Monthly Newsletter of the <u>Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda</u> 2953 Olinda Side Road, Ruthven, Ontario, NOP 2G0 Toni Janik & Bobbye Baylis, Editors

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

Sunday Services February, 2019

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Hen 2		Patterns in our primary relationships: awareness, practices and shifts.	Toni Janik
Feb 10		How to be Right. A secret to infallibility lies in recognizing when we're fallible.	Baylis Combo
Heh 17	Rev. Rod Solano- Quesnel	How to be Wrong. Being right can sometimes be overrated, especially when there are better ways to be wrong.	Lorie Lyons
	Rev. Rod Solano- Quesnel	Successful Failures. Some of the most exciting accomplishments can come from a new understanding of our goals.	Baylis Combo
Mar. 3	ТВА	ТВА	Toni Janik

Annual Congregational Meeting

Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda Sunday, February 24, 2019, at noon following an enhanced snack

The Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, Feb. 10, 2019





Clergy Connection

Continuing Education

I hope you were able to have some fulfilling time during our recent Snow Day on January 20, as we took the precaution to cancel the Sunday service for the sake of safety. I took this as an opportunity to visit our neighbours at Faith Mennonite Church in Leamington, where I was able to expand my connection with their pastor and many of the congregants. Hearing some of their stories, I learned that we have even more in common than we might expect, and I'm reminded of the lifelong journey of learning.

One of the learning opportunities I've continued to pursue include new chords on the ukulele, as well as ongoing driver's education, where I become more deeply aware of the responsibility of being behind the wheel, and how to actively nurture safe practices. Recently, Sarah treated me to a glassblowing workshop, where I appreciated the mentorship of seasoned glass workers in learning some basics of a difficult skill-set. I like that openness to others' wisdom allows for new learning.

During January, we've been paying special attention to the learning that is available to us throughout our lives, and which we offer to each other at different ages. This includes the wisdom of age that we are able to offer to our young, as well as the wisdom of ongoing curiosity, creativity, and imagination that children constantly remind us of. This is the spirit of faith formation that we can participate in when contributing to religious education, as well as when we seek to connect across the generations in our community.

We also got to connect at the **Soup Luncheon** Fundraiser on January 16, which was a great excuse to get together! Not only are we supporting our church, but we're building community while sharing many of Toni Janik's soups. I even met some new faces and got to know more about many of you. I was also happy to share dinner with a few of you at the 2nd Annual Robbie Burns Night in Kingsville.

Another way in which we connect is in offering care to fellow members of our church. For the past few months, the **Caring Committee** and I have been sharing the responsibility of visiting members of our community who are unable to come to Sunday services. Among other pastoral encounters, I was also able to visit several of you last month, where I heard more of your stories. As a shared ministry, this opportunity is open to you as well.

Shared ministry will be the focus of our new **Committee on Shared Ministry** (CoSM) which is on track to be formalized over the next couple of months. The way it is set up, and the way it runs, may be a bit different from the way previous versions of it have run. We will take some time this month to clarify its role and purpose, as well as to explore ways in which you can participate in its mission.

I should lastly mention that I will be connecting with other UUs while attending the **Mid-winter Retreat** from **February 1-3**. Rev. Rosalind Mariconda will offer a message of expanding awareness that Sunday.

Warm regards, --Rev. Rod

From The Board

We are now incorporated thanks to a number of people with Helen and Peter taking the lead. Many had a role in making this possible and we owe them all our thanks. We will need to change some things and improve some things to guarantee that we follow the rules of incorporation, but everything we need to do will make the church better in how it is operated.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the C.U.C. at their Annual Meeting, please let someone on the board know because we need to register our delegates before April first. It will be held in Toronto but you can also attend on-line. This year it will be a shorter A.G.M. but there are motions to vote on which you can find on the web and attend a meeting On Feb 17th at the church which Bill Baylis will chair as he is our liaison to the C.U.C.

Rev. Rod's installation will be a celebration that we are looking forward to and will be held in the early spring.

I want to thank the people of this congregation for their wonderful support of this church, both financial and with all the work you do. As late as December we were looking at about an \$8000 budget deficit, but for a lot of reasons, mainly because of increased giving, we ended the year with about a two thousand dollar surplus. What a great job by all of you and shows how important the church is to all of us.

February 24th will be Olinda's Annual Meeting, after the service, so please plan to attend. Pick up your Annual report two weeks prior to the meeting and read what the committees of the church have been doing this year, and then come to the meeting and voice your opinion.

John Upcott

President

Important Dates

Feb. 10 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

Feb. 10 Noon Sunday Services Committee Meeting

Feb. 13 10 AM Membership Committee Meeting

Feb. 14 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting

Feb. 17 11:45 AM Meeting on CUC Motions

Feb. 17 12:15 PM Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Feb. 20 11 AM Soup Lunch Fundraiser

Feb. 24 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

Feb. 24 Noon Annual Congregational Meeting

Feb. 26 March Newsletter Reports Due

Olinda Reads Recommendation

So You Want to Talk about Race

by ljeoma Oluo

Seal Press, 2018, Nonfiction

In So You Want to Talk About Race, Editor at Large of The Establishment, Ijeoma Oluo, offers a contemporary, accessible take on the racial landscape in America, addressing head-on such issues as privilege, police brutality, intersectionality, micro-aggressions, the Black Lives Matter movement and the "N" word. Perfectly positioned to bridge the gap between people of colour and white Americans struggling with race complexities, Oluo answers the questions readers don't dare ask and explains the concepts that continue to elude everyday Americans. Oluo is an exceptional writer with a rare ability to be straightforward, funny, and effective in her coverage of sensitive, hyper-charged issues in America.

Financial Report

It appears that our January 16, 2019, Soup Luncheon was a success with 17 enjoying the delicious soups by Chef Toni Janik. \$270 was raised towards this year's aUUction.

We hope to repeat the experience on Wednesday February 20 with a 10 a.m. start for those who wish to play scrabble or cards. Lunch will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. followed by conversation, visiting with Rev. Rod or more games. Suggested donation is \$15 per person.

The Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Coffee Hour Room.

At this time we are still awaiting a few bank reports so the annual finance report can be compiled. Watch out for the completed 2018 Annual Report.

Blessings

Elaine Stevenson, Finance Trustee





THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Caring Committee Report

Even though February is the shortest month of the year, sometimes it seems like the longest. Sending get well thoughts to all congregants who has been battling colds and flu symptoms.

Good to see Gord Taylor in church after his surgery. A Valentine hello to all our shut-ins. With being such a cold month, many people find it difficult to get out, therefore please remember them with a visit or phone call.

As in every other month in every other year, the best thing to hold on to in this world is each other.

Submitted by Linda Upcott

Note From The Treasurer

On January 1, 2019 the church became incorporated with the help of the committee including Laurie Hylton and Helen Moore, advisor Peter LeClair, a paralegal and Margaret Kohr, a lawyer and UU friend of Reverend Fran Dearman, who offered to provide advice *pro bono*. There are still tasks to complete including transferring ownership of the church and parking lot from the Board of Trustees to the incorporated church. We will learn more about what it means to be incorporated.

As a result of generous donors, fundraising events and judicious spending by committee chairs, we have ended the year with a surplus of \$2,647. Thank you for your gifts of money and service.

Respectfully submitted:

Helen Moore

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

Leona Crowder

Linda Upcott

Membership Committee Report

If you attended the church budget meeting in December, you may recall there was a question posed as to whether we had considered using Facebook ads to help publicize our church. This suggestion was discussed at our January 9th membership meeting and membership committee members agreed it was a tool worthwhile trying. A motion was submitted to the Board on January 10th for the usage of Facebook ads and it was passed with minor adjustments in wording. We now have approval for the manager or co-manager of our church Facebook to create 4-6 sponsored regional ads/year at a time chosen by the ad developer. Privacy practices must be followed in regards to pictures being posted or personal opinions being expressed being mindful of the privacy practices of the church. The minister must give approval for ads being considered for posting. It will be interesting to see if this mode of publicity is effective.

This coming term will be full of activities through until summer. Thank you to Toni and Elaine for providing a wonderful soup luncheon on Jan. 16th which was well attended and raised \$270 for the church. The next fellowship/ fundraiser luncheon to enjoy will be on February 20th hosted again by Toni and Elaine. It won't be long before the Mardi-Gras-themed Dinner for 8+ will take place on March 2nd. The Sign –up sheet and more information available on the board in the coffee room at church. With the installation service for Rev. Rod coming up this spring as well as another luncheon, International Dinner, church AUUction, church BBQ and church picnic, we can be sure there will be good opportunities to socialize and celebrate. If anyone is interested in hosting a Dinner for 8 or less, please let me know and I can suggest a suitable date that is agreeable with you and doesn't conflict with a church event.

Soon you will be receiving your Annual Congregational Meeting Report with much more information. If you have any suggestions or concerns for the Membership committee please let me know or one of the members, who are Helen Moore, Bobbye Baylis and Toni Janik.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Lyons Trustee Membership/ Publicity

