

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)

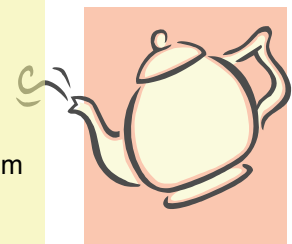
Sunday Services October 2016

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| Oct. 2 | Joan Tinkess | <i>With Whom Shall I Cast My Lot?</i> | Toni Janik |
| Oct. 9 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>Thanksgiving: Gratitude for Harvest Home.</i> Interim Minister the Rev. Fran and Religious Education leader Stuart Miller lead an Intergenerational Child-Friendly Service of Appreciation and Gratitude for the good things of the earth and the many hands who bring them to our table for Thanksgiving Sunday, mindful that not all of us share in the blessings of peace and plenty. | Carabel Ringrose |
| Oct. 16 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>Shepherds, Practical and Pastoral.</i> IM the Rev. Fran reflects on James Rebanks' memoir, "The Shepherd's Life: Modern Dispatches from an Ancient Landscape". Rebanks works his dogs across the ancient landscape of the Lake District in Northern England, then shares his day with pastoral enthusiasts through a Twitter Account. | The Indian Village Quintet with Bill Baylis |
| Oct. 23 | Rev. Conrad Dippel | <i>The Rise and Fall of the Human Being.</i> Rev. Dippel considers our future in the world we will share with more intelligent beings. | Lorie Lyons |
| Oct. 30 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>The Case of the Curious Theologian.</i> Something with a little mystery in it, as we approach All Hallows Eve—Reading Jane Langton. Fran unpacks the theological discussion underpinning a mystery novel written by this UU detective story writer, who asks, "Did Darwin Murder God?" | Bill & Bobbye Baylis |
| Nov. 6 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>Remembrance Day: A Peace Not Past Our Understanding.</i> Unitarians and Universalists have not been of one mind concerning one's attitude to war. Some of us are veterans, some of us may have cause to be deeply grateful to veterans, and some of us may be deeply committed to a pacifist response in the face of armed conflict. Rev. Fran shares some thoughts for mindfulness on Remembrance Day. | TBA |

NEW!

Tea with the Minister

Join Rev. Fran and whoever else shows up to enjoy afternoon tea and conversation on Wednesday, October 12, from 1:30—3 pm. This treat will be a regular occurrence on the second Wednesday of the month.



From the Board, October 2016

The board welcomed Rev. Frances Dearman to her first Olinda board meeting. She outlined an ambitious schedule and there will be more details later. We are very glad she is our Interim.

For the congregational meeting, approving the new windows is the major topic; please plan to attend this meeting on Sept. 25th after church. The property chair, Laurie Hylton, has put a great deal of time getting estimates and meeting with dealers and we thank him for his efforts. One motion will include a new entrance system and sidelight along with a new picture window on the east side of the library using memorial funds. The door that is there now was donated by Jean Wallis and Glen Upcott in memory of their parents Stan and Viola Upcott.

I asked Carol Hylton, who is chair of the nominating committee, to attend the meeting because those involved in the search committee cannot sit on the board. I think Carol is putting an announcement in the newsletter but I want to stress the importance at this time of serving the church for the next two years at least. If you can help on the board or the search committee, please let Carol or someone on the board know. The search committee will need some people with a specific skill set with computers or contract work but we need board members who will be important to review the people suggested by the committee. We want the best possible person to be our next minister.

The church owes a great deal of thanks to John Haynes who for the past 8 years has taken care and improved the front of the church and the planter boxes. Many people, not only the members but people who just pass by, comment on the colors and look of the front of the church. Thank you so much John for all your work. John feels the need to retire so next spring we will need someone to take over and keep the good work going.

See you in church.

John Upcott, Olinda UU Board Chairman.

Finance Committee

The main Finance Activity in the Fall is preparation of the next year's budget. That process starts after church on Sunday, Oct. 2, 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.

