

The Olinda Outpost

Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda
2953 Olinda Side Road, Ruthven, Ontario, N0P 2G0



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

Sunday Services November 2015

Nov. 1* Travelling Together

Music: Carabel Ringrose

* Clocks fall
back 1 hour
today!

Reverend Linda Thomson, CUC: How we make meaning from our individual and collective journeys, believing, as she does, that our Unitarian Universalist tradition has the capacity to enrich the lives of members and the larger community.

Nov. 8 Peace: Our Final Good

Music: Lorie Lyons

Karen Miller

Nov. 15 'Big Mike' Fox and the Early History of Our Church

Music: Lorie Lyons

Bill Baylis

Nov. 22 By What Right?

Music: Baylis-Stone Trio

Joan Tinkess speaks of our non-Aboriginal response to the invitation to Reconciliation.

Nov. 29 Inner Peace When Outer Peace is Hard to Find

Music: Toni Janik

Reverend Krista Taves: Sometimes life just vibrates and our mind and hearts vibrate with it. How do you find inner peace, a place of calm and acceptance, when life is pulling you in another direction?

Dec. 6 The Sanctity of Life

Music: TBA

Reverend Conrad Dippel

Congregational Budget Meeting

Vote on the 2016 Budget
December 6, 2015
Immediately after the Service
(with time to grab a cup of tea)

Congregational Meeting on the Search Process

Discussion on whether to instigate a search for a minister, and for which category of minister:
Interim or Permanent and part- or full-time.
November 8, 2015
After the Service
(with time to grab a sandwich and a cup of tea)

From the Board

There was no discussion of the federal election at our October meeting because it was still five days away and we could hardly have anticipated the results. Instead, the Board focused mainly on adjustments the Church is making after the death in August of its minister for fourteen years, Reverend Christine E. Hillman. The Transition Interview for the Board led by Reverend Allison Barrett from Hamilton is to be completed by Reverend Linda Thomson after the snack break following her sermon here on November 1. She will also guide us in the next steps for searching for a new minister. We need to establish what our expectations and hopes for the new minister are, and whether we should search first for an interim minister. Everyone is invited. A congregational meeting is scheduled one week later so that members can start the process. We do need to follow the procedures of the Unitarian Universalist Association, through which the search proceeds. See <http://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/transitions/> for details. The Sunday Services Committee will be active filling the pulpit with speakers and ministers until a new minister is appointed. The Board looked at the CUC guidelines for paying honoraria and travel expenses of visitors and approved the recommended compensation of \$250 plus travel expenses for both American and Canadian visitors. However, church members are generally not compensated for their presentations in church, and consequently their contributions are doubly appreciated! Speak to our Sunday Services Trustee Helen Moore if you have a talk you might present.

As Helen reported in her role as acting Treasurer, finances are generally healthy, helped by the circumstance that our ministerial expenses are currently greatly reduced. The scheduled transfers from the Lloyd Fund are not required for the remainder of the year and can instead help rebuild the fund's principal. The Finance Committee has the challenge of preparing a budget when future expenses of the ministerial search are largely unknown. It plans a meeting on November 15 after church. Stuart Miller as Property Trustee reported that the final work on the south wall of the church—installing siding and grading the soil—has now been completed by P&S Construction at the original estimated cost, and John Upcott has now extended the grading and added grass seed.

The Board approved Sunday, November 29, 2015, as the date of our Christmas potluck, with tree decorating and carol singing to take place the day before at 7 PM. As Helen describes elsewhere in this newsletter, there will be a collection for the Children's Aid Society. We plan a Christmas Eve service at 5 PM on December 24 but no regular service on the following Sunday, December 27.

The presidents' and leaders' groups of the Canadian Unitarian Council have been discussing the difficulty of supporting responsible social action when tough sanctions threaten the charitable status of any organization that becomes too political. Olinda's chalice lighting and mission statement that "love is a more positive force for good than fear" has been quoted—and attributed to us—in the correspondence. We can hope that with the election of a new prime minister who promotes the compassion, respect and love for others voiced in our UU principles, we can act on our principles with renewed confidence.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, at 7 PM. As always, members are invited to attend.

Bill Baylis, President

Finance Trustee Report

On Nov. 15 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. 6. 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 (Trustee), and Bill Baylis (President.) 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 2015 Pledge and how much you have already contributed toward that pledge. Please return your 2016 Pledge card as soon as possible to Helen Moore or myself so that we have the information for the 2016 Budget.

Bobbye Baylis

Christmas Family

Each Christmas the congregation collects money for one or more Children's Aid Families so that Linda and John Upcott can make purchases from the wish lists that families submit to their case workers. Last year Children's Aid provided Christmas gifts for 866 families and CAS anticipates the need will be greater this year. Our church has always been recognized as one of the most generous organizations to provide Christmases for needy families. Requests from families are often for basic items such as pots and pans, sheets, towels and clothing. The Board of Trustees has once again agreed, on behalf of the congregation, to provide Christmases for one or more families. This year we have requested families who have the greatest need and who live in the county. If you wish to donate to a Christmas family, please make your contribution by cash or cheque, indicating on the cheque or offering envelope that it is for the Christmas family. All donations will be receipted for income tax purposes. If you plan to donate, please do so by November 22 though donations will be accepted until the end of the year. Thank you.

THINKING OF SPRING

WINTER IS NOT HERE YET – DURING THIS WINTER YOU CAN GIVE SOME THOUGHT IF YOU MIGHT WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN A TRUNK SALE THAT WOULD BE HELD THE SAME DAY AS OUR BAKE SALE, USUALLY LATE MAY.

This is in place of a yard/basement sale. It would be held in the Church parking lot and you would sell your own items from your vehicle trunk. The proceeds you receive would be donated to the church and a tax receipt will be issued to you.

When organizing our Bake Sale, probably in March, we will check with you to see if you are interested. We want at least 10 participants or more to make it worth while.

Think spring while you are enjoying a good winter. . . .

Carol Hylton

Important Dates

Nov. 1 Noon
Meeting with Linda Thompson on Search Process

Nov. 8 9:45 am
Sunday Services Committee Meeting

Nov. 8 Noon
Congregational Meeting to Discuss Search Process

Nov.11 7 pm
Board Meeting

Nov.12 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Nov.15 Noon
Budget Approval by Finance Committee

Nov. 22
Budget Available to Congregation

Nov. 22
Christmas Family Donations Due

Nov. 22 Noon
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

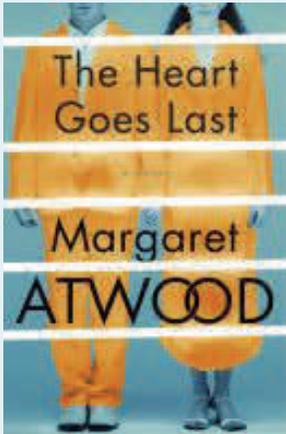
Nov. 26 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Nov. 28 7 pm
Christmas Tree Decorating

Nov. 29 Noon
Holiday Pot Luck

Dec. 2 7 pm
Book Club

Dec. 6 Noon
Congregational Meeting to Approve the Budget



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.*

November 2015 : NO MEETING

December 2015

Title: The Heart Goes Last

Author: Margaret Atwood

Summary: Several years after the world's brutal economic collapse, Stan and Charmaine, a married couple struggling to stay afloat, hear about the Positron Project in the town of Consilience, an experiment in cooperative living that appears to be the answer to their problems - to living in their car, to the lousy jobs, to the vandalism and the gangs, to their piled-up debt. There's just one drawback: once inside Consilience, you don't get out.

Location of Meeting: Crowder Residence, Kingsville

Leader: Stuart Miller

Date: Wed., 02 December, 2015; 7 pm



Caring Committee Report

Autumn has arrived even if the leaves have been slow to change, and I am way behind in preparing myself and my garden for winter that is not far away. Please remember to set your clocks and watches back one hour as standard time starts Nov. 1st, so you can gain an hour and not be at church early.

Marian Thompson is still recovering from hip surgery and is in rehab. We all hope that she is back with Arnold very soon. As I write this John van Abbema is waiting to go to London for surgery, as an out patient, and we wish him the best.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving, and now out come the Christmas decorations in the stores next to the Halloween displays. Is it any wonder that we feel that the seasons and the year goes by so quickly? (It cannot be that we are getting older).

Let us all continue to care for one another because our liberal tradition has a part to play in the wider community. We have an important message to share. A fall hello to Albertina Bell, Jean Wallis and Arn and Marian Thompson, please all stay well.

John Upcott

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Sharon van Abbema

Nominating Committee

If you are a member of the Olinda Church, this is your chance to get involved and help shape the future of your Church.

The reason Olinda is here for you is that over the years many people have been very dedicated and have contributed their time and effort in many ways to the Church. One of those ways that you can ensure Olinda is here for future generations is to be involved now and offer to contribute your time on the Board.

Our President, Bill Baylis, and our Sunday Services Trustee, Helen Moore, have each completed their terms of office so will be leaving those positions. We thank each of them for their dedication during these years. As of this writing, these two positions are still open. Please let any of the Nominating Committee members know if you are interested in serving in either of these trustee positions.

Also if there is another trustee position on the Board you are interested in or if you are willing to become part of an existing committee, please let us know. The following is an outline of Trustee Committee duties:

Sunday Services works on obtaining interesting speakers and creating lay led services for Sundays when our Minister cannot be present. Organizes everything that contributes to the church service.

Religious Education chooses curriculum for the children's RE program, trains teachers, arranges for teachers, hosts exciting intergenerational events and services, and assists the Minister with adult education needs.

Property maintains our church building & grounds & oversees capital improvements.

Finance prepares the budget and keeps the congregation informed of its financial status. It is also in charge of our wonderfully successful Goods and Services Auction.

The Lloyd Fund Committee, Chaired by Doug Whaley, is a sub-committee responsible for managing the church's investments.

Membership and Publicity keeps all membership records. Welcomes and assists visitors as well as anything relating to our membership. Facilitates regular Church advertising and suggests social events. Currently Bill Baylis has been taking care of the Church Website, and Charlotte Innerd maintains the Facebook page.

All Board positions are one year terms with no obligation to the total of the 5 consecutive year terms in any one position.

If you are interested in serving your Church in 2016, or have any questions, please contact one of the undersigned. This is your chance to get involved and bring forth your ideas to contribute to the future of Olinda.

Pat Haynes, Steve Brennan & Carol Hylton, Nominating Committee

Offering Collection



Each Sunday two people are asked to collect the offering and to go to the front once the music starts. If you are sitting at or near the front you may think that no one is going to collect the money since no one comes to pick up the collection plates until the music starts. Be assured that two people have been chosen and will collect the offering as soon as the music starts. Thanks.