

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 January, 2019

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Jan. 6	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Epiphany. Revelation can come in small packages.</i>	Lorie Lyons
Jan. 13	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Little Princes. Stories about the magic of childhood speak to the challenging contradictions of idealized innocence and unexpected wisdom.</i>	Toni Janik
Jan. 20	Bobbye Baylis	<i>The Periodic Table: a Study in One of the Ways Science Progresses.</i>	Baylis-Stone Duet
Jan. 27	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Adulting. The world of responsibility can seem daunting and brings up the question... what does it mean to grow up?</i>	Lorie Lyons
Feb. 3	Rev. Rosalind Mariconda	<i>Patterns in our primary relationships: awareness, practices and shifts.</i>	Toni Janik



Soup Luncheon

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

11 am — 1:30 pm; Games at 10 am

Menu: Soups (French Onion, Cream of Potato, Beef Barley & Italian Wedding), buns and dessert

Suggested donation: \$15

Hosted by Toni Janik and Elaine Stevenson

Please sign up to attend!

Clergy Connection

As the holiday season wraps up, we take our first steps into 2019. It was an eventful December at Olinda, and some of you may have also had busy times with friends or family, perhaps even some travel. I was able to spend a few days in Toronto, visiting Sarah's parents, as well as London, Ontario, where I lived several years, and visited my dad and step-mother. This included a chance to visit the Unitarian Fellowship of London, which I also represent on the Board of the Canadian Unitarian Council. In the larger community, Sarah and I had a chance to contribute to the holiday spirit by singing with the South Point Ukulele Group (SPUG) at The Bank Theatre.

Here at the church, I was pleased to be part of the team decorating our Christmas tree, which we're keeping around until Epiphany on January 6. I was also glad to see so many of you while sharing a meal during our Turkey Potluck on December 9. The Christmas Eve Service on December 24 also allowed me to meet more of your families and visitors from outside the county!

December is also a time when some of us remember those we are missing at this time of year, and I was able to attend the **Erie Shores HealthCare Lights of Life** service on December 2, as well as **The Hospice memorial service** at the Portuguese Club on December 9.

I was very pleased that we got to know Greg Wiens a little better, as well as his work with **The Bridge Youth Resource Centre**. I had met him before through Leamington Ministerial, and I think he had a chance to connect more deeply with us at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda while he worked with John on one of our services. I personally had the opportunity to tