

The Olinda Outpost

Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda
 2953 Olinda Side Road, Ruthven, Ontario, N0P 2G0
 Toni Janik & Bobbye Baylis, Editors



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

Sunday Services June & Summer, 2018

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
June 3	Rev. Fran Dearman	<i>Election Sermon</i> Rev. Fran urges us all to exercise our right to vote in the provincial election on June 7.	Lorie Lyons
June 10	Rev. Fran Dearman	<i>Summer is Coming: A Reflection on work and play and retirement.</i> This is Rev. Fran's last sermon at Olinda before she leaves for a well-earned retirement. She has certainly served us well, and we send her off with much love and our wish for great happiness and satisfaction in this next stage of her life! The service will be followed by our annual church picnic.	Toni Janik
June 17	Steve Brennan	<i>It Takes a Child to Raise a Village.</i> Brennan's twist on a familiar saying is meant to reflect on fresh insights to Fathers' Day.	Baylis-Stone Trio and viola duets
June 24	Dr. Walter (Jake) Soderlund	<i>Social Justice in an Era of Reactionary Populism</i> Jake will present considerations especially relevant to current world politics.	Lorie Lyons
July 22	Rev. Derek Parry	<i>Universalism, Love and Justice</i>	Lorie Lyons
Aug. 12	Ray Stone	<i>On Mindfulness</i>	Bobbye and Bill Baylis
Sept. 9	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Ingathering and Water Ceremony</i>	Baylis-Stone-Koenig quartet



Annual Olinda Picnic
June 10, 2018
Barbecue at John & Linda Upcott's
Bring Lawn Chairs & a Side Dish or Dessert

From The Board

It is amazing that this is the last report before summer break. It has been a busy time with the end of the search committee, the calling of a settled minister and all the extra things that have come up this year. When we return, Rev. Rod will have a place to live and we will start the year with a new minister with new ideas, and it will be a learning experience.

The sad part for me will be that Rev. Fran will be back home and will have started her retirement. This church and congregation owes her a great deal of gratitude for what she did to help us find a settled minister. When we were looking for an Interim Minister we really had no idea what we were looking for but we were very fortunate to find her. With her leadership we were able to work through the process and with Rev. Fran telling all who would listen what a good place Olinda would be for a minister, we were able to select the best person for us. She has been there for me when I needed advice and she would always listen. HAVE A WONDERFUL RETIREMENT REV. FRAN and thank- you. (But I know you will never stop working and helping others).

If you see some work going on in the back yard of the church, Lorie Lyons, unveiled a plan to make the yard and memorial garden a place to sit and enjoy. With the help of Helen and Laurie Hylton she plans to upgrade the space.

Property is looking for ways to make the basement accessible for all but ramps, chairlifts, new entrances, all seem to be impossible or very costly . Charlotte Innerd has suggested that a government grant may be available for an elevator and we will look into it and also a suggestion for removal of the pews and obtaining comfortable chairs to make better use of the space. I am asking all to think about it and let someone on the board know your views.

Please all have a safe and wonderful summer, stay well, as we need all to come back in September and welcome the new era with Rev. Rod. Plan if you can, to attend the summer services to support the speakers who work hard to give an entertaining address.

John Upcott
President

Financial Trustee Report

Where did the church year go? We have accomplished so much and yet we are still on the doorstep of the next chapter of our history. Many thanks to those that came out and enjoyed our church BBQ Saturday May 26th and much gratitude to our master griller President John and organizer extraordinaire Linda Upcott. How did you like the new menu? Change is good when it accomplishes renewed excitement for old favourites.

Funds for the Bakeless Bake Sale can still be dropped in the Treasurer's mail slot or place your envelope in the offertory plate with your name and it is eligible for a tax receipt.

Don't forget all the wonderful dining events coming this summer: The Baylis Steak and Chicken BBQ on Aug 11; High Tea with Rev. Fran on Friday, June 15, and Peregrino Dinner with Rev. Fran on Friday, June 8 etc....

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy, relaxing summer so we can all recharge before our new adventures with Rev. Rod in the fall.

Blessings

Elaine Stevenson

New Church Directory in Preparation

The membership committee is working on updating the Directory and the Telephone Tree to have it ready for the Fall and our new minister. If you have noticed any phone numbers or addresses that need changing or names that are missing, please notify Lorie Lyons (chair), Helen Moore, Bobbye Baylis or Toni Janik.

Important Dates

June 10 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

June 10 Noon
Annual Church Picnic

June 17 9:30 am
Sunday Services Meeting

June 17 Noon
Social Resp. Comm. Meeting

June 20 10 am
Membership Meeting

June 21 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

June 24 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

June 27 7 pm
Farewell Vespers Service

Fran's Column

Dear Ones:

It has been an honour, a privilege, and a joy to serve with you these last two years as Interim Minister to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda.

I am glad we chose to do this. I am delighted that your search has been fruitful. I shall miss you when I leave, as leave I must, as leave I promised before I first set foot in Essex County.

Perhaps some day we shall encounter one another again; UU is a smallish denomination and it is indeed quite likely that our paths may cross. And when they do I shall be pleased to see you, I shall be pleased to hear your news, I shall be delighted to see photographs of your loved ones.

But we will never ever talk church business again, once July 31st has passed. And I shall never make helpful suggestions, for that will be for Rev. Rod to do.

I know I will be leaving you in good hands; and you may know that I am going home to family and friends and familiar pathways.

I wish you all good fortune, good health, and the blessings of comradeship in this beloved community of Olinda.

Every blessing,
Rev. Fran

Saying Good-bye and Thank You !

Soon we will be saying good bye to our interim minister the Reverend Frances Dearman.

Fran's Last day in the pulpit will be the day of the church picnic, June 10th.

The following Sunday, June 17th, she will be present while Steve Brennan is the Speaker. Following this service there will be cake and a chance to tell Fran how much we appreciated her work at Olinda.

On June 27th, there will be Farewell Vespers from 7pm to 8 pm. The service will be songs and readings, then Fran will depart the church and begin her long journey back to Victoria. There will be no refreshments, nor a chance to say good-bye at this service but we will be silently there to wish her adieu.

Joyse



Membership Report

With this being the final report before the summer holidays, I would like to remind everyone that at our June 20th Membership Meeting our agenda will be to review the Church Directory and Telephone List. We plan to update our information in preparation for publishing a new version for September with the arrival of our new minister. Please let me know or anyone else on the Membership Committee, Helen or Bobbye, about any changes with your address, email or phone numbers.

We welcomed Toni Janik as a new Membership Committee member in April when she graciously offered to join. With the departure of Sharon van Abema in November, we are now back to a committee of four plus Rev. Fran. It was a great surprise to see Sharon drop in to say "Hello" at this meeting since she was such a valued member of our team.

As some of you may have noticed already, there have been a few changes made in the backyard of the church. At this time I would like to thank the Membership Committee members and Board members for being supportive of my request to improve the landscaping in this area. I truly appreciate the trust they had in me to follow through with the minimalistic design I had prepared which I feel adds more character to the property. With the addition of a few plants and a couple of compact trees, I hope others will find it more welcoming and enjoyable. A bench was purchased for the Memorial Garden and placed on a small patio beside the garage. I hope to have the work completed by the May 26th Church Barbecue, so if you haven't seen the new features behind the church, perhaps you will be able to check it out that day. Finally, I must thank John Upcott for removing the remains of an old decaying stump in the back which alone makes the area look better. According to Helen, it had been a Norway Maple planted by my father many years ago. So it was heartwarming for me to know that I was planting a new tree about 8 feet from where he had worked.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer. Although it is exciting that we will begin the new church season in September with our new minister, I know I will really miss Rev. Fran. The past two years being helped with her guidance and wisdom has just flown by, but as they say, "All good things must come to an end."

Lorie Lyons, Membership Trustee

See picture on adjacent page for a view of the new patio and bench and a small selection of the new plantings. For a real treat, check out the back yard yourself next time you are at the church! Editor.

Caring Committee Report

A dad is someone who wants to catch you before you fall but instead picks you up, brushes you off, and lets you try again. He can play like a kid, give advice like a friend, and protect like a body guard. Wishing all the fathers a Happy Father's Day in this month of June.

Sincere sympathies extended to Richard and Elaine Stevenson on the loss of Richard's mother. The congregation has had them in their thoughts.

Sorry to hear that Wilf Innerd had a fall and is recovering at the Tayfour Campus Windsor Regional Hospital. Wishing him a speedy recovery and hope to see him in church soon. Marion Thompson at last visit is doing well along with Walter Sinclair at Erie Glen, also Tina Bell is managing well at Sun Parlour Home, also good to hear all tests came back negative for Laverne Hicks and she is reported to be doing well at home.

This is the last report before the summer break, so on behalf of the caring committee, I would like to extend everyone a healthy and safe summer.

Submitted by Linda Upcott

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

Leona Crowder

Linda Upcott



A Checklist of Simple Actions Anyone Can Take

By Carl Duivenvoorden

When it comes to taking action to fight climate change, I believe most people want to do the right thing. However, amid the daily flood of new and sometimes conflicting information, it's hard to know just what that 'right thing' is. So here's a checklist of things to help save money, energy and the environment.

Level One, the very simplest actions:

- Turn off computers, lights and anything else that uses electricity when they don't need to be on. Use power bars for electronics and other devices that use 'phantom' power even when they are turned off.
- For your car and driving habits, adopt a zero-idle policy: turn your engine off every time you are stopped for more than 10 seconds because idling wastes fuel. Similarly, avoid using car starters because they tend to lead to excess idling. Even a cold engine in winter is oiled and ready to go after just 30 seconds of idling. Avoid drive-throughs. Check tire pressure monthly because underinflated tires waste fuel.
- In the home, wash your clothes in cold water to reduce hot water usage.
- Reduce, reuse, recycle in that order; and, compost organics if you can.

Level Two, actions for bigger savings

- Drive smarter by treading lightly on the gas and brake – easy, smooth accelerations and long, gentle stops will yield big improvements in fuel efficiency for most drivers.
- Automobile air conditioning is a huge load on a vehicle's engine, second only to driving. Opt for fresh air instead whenever possible.
- Install low flow shower heads because hot water represents 20% of the average home's energy use. Try showering less too.
- Install LED light bulbs for 75 per cent savings over incandescent lights.

Level Three, actions that make the biggest difference.

- Take steps to make your home more energy efficient. (In most homes, begin by air sealing and insulating.)
Check with local authorities for tips, rebates and incentives. Use a clothesline to dry your clothes; a clothes dryer uses more energy while operating than any other appliance. Choose locally produced food to reduce the impact of long-distance food transportation.
- Drive the most energy efficient vehicle that meets your needs. Check ratings for all vehicles sold in Canada since 1995 at www.tinyurl.com/fuel-ratings.
- Contact your elected representatives at all levels to advocate for programs, policies and incentives to help reduce emissions.

Small actions, but if everyone did them, what a difference we'd make for our wallets and for our environment. Let's get started!

Carl Duivenvoorden (www.changeyourcorner.com; @CDuivenv) is a speaker, writer and sustainability consultant living in Upper Kingsclear, New Brunswick.