New Telephone Directory for 2016-17

Thanks to Lorie Lyons (Chair), Helen Moore, Bobbye Baylis and Sharon van Abbema, a directory of Church members and friends is ready for distribution. These volunteers have put many hours of work into the project and should be commended for completing the finished product in time for our new Minister's arrival.

If you see the need for changes or additions, please contact Lorie or any other committee member.



Important Dates

Oct. 2 Noon
Finance Committee Meeting

Oct. 3 9:30 am
Membership Committee Meeting

Oct. 4 10 am
Transition Team Meeting

Oct. 5 7 pm
Book Club: *Stalin's Daughter*
by Rosemary Sullivan

Oct. 6 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 12 1:30 pm
Tea with the Minister

Oct. 13 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Oct. 16 Noon
Point Pelee Clean-Up

Oct. 20 7 pm
Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 23 Noon
Budget requests due

Oct. 25 9 pm
Newsletter Reports due

Oct. 30 9:30 am
Sunday Services Meeting

Nov. 6 Noon
Finance Committee Budget Meeting

Interim Minister Rev. Fran 's Column

Thank you, one and all, for your warm welcome to Olinda.

I am beginning to feel settled in to Essex County, finding my way around more confidently, and sorting out my apartment in Leamington. I am enjoying the beauty of this rich and historic agricultural area in its fall splendour, and settling in to the beginnings of a weekly routine. It is important to me that I am accessible to you, and that you know how to reach me. For the present, this is most probably the shape of my week during October, and where you will find me:

Sundays are a day on; if I am preaching, I am present, and planning to attend the committee meetings as scheduled. If I am not in the pulpit, I may well be out of town, visiting friends, preaching at another church, or elsewhere. I look forward to exploring the great province of Ontario during my time with you here. When I am elsewhere on a weekend away I will be sure to let the Board know where I am and how I can be reached.

For example, I shall be out of the pulpit the first weekend in October, October 2nd; accordingly, I plan to travel to the Stratford area that weekend, visit friends, and perhaps catch a play. In event of need, I can be reached there on my dire emergency cell phone.

Mondays are a day off; Monday is my personal sabbath, my day of deeply restful rest. Most days, that day for peace and reflection will conclude with the rehearsal of the County Classic Chorale at Knox Presbyterian in Leamington, under the direction of Paul Wharram. I have sung with them several times already and enjoy my time there very much indeed.

Tuesdays are the day I get intentional about administration and communications, writing this newsletter column for example, or pulling together a book order, or digging into the internet for useful information around denominational affairs and forward planning. Or just keeping up with the e-mail. I'll likely be working at home on Tuesdays, or somewhere in the Leamington or Kingsville area, and would be available for meetings in the area.

Wednesdays are for pastoral care and pastoral visits--which could look like a walk or coffee or a stop in to see the folks at Erie Glen. Second and Fourth Wednesdays I'll be especially open to visits in the Leamington-Kingsville-Ruthven-Olinda area; First and Third Wednesdays I'd be pleased to traverse further afield; for example, to Windsor or Amherstburg. I would love to meet folks for a coffee, or a walk; I am honoured beyond measure when you choose to invite me into your homes or to share a meal.

Thursdays are another day for paying attention to the details of administration and communication, for example to meet with a team and focus on a special project. Or pop up to Olinda and get to know some of those books that the Rev. Christine Hillman and her predecessors have layered upon the shelves in the Ministers Study there. Or start some reading for a new sermon, and polish the details for the Sunday Service, then linger on for Thursday Evening Choir practice at the beautiful historic and living church cared for and carried through time at the Olinda crossroads.

Fridays I mostly work at home on sermon preparation; I could manage an early morning meeting at the Lakeside Deli, or a walk along the shore, but by 10 AM I need to be focussed on preparing for Sunday, or researching for some Sunday further down the line.

Saturdays I take as a down day, unless you have a wedding or a workshop in mind, or I'm hopping a train into the big city for a saunter through the Art Gallery of Ontario.

