

From the Board

The September meeting of your Board of Trustees focused on arrangements for the Canadian memorial service for the late Reverend Christine E. Hillman, UU Olinda's minister for the past fourteen years, and the Transition Interview for the Board led by Reverend Allison Barrett from Hamilton. Reverend Linda Thomson was also hoping to attend the service as an official representative of the Canadian Unitarian Council, but her duties as labour coach for her daughter, whose baby was a week past due at the time of the service, took precedence. As has become a tradition for our church, members came together in magnificent fashion to make the service truly memorable. Christine's husband, Arthur Hillman, came from Michigan to speak on how he met Christine, and Wilf Innerd discussed his impressions on his first encounter with her. Mariette Preyde took charge of organizing the generous potluck meal following the service with help from others like John Upcott, who set up the tables.

After the meals, Rev. Barrett led the Board in a Transition Interview, where we reviewed past accomplishments and desires for the future. We understand that the selection of a new minister—whether permanent or interim—will take a year or two. We will need to appoint search committee members who will research the options, report to the congregation, and assess church members' wishes and level of support. The search committee will help us decide whether we want a full-time or part-time minister and whether starting with an interim minister is advisable. Rev. Linda Thomson plans to come to Olinda at the beginning of November to help us move forward in the process. The Board will keep the membership apprised of developments.

A few other items were covered at our Board meeting. Our chaplain Joyse Gilbert held a private service on September 6 for long-time former member Margaret Connelly. Her ashes were deposited in our Memorial Garden during the ceremony. Stuart Miller, in his role as Trustee for Religious Education, thanked Sue Markham and Carol Hylton for their work organizing basement cupboards that hold RE material for children. In his role as Property Trustee, he reported that the final work on the south wall of the church—installing insulations and siding—was being completed by P&S Construction, and he had also received quotes for further work on the north and west outside walls and drainage. Clogged gutters had caused minor flooding problems in the past, and John Upcott has now cleared them. Fall seeding of the freshly graded ground around the building is still needed. Finally, a suggestion came through the Social Responsibility Committee that the church sponsor a Syrian refugee or refugee family for a year. There was concern at the projected cost (\$30,000/yr) and wait time (~ two years), and it was recommended that more research be done on implications of different types of refugee support. The CUC website CUC.ca lists some flexible options.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday (!), October 14, 2015, at 7 PM. As always, members are invited to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Finance Committee

Finance Committee Report

The main Finance Activity in the Fall is preparation of the next year's budget. That process starts after church on Sunday, Oct. 4, with the Open Finance Committee Meeting. Anyone interested in having input into the financial affairs of the church is welcome to join the committee or simply to attend the meeting. A new item on the Agenda will be the discussion on the budget for a Search Committee.



Dear friends at Olinda,

I was grateful to have the chance to write to Reverend Hillman before her passing, to say goodbye.

This morning I am thinking of you as you begin your long journey without her.

You have offered your sympathy and warmth to Arthur Hillman and the Hillman family. You have tried to comfort them to the best of your ability, and I know you are trying to help one another, too.

I send my own comforting hugs to *you*, collectively, as the full congregation at Olinda. You are mourning a dear friend of yours ... a guide ... and a spiritual leader.

I know how much Christine meant to so many of you – and how much the people of UU Olinda meant to her.

Best wishes as you contend together with a difficult transition, and begin the search for a new minister. I send my love, too, to each of you. I miss you.

Warm regards,

Linda Goyette
Toronto

Important Dates

Oct. 4 Noon

Open Finance Committee Meeting

Oct. 8 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 11 9:45 am

Sunday Services Meeting

Oct. 14 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting

Oct. 15 7 pm

Book Club:

Oct. 18 Noon

Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Oct. 22 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 24 9 am—5:30 pm

Regional Fall Gathering in Hamilton, ON

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 October 2015

Title: A Tale for the Time Being (2013)

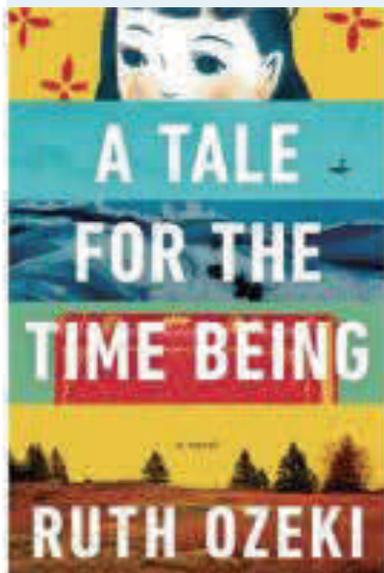
Author: Ruth Ozeki

Summary: "A time being is someone who lives in time, and that means you, and me, and every one of us who is, or was, or ever will be." In Tokyo, sixteen-year-old Nao has decided there's only one escape from her aching loneliness and her classmates' bullying. Full of Ozeki's signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader: past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home."

Location of Meeting: Miller Residence

Leader: Karen Miller

Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015, 7 pm



Caring Committee Report

What a wonderful service for Rev. Christine Hillman on Sunday Sept. 20th. It was memorable and very well done by all who had a part. I think Christine would have been very proud of the service and of the attendance also as the church was full. Thank-you again to all and the work now begins to move the church forward and with the help of all of us I know we will.

Walter Sinclair was admitted to Leamington Hospital on Wednesday but after some treatment was released on Friday and is recovering at home with the help of his family.

October is often the best month of the year, in my opinion, with the fall colors and the cooler weather also with Thanksgiving which I guess if I had to pick it would be my favorite holiday. I hope all have a wonderful holiday with family or friends and while sadness is all around there is also Love around us and we are grateful.

A special holiday greeting to Jean Wallace in Brantford and Albertina Bell in Erie Glen also a special wish for Marion Thompson and I was so glad to see Arn Thompson doing so well in Erie Glen after his illness.

May we all work together for a better church
John

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Sharon van Abbema