Important Dates

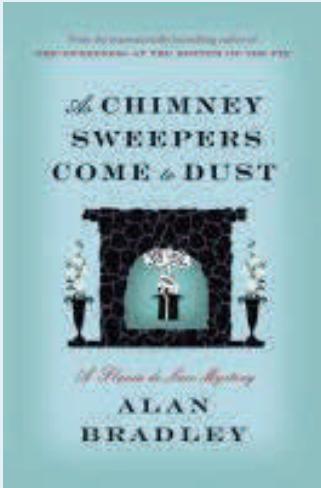
- Mar. 4 3 pm
Tea with the Minister
- Mar. 4 7 pm
Book Club: Any book by Alan Bradley
- Mar. 8 9 am
Meditation Group with Bonnie Malanoski
- Mar. 10 10 am
Adult R.E. Program with Minister: Growing Better as We Grow Older
- Mar. 12 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal
- Mar. 14 10 am
Choir Rehearsal in Ann Arbor
- Mar. 15 noon
International Dinner
- Mar. 15 4 pm
Concert in Ann Arbor
- Mar. 17 10 am
Adult Program with Minister
- Mar. 17 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting (Note: a Tuesday!)
- Mar. 18 3 pm
Tea with the Minister
- Mar. 22 9 am
Meditation with Bonnie Malanoski
- Mar. 22 noon
Sunday Services Committee Meeting
- Mar. 24 10 am
Adult Program with Minister
- Mar. 26 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 of March 2015

Title: You Pick it !
(Any Book with main character Flavia de Luce)

Author: Alan Bradley

Summary: "One of the most remarkable creations in recent literature"(USA Today), Flavia de Luce, "part Harriet the Spy, part Violet Baudelaire" (New York Times Book Review) Alan Bradley's captivating internationally bestselling mystery series. Flavia rules! In this internationally bestselling series of enchanting mysteries, youthful chemist and aspiring detective Flavia de Luce once again brings her knowledge of poisons and her indefatigable spirit to solve dastardly crimes!

Location of Meeting: Gilbert Residence

Leader: Joyse Gilbert

Date: Wed., 04 March, 2015; 7 pm

Social Responsibility Committee Report

In order to avoid having too many activities in April, the International Dinner will be held in March this year, on the 15th. March being Women's History Month, the speaker for the Sunday Service is Evelyn Pigott-Washington. She will be discussing 21st century feminism. This topic leaves us totally open to any food choices that we especially like, so the Committee members providing the food will not be restricted to any particular theme.

There is another special treat that started in February and is continuing through March. **Anyone interested in learning more about the practice of meditation can join Bonnie Showers-Malanoski in the Tranquility Room on the second and fourth Sundays at 9 am.**

Finance Committee Report

Looking out our windows, we are probably not at all convinced that Spring is almost here, but nonetheless it is time to start thinking about the aUUction, that most exciting event in April for us Olinda UU's. This year the aUUction will continue to be on a Saturday evening, April 18, with the pre-aUUction supper starting at 5:30 PM. The sign-up sheets have already been placed in the Coffee Hour Room, and people have started filling them with the items they plan to bring or the events they want to organize. The Hyltons and Hayes families are organizing the ever-popular Wheel-Spin Raffle as a special treat. There are already three events on the lists: a Pancake Breakfast, a Food and Wine Pairing, and a Steak & Chicken Bar-B-Q.

On the list of items to be auctioned so far:

New royal blue computer chair

Three miniature paintings professionally framed

Two framed antique country scenes straight from England. 1940

Homemade Granola

Bottle of Bailey's & Noodle Factory gift certificate

Towels

Jewelry

Quilt

Watercolours & other Paintings

Gaia CD

If you are willing to bring a lasagna, a stew, a salad, or a dessert to the pre-aUUction supper, please let Mariette Preyde know.

Caring Committee Report

Take heart people just 3 weeks until spring least by the calendar.

On Feb. 6th 2015 the congregation lost a long serving member. John Dresser was a member of this congregation all of his life and was a very important part of the church. John served on the board in many capacities for many years and also was president of the convention. When a volunteer was needed to do some work at the church more often than not he would be there. From fixing something on the roof to installing a toilet in the basement, to chairing a meeting he could do it all. John was a proud veteran who could tell a great story and his warm smile and wonderful personality made him a friend to everyone. John was 92 years of age when he passed away and HE WILL BE MISSED.

Get well wishes go to Walter Sinclair who is under the weather and also to all the congregation who are simply sick of this winter. Special hello to Arnold and Marion Thompson and Albertina Bell in Erie Glen Manor and to Jean Wallace in Brantford. Hope all are well.

Please remember that daylight saving time starts on Mar. 8th so you do not want to be late for church.

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

John Upcott

Rev. Christine Hillman

March—5