

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 March 2016

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| Mar. 6 | Reflections on the Past, Present and Future of International Women's Day
Charlotte Innerd | Music: Toni Janik |
| Mar. 13 | Working Across Cultures
Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale | Music: Bobbye & Bill Baylis |
| Mar. 20 | UUs in an Irrational World:
Understanding our Neighbours
Bill Baylis | Music: Lorie Lyons |
| Mar. 27 | Out of Disaster Comes Hope
Carolyn Davies | Music: Ray Stone & Bill Baylis |
| Apr. 3 | Where Do You Live?
Rick Taves | Music: Carabel Ringrose |
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THE CHURCH ARCHIVES

We were working on the Archives project a couple of weeks ago and ran into some difficulties. There were many newspaper notices that have been donated and that is appreciated. However, we place things in the Archives by year and there were many items that had no date. Please keep in mind if you should set something aside to be part of the Archives that you date it. It will be very helpful and appreciated.

Gypsy & Carol



THE TRUNK SALE - THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE

You have no doubt read or heard about the Trunk Sale we are hoping to have so I will not repeat all the details and reasons why we need to know your decision by mid March. Check February Newsletter.

This is your chance to move all those items from your household that you probably will not ever use or need. At the same time you can contribute to your church. Cold weather is still here so while you are spending time indoors, here is a way to make use of your time. Your participation will be appreciated.

Carol Hylton

From the Board

Six of us gathered on February 10 for the final meeting of the old Board. It was one of our shorter meetings, but it gave me the opportunity to thank Board members and Caring Committee chair John Upcott for all their excellent contributions to church operations, moving us forward with constructive cooperation, even in times that were sometimes difficult. To be sure, all the Boards that I have had the pleasure to chair over the past five years have been great with all members working diligently for the betterment of the church, but the Board in 2015 was a special pleasure because of its harmony and efficiency.

At this meeting, we reviewed our preparation for the AGM on February 21, and Mireya Campbell was thanked for assembling the annual report, complete with a newly designed cover. We also looked at the progress of our application for interim minister. The task force (Carol Hylton, Chair, plus Bobbye Baylis, Mariette Preyde, John Upcott and Jane Innerd) has largely completed the application form and is assembling a packet of information about Olinda, all of which will be reviewed by our CUC advisor Linda Thomson before official submission to the UUA on April 22. John Upcott was thanked for his emergency repair of a damaged gutter; he and out-going property trustee Stuart Miller hope it will hold until a more permanent fix can be made in warmer weather.

Helen Moore is completing five years of service as trustee for Sunday Services. She deserves all our thanks for keeping this most visible function of the church running smoothly, especially during the two periods when we were operating without the help of a minister. Helen will continue to serve as a member on the Sunday Services Committee, and she will continue on her vital role as Treasurer. In that role, she was pleased to report that in spite of the generally depressed state of the economy, the Church is starting the year off with an unaccustomed surplus. The only report from the Caring Committee was that Sharon van Abbema had agreed to take over the chair position once she and her husband John return from their South Carolina vacation in April. The switch, which was approved last month by the Board, will free John Upcott to concentrate more on his new position as president.

The Social Responsibility committee is working on a letter campaign to support the cessation and reversal of cuts to door-to-door postal delivery, and it is also planning for the International Dinner on March 20, which is to have a Middle-Eastern flavour. Help was requested in organizing items to be sold at the AUUction on April 16 and the possible Trunk and Bake sale in May, and it was agreed that whenever expenditures are authorized, we should specify which funds are to be used.

From the Board, continued

At the AGM about ten days after our Board meeting, the nominating committee's proposed slate of officers for 2016 were all approved, and I accepted the nomination from the floor to fill the one vacancy as Sunday Services Trustee. I also agreed to continue to maintain our website uuolinda.org. Our next Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, March 9, 2016, at 7 PM, and it will be chaired by our new President, John Upcott. As always, members are welcome to attend.

Bill Baylis, Past-President

Finance Committee

Once again it is time to start thinking about the Goods and Services aUuction, coming up on April 16, 2016. This evening is your chance to pick up special, home-made foods as well as one-of-a-kind items. Of course, that means it is an opportunity to showcase your culinary and artistic talents. Please add your name and your donated item to the sign-up list in the Tranquility Room. This is also the place to add the event you would like to organize for next year. During the aUuction, people will be signing up for your events and buying tickets.

Carol Hylton and co-conspirators have already started organizing the dinner that will precede the aUuction, and they have come up with a new and different menu. It starts with baked ham and sweet potatoes and goes from there.

A few items that will be on offer have been mentioned even before the appearance of the list:

The Ever-Popular Tourtieres from Joyse Gilbert

The Much Anticipated Wine Pairing Dinner by Mireya and Brent Campbell
Special vanilla from the Hyltons

That mid-summer get-together, the Baylis Steak and Chicken Barbecue

The funds collected at the last three aUuctions have been used to pay for the repairs to the south wall of the basement, to eliminate the leakage of water through that wall. This was finally paid off by the 2015 aUuction. At their next meeting, on March 9, the Board will pick the new project to be supported by the April aUuction. If you have any suggestions, please pass them on to a Board member.

Bobbye Baylis, Finance Trustee

Important Dates

Mar. 2 7 pm

Book Club: *Circling the Sun* by Paula McLain

Mar. 6 9:30 am

Sunday Services Committee Meeting

Mar. 9 7 pm

Board Meeting

Mar. 10 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Mar. 20 noon

International Dinner

Mar. 24 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.*

March 2016

Title: Circling the Sun

Author: Paula McLain

Date: Wed., 02 March, 2016; 7 pm

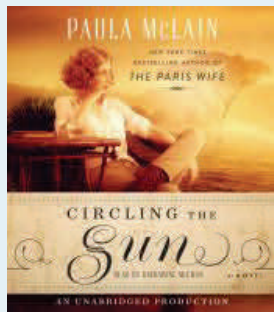
Leader: Evelyn Fisher

Location of Meeting: UU Church of Olinda, Ruthven

Summary:

Set against the majestic landscape of early-twentieth-century Africa, McLain's powerful tale reveals the extraordinary adventures of a woman before her time, the exhilaration of freedom and its cost, and the tenacity of the human spirit.

Readers may find associations with this book, and the film 'Out of Africa' (starring Meryl Streep, and Robert Redford).



April 2016

Title: This Reason We Walk

Author: Wab Kinew

Date: Wed., 06 April 2016; 6:30 pm

Leader: Pat Haynes

Location of Meeting: Haynes Residence, Kingsville
Pot Luck, First Nations' Food

Summary:

A moving father-son reconciliation told by a First Nations broadcaster, musician and activist...when his father is given a diagnosis of terminal cancer, Winnipeg broadcaster and musician Wab Kinew decided to spend a year reconnecting with the accomplished but distant aboriginal man who'd raised him.

May 2016

Title: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

Author: Rachel Joyce

Caring Committee

March is a very busy month with International Women's Day on the 8th, Daylight Saving Time beginning on the 13th (Do not be late for church!), St. Patrick's Day on the 17th and of course Easter is early this year on the 27th. There is also the first day of spring on the 20th and with all of this and some warmer weather the gardening will start. Already I have seen some early flowers poking through. I truly hope all have a wonderful Good Friday and Easter holiday and can celebrate as you see fit.

News from the John Noble Home in Brantford: Jean Wallis, a lifetime member and daughter of Stan and Viola Upcott, broke her hip earlier this month. They did not operate and it seems to be getting better on its own. The last news I received was that she was able to sit up and to eat again. We ask that you keep her in your thoughts and direct all good wishes her way. May she and her family have a very special Easter.

I want to wish all a happy Easter season, stay well and enjoy the spring when it gets here. Special greetings to Jim and Romell Reid at home, Arn and Marion Thompson in Erie Glen and to Albertina Bell also in Erie Glen.



Social Responsibility Committee

The Social Responsibility Committee continues to focus on two local issues: Canada Post and Syrian Refugees.

It was good news when Canada Post announced that it had put a hold on implementation of its transition from Door to Door delivery to supplying Community Mailboxes instead. However it is clear that we must continue to keep pressure on the government, making it clear that we have not forgotten about this issue. We need to contact our local MP's and let them know that good Postal Service is important to us, and should be improved, if anything. A Postal Banking option would be an excellent addition and would greatly help those who do not have access to regular bank accounts. Sue Markham is preparing a sample letter for your consideration. If this issue is important to you, please take this letter and customize it and send it to your local MP.

As for Syrian Refugees, members of our Congregation have already been attending fundraising dinners and donating materials. This year's International Dinner will be held on March 20, 2016, and dinner donations will go to one of the organizations supporting local Syrian refugees. The Imam or the Director at the Mosque in Windsor near the Stones' home is being invited to speak at the service on this date. Mariette Preyde has already organized some pretty interesting sounding dishes!

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Sharon van Abbema