

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, 2017

| Date | Speaker | Title | Musician(s) |
|---------|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| Oct. 1 | Helen Moore | <i>Peter Singer's book: The Life You Can Save</i> | Bill & Bobbye Baylis |
| Oct. 8 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i> An intergenerational service. | Baylis-Stone Trio |
| Oct. 15 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>UN Sunday.</i> | Lorie Lyons |
| Oct. 22 | Rev. Michael Brown | <i>Resistance from Within. We welcome guest speaker Michael Brown, visiting from Baltimore and Detroit. Michael is preparing for UU ministry and currently serves as a chaplain and as a community organizer. Michael speaks to the current turmoil concerning authoritarianism in the United States, and how Canadian advocates for peace can help those who fight for moral policies in our neighbour to the south.</i> | Lorie Lyons |
| Oct. 29 | John van Abbema | <i>Comparative Religions. We often give lip service to the acknowledgment of other religions, but do we really know how similar they are to each other? A review of the similarities and differences in spiritual thinking.</i> | Toni Janik |
| Nov. 5 | Rev. Fran Dearman | <i>All Saints, All Souls. Rev. Fran reflects on how some churches name themselves for All Saints Day (Nov. 1) and All Souls Day (Nov. 2). What meanings were associated with those names in the past? What insights might they now invite?</i> | Bill & Bobbye Baylis |

Congregational Survey

The Ministerial Search Committee has developed a survey questionnaire for members and friends of our congregation to help select a new minister for this Church. Copies are available for you to complete by computer or on paper.

Please read Cathy Dewhurst's report on page 9 for more details.

Deadline for completion and return of questionnaires is:

October 8, 2017

Your timely assistance is urgently requested.

Thank you.

And now it begins to get very, very real.....

The Ministerial Search Committee have launched their survey. I urge one and all to support the MSC and fill in the form. On line, on paper, on time..... The MSC needs your active support. Please do so. I know from experience how important it is, that the people of the church are engaged in the process and the survey; a high level of participation in the survey tells a potential candidate that the people care about their church and have shared their thoughts, their hopes, their aspirations, with the MSC.

The beginning of reaching out to potential candidates is to know oneself. As Socrates was fond of saying, "Know thyself". Only when Olinda has engaged that question, can the MSC begin to discern the direction in which Olinda wishes to walk, and the sort of minister Olinda will wish to invite to walk beside them.

Further to search—the Canadian Unitarian Council have extended invitations to attend the Central Regional Fall Gathering, at London ON Saturday October 28th. This denominational gathering is an opportunity to meet, greet, and pick the brains of others in the denomination who have their own experiences of the challenges and opportunities that meet us all. Please see the CUC website for details.

Other opportunities—UUA Transitions Director the Rev. Keith Kron is scheduled to visit Olinda the weekend of January 14th and lead the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop. Keith knows more than anyone alive about how the field for search is shaping up this year, and he knows more than anyone I know about how congregations work, especially in matters of search, especially in relationships between minister and parish. Keith's visit will be the opportunity for a fruitful and discerning conversation.

And as Thanksgiving approaches, may we all find some joy, even amidst the inevitable sorrows that echo joy, may we find some profound joy for which to give thanks and sing our gratitude.

Yours, in the interim,

Rev. Fran

Congregational Meeting

To bring the Membership Section of the By-Laws into compliance with legislation.

Sunday, October 22, 2017
Immediately after the Service
(with time to grab a cup of tea)

Finance Budget Schedule for 2017

In September we started the process of creating an Operating Budget for 2018. The following schedule is presented to inform everyone who would like to be part of this process. There are always openings on the Finance Committee for anyone who is interested in the financial health of our church.

| Date | Time | Description |
|----------------|---------------|--|
| Sept 10 | After church | Open meeting to discuss budget items. Anyone desiring to be on the Finance Committee should definitely attend this meeting and volunteer to become a member This is a follow up to an email to several members asking the questions/starting the thought process. |
| Oct. 15 | | By this date, all budget details must have been submitted to the finance trustee or the treasurer so that they can prepare the budget. Items needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Search Committee Costing • Committee Chair's budget requests |
| Nov 5 | After Church | Meeting of the Finance Comm. to approve the Budget |
| Nov. 9 | 7 PM | Board Meeting at which Budget will be presented for approval. |
| Nov.19 | Before Church | Copies of the budget will be available to the congregation. |
| Dec. 10 | After Church | Congregational Budget meeting. |