And Sundays I am gathered with you all once more, for worship and community at the Olinda crossroads.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours, in the Interim
Rev. Fran

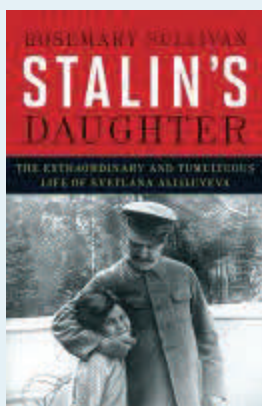
Olinda Book Club

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 2016



Title: Stalin's Daughter

Author: Rosemary Sullivan

Date: Wed., 05 October, 2016; 7 pm

Leader: Stuart Miller

Location & Type of Meeting:

Miller Residence, Leamington

Summary:

Stalin's Daughter is a work of narrative non-fiction on a grand scale, combining popular history and biography to tell the incredible story of a woman fated to live her life in the shadow of one of history's most monstrous dictators.

Svetlana Stalina, who died in 2011, at the age of eighty-five, was the only daughter and the last surviving child of Josef Stalin. Beyond Stalina's controversial defection to the US in a cloak-and-dagger escape via India in 1967, her journey from life as the beloved daughter of a fierce autocrat to death in small town Wisconsin is an astonishing saga.

Book for Month – November 2016:

Title: Florence Foster Jenkins

Author: Darryl Bullock

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

Leader: Gypsy Carroll

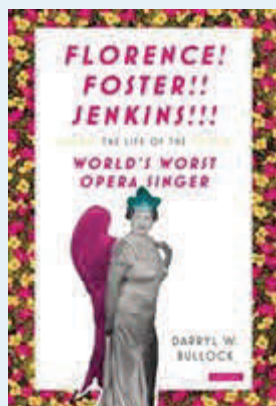
Location & Type of Meeting:

UUC of Olinda, Tranquility Room

Summary:

Madame Jenkins couldn't carry a tune in a bucket: despite that, in 1944 at the age of 76, she played Carnegie Hall to a capacity audience and had celebrity fans by the score. Her infamous 1940s recordings are still highly-prized today.

In his well-researched and thoroughly entertaining biography, Darryl W. Bullock tells of Florence Foster Jenkins meteoric rise to success and the man who stood beside her, through every sharp note.



Caring Committee

Good morning one and all. TURKEY TIME will soon be here. If you are fortunate, family and friends will invite you to their home. Maybe you will have a ham to celebrate. Thanksgiving, a memorable time for this coming month for many. We all have something for which to be thankful.

A measure of good health and friends are at the top of my list. Arn and Marion Thompson at Erie Glen Manor said farewell to Evelyn Dresser as she made her way back to her home to recover from her hip fracture. Many Unitarians showed up for Tina Bell's 100th birthday celebration. Rev. Fran Dearman, our interim minister, was there as well with the rest. Delicious cake and great company was enjoyed by all.

Laverne Hicks is happy to have Ron back again after a brief stint in hospital. Ron hopes to be at the Apple Festival in September. Carabel and Buster will be there lending a hand, along with John Upcott and many others.

Congratulations are in order to Lorie Lyons. Her 2-year-old grandson Pearson, now has a new brother Blake. Busy times ahead for Kimberly and her young family.

Don and Sylvia Dotzert enjoyed a visit with Rev Fran Dearman this past month at their home by the water in Windsor. Hospitality was wonderful. Sharon van Abbema was present and also enjoyed the goodies that were served and the conversation. Thank you Sylvia and Don.

Wilf is home from hospital and making a slow recovery. He will be happy to be able to return to Olinda in due time. We miss seeing him on Sunday mornings. Patience and more patience is required as a person waits for healing. We cheer you on Wilf and Jane as you experience some challenging times.

Thank you Eunice Goyette, a longtime member of our Caring Committee who continues to send out Thinking of You cards and notes to various people to let them know we remember them.

Again I would remind the members to let us know if you would appreciate a call or visit.

Submitted by Sharon

Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
John Upcott
Sharon van Abbema

Social Responsibility Committee

Our September meeting was unusually productive, covering a lot of ground. This bodes well for a good year! Three people have been assigned to look for good films to show after the service in the coming year. Karen Miller will look into Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice activities to see if they are doing anything of special interest to Olinda. Bobbye is doing the same for Amnesty International. Further, Bobbye is researching a couple of other topics for use in possible panel discussions, either as a service or for a workshop on a Saturday or after church.

We are already thinking about our Annual International Dinner, tentatively scheduled for March 19, 2017. One possibility is to follow up on the Refugee experience now that the initial influx of Syrian refugees is behind us. We are also interested in your ideas about organizations we should be highlighting.

Last but certainly not least is something that is coming up very soon! If there is enough interest, we will meet after church on Oct. 16, grab a bit to eat on the way, and spend the afternoon cleaning up garbage at Point Pelee. Possibly also pulling weeds. Helen Moore has already contacted the staff there and reports the following:

“Beach clean-up opportunity is available if sufficient number of people decide to participate. The cleanup will be supervised by a park employee. Park staff have cleaned up large items so the items to be picked up are cigarette and cigarillo butts, bottle caps, and small pieces of plastic. They will be inventoried so they can be recorded as part of the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. Web-site is [Shoreline Cleanup.ca](http://ShorelineCleanup.ca). Organizing institutions for the national cleanup are the Vancouver Aquarium and World Wildlife Fund.

“There are deer ticks which may confer Lyme Disease at Point Pelee so if you wish to take part, you are advised to wear long pants, long sleeved shirt, socks into which you can tuck your pants and closed toed shoes. The clean-up will be on the beach so there won't be ticks there but the walk to the beach may contain ticks.

“Bring your water bottle. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided. Park entry will be free for those who have indicated they will attend to clean-up.”

This should be fun!

Bobbye Baylis, Secretary, Social Responsibility Committee



From Your Nominating Committee, October 2016

If you are a member of the Olinda Church, this is your time to get involved and help shape the Church's future. We have Rev. Frances Dearman with us as our Interim Minister and a Transitional Team for this upcoming year to lead us in our Church moving forward (the Transitional Team replaces the Committee on Ministry during this interim period). That is what this year is all about.

As your Nomination Committee, we are aware that there are several out-of-the-norm factors that will be influencing our ability to fill the Board roster this year, such as:

- a) the ongoing service of the current board members, and
- b) the appointment of members to the transition team, and
- c) the necessity of the board having to select a slate of recommended members for the search committee.

This means that many more members of the church community will be called upon to consider stepping up and fill in roles of leadership and committee members.

Over the years many people have been very dedicated and contributed their time and effort which is why this Church is here now for you. It is your time now to do as many have done in the past. Our former minister, Rev. Conrad Dippel spoke at our Church service last fall and referred to the period when he first came to Olinda and how together we brought about some positive growth. Along the way we brought about our By-Laws and our structured Board. As in life, we can continue to grow.

We are sure there are many of you who can offer your talents and ideas and we invite you to come forward and be part of the Board in 2017. You know best your interests and how you would be open to serve Olinda. Even if there are two people willing for one position, don't let that stop you from offering. We can hold an election. If you want to learn more about the duties of a particular position on the Board, please ask this committee and we will tell you the details. (All Board positions are one year terms and there is a 5 consecutive year limit.)

We thank all who have served on the board this year. The following have accepted to continue on in 2017. John Upcott – President, John van Abbema – Vice President, Helen Moore – Treasurer, Bill Baylis – Sunday Services, Laurie Hylton – Property. These are the open positions: Finance, Secretary, Lifespan Religious Education, Membership/Publicity. We provide you with some food for thought - a quote from Mother Teresa (bestowed sainthood by the pope this month): "Duty is a very personal thing. It is what comes from knowing the need to take action and not just a need to urge others to do something."

We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Your Nominating Committee - Steve Brennan, Cathy Dewhurst, Carol Hylton