Elaine Stevenson, Finance Committee Chair

Important Dates

Oct. 8 9:30
Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 11 9:30 am
Membership Committee Meeting

Oct. 11 1:30 pm
Tea with the Minister

Oct. 12 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Oct. 15 9:30 am
Sunday Services Meeting

Oct. 15 noon
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Oct. 15
Budget Requirements due to Finance Chair

Oct. 18 1:30 pm
Handwork with the Minister

Oct. 22 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 22 noon
Congregational Meeting on Membership By-Law

Oct. 24
November Newsletter Reports due

From the Board, October 2017

It was a very busy Board meeting to start the year. We need to thank Gypsy Carroll and her family for the amazing legacy gift that she left to the church. Her generosity was above and beyond and we were so blessed to have her as a member of the church. Her financial expertise was invaluable when she was on the Board and even after she left the Board.

We need to honor her in some way and the Board discussed a few different suggestions but we would like to hear from the congregation if there any ways that you think would be fitting.

The congregation extends its sympathy to Laverne Hicks and family on the passing of Ron Hicks. He was an amazing person who supported our church in many ways and he will be missed.

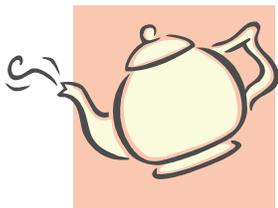
There will be a congregational meeting Oct.22nd to approve a change to the membership by-laws. The government has new and stricter rules on who can be a member of a charitable organization and how they are counted. The membership committee has worked very hard on these changes so please stay for this meeting.

We needed to form a Lay Chaplain Committee to elect a new Lay Chaplain. Joyse Gilbert has served our church for the last 8 years. The term of a Lay Chaplain is 6 years but Joyse agreed to an extension on the death of Rev. Christine. She has done a great job in her term and we thank her.

The new committee that was chosen was Joyse Gilbert, Sharon van Abbema, Rev. Fran Dearman, and myself. If you have ever considered serving the church as Lay Chaplain please notify someone on the committee. There is training available and the information you need is also available. Please give this some serious thought.

The Board also voted to support a Christmas family again this year. I will see you all in church.

John Upcott, Chairman.



Tea with the Minister

Join Rev. Fran and whoever else shows up to enjoy afternoon tea and conversation on Wednesday, Oct. 11 & 18, from 1:30-3:00 pm. This treat is a regular occurrence on the second and third Wednesdays of the month. The third Wednesday is an opportunity for handwork, in addition to the tea.

Christmas Families

The Board of Trustees, at our September 14th Board Meeting, voted to sponsor one or more families, with the greatest need, once again. The Children's Aid Society volunteer who picks up the gifts always comments on how generous our church is. Linda and John Upcott have graciously agreed to shop for the families.

If you wish to donate to support Christmas Families please make your donation, when convenient, by writing Christmas Families on your cheque or on the offering envelope. It is early to think of Christmas while we are enjoying beautiful sunny summer days.

Thanks for your consideration.

Helen Moore

Peace Picnic

A wonderful event took place in Leamington at Lakeside Park this past month. Many people came from all walks of faith to celebrate a PEACE PICNIC with games, music, dancing, coffee, water and hotdogs. Olinda Unitarian Universalist was well represented, because we care. What a delight to see children from Romania, Lebanon, China, etc. and Leamington and Kingsville...all lined up and waiting for their turn to play bocce ball. A sign was made telling people from where we came...OLINDA... Much goodwill and caring and love was shared with one another that afternoon in the park.

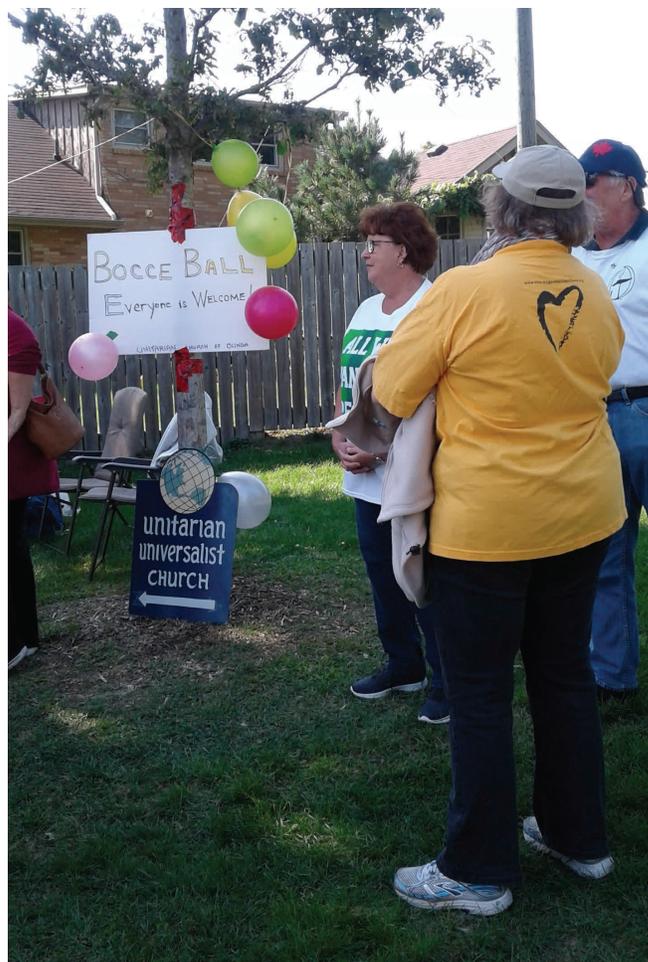
Sharon van Abbema



Caring Committee Report, October 2017

Thank you to all who helped us with our Church's participation in the joint ecumenical PEACE PICNIC last month at Lakeside Park . Linda Upcott tied balloons up in the trees, a sign was made telling people from where we came...OLINDA... Mariette brought her neighbours and friends to have a go at throwing that heavy ball. John Upcott kept his eyes on the balls and all eight were returned to their container at the end of the afternoon. The day was beautiful in weather, and the spirit of togetherness was wonderful . A happy day for all.

Jane Innerd is happy to have Wilf back home as of Wednesday this week. After a few days in the hospital he is now home, getting back to his 700 page book, feeling somewhat better but a little weak. We even had a good chat after all that. Marion and Tina see each other at meals in Erie Glen. Both are doing fine, and both enjoy visitors. A big hello to Don and Sylvia; we remember you and hope to see you at Olinda one of these Sundays.



The service for Laverne Hicks's husband Ron was held at Sykes Funeral Home this past week. Ron's brother and sister-in-law remembered him well. John Upcott also spoke with great insight and we felt we knew Ron much better after hearing all about this talented, caring man who contributed so much to Olinda and to the community with his fine work in wood carving and construction. What a man, what intelligence and ability. We who knew him are all the better for having seen him in action. He will be missed. Cinders his dog was a source of comfort to the folk at Sun Parlor Home where Ron lived these past six months. Shannon and Dean have good reason to be proud of their dad. He has left them a great legacy of caring.

Happy autumn one and all from the Caring Committee. Soon we will enjoy a colourful display of leaves as they fall to the ground, creating a cover for the ground beneath as we await the next season.

Respectfully submitted...Sharon van Abbema

Property Committee Report, October 2017

Since I have been away since mid-September and will be until Oct 23rd, I do not have anything to report. I do want to acknowledge the help of John Upcott for over-seeing Property during my absence. What would I do without you, John? I thank you so much.

Laurie Hylton, Property Chair

Ministerial Search Committee Update

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. By now you have received your survey by email and hopefully even completed it online. There are also hard copies available at the church or you can have one mailed. Please contact Bobbye to request this. We are asking you to return them by October 8th and put them in the box identified in the church. If we can have everyone return these, it shows potential candidates that our congregation is fully engaged in this process.

The committee has been busy putting together all the information that will go into our Congregational Record. This is the package made available to interested candidates. We have many deadlines that must be met in the coming weeks.

Candidates will also be reviewing websites of the churches they are interested in. Although our website is very descriptive of our congregation, we would like to include a video or pictures of some of our church activities. If anyone has pictures they could share, please email them to Bobbye at bbaylis@xplornet.com.

Cathy Dewhurst, Search Committee Communications

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette
June Blacker
Linda Upcott
Sharon van Abbema

Members, MSC.

Bobbye Baylis
Steve Brennan
Cathy Dewhurst
Stuart Miller
Linda Upcott
John van Abbema

Upcoming Event



SATURDAY OCT. 28

9:30-4:30 P.M.

BELOVED COMMUNITY

Join us as we consider some of the ways we can begin to build communities of meaning and support – Beloved Community, during this one-day event, hosted by the Unitarian Fellowship of London



A Canadian Unitarian Council Regional Gathering

**UNITARIAN
FELLOWSHIP OF
LONDON**

55 Clark St.

London, ON

**REGISTRATION OPENS
SEPT. 12, VISIT
CUC.CA/EVENTS/ FOR
INFORMATION**

**PROGRAM CHOICES
INCLUDE:**

- **MEETINGS AND MEANING** – A consideration of the ways we can make meetings a reflection of our values
- **CONGREGATIONAL COVENANTS** – How a congregational covenant support the dream of beloved community
- **YOUTH MINISTRY** – Supporting youth involvement in congregational life. Strengthening and building vital youth ministry
- **Jr. Youth Mini Con!** – A program of exploration and UU values for ages 10-13

Sacred Stories

The two legends that follow are from very different cultures. Jonah appears in the Monotheistic holy books of the Hebrew, Christian & Islamic faiths. The story of Glooscap & Summer comes from the native oral traditions of many tribes along the East Coast of North America.

Both stories are meant to give moral direction to the peoples of the tribes in their respective regions.

Questions:

- 1) What are the moral lessons to be learned from these stories, and how do they differ?
- 2) Which of these would you read to your children & grandchildren? Why?
- 3) They are equally fantastical. Which one do you think they would ask for more often?

These stories are a lead-up to the October 29 talk on “Comparative Religions.”

J van Abbema, Editor

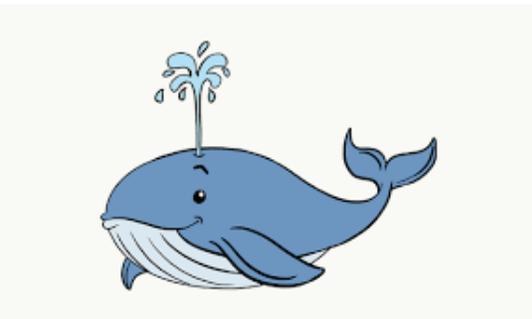
Jonah and the Whale...a Story from the Bible

His story of disobedience to God, his penitence and repentance is well documented. Jonah was directed by God to go to the city of Ninevah to convince the King and his subjects to stop their troublesome ways and repent. God threatened his kingdom with annihilation if they did not obey his directive. Jonah found this task too difficult, and so he ran away to the sea, to escape his duties.

When the ship was about to flounder during a terrible storm, all the sailors prayed to their various gods, Jonah disappeared. They realized Jonah was sleeping and had not prayed to his god for safety. They drew lots to decide which one of them was guilty of angering his god.

Jonah, a righteous prophet at heart, confessed that he had disobeyed his God by refusing to admonish the people of Ninevah. Jonah then offered himself to be thrown overboard to solve this dilemma. Over he went and the seas subsided. A whale happened nearby and swallowed him, thus keeping him safe. Jonah was in the whale's stomach for three days. While there, he had time to think, and repented. He then found himself spat up on

the shore. Subsequently, Ninevah recognized him as a prophet, and took heed to his warning and repented. Ninevah was saved from God's wrath. The people celebrated.



Winter and the Return of Summer

Winter was a Giant who lived in a large house in the north. His breath withered the trees; no leaves or fruit came from them. He covered everything with frost. This brought famine and death to the people.

A god from the east coast, named Glooscap saw this was not good. He asked Winter to stop. Winter then breathed on him and Glooscap started to freeze. Tatler, a loon who lived nearby, wrapped his wings around Glooscap and warmed him up. "Go to Summer, the Queen of the south" said Tatler "and tell her of your plight". So Glooscap ran to the sea. He sang for his friend Spout the whale who carried him on his back to a land of flowers and warmth.

There he met the Queen named Summer. Summer fell in love with Glooscap and promised to follow him anywhere, even to the north. Spout carried them to the north. They saw only ice and snow. Then they reached the house of winter, the Giant was waiting. He breathed on them. Brrrrrr. But Summer smiled and Glooscap felt warm again. Summer now went with Glooscap across the north and awakened everything the Giant had frozen. Grass and corn sprang to life and water ran in the rivers.

When they returned to the house of Winter, Queen Summer said to the Giant, "You have been too greedy. You are now banished for six months of the year. You must agree to be less harsh.... and I will rule six months of every year," she declared.

AND SO.....she has always returned.

Excerpt from the book, 'The Nine Lives of Charlotte Taylor' by Sally Armstrong, a book written by a Canadian publisher and descendent of the first female pioneer land owner in New Brunswick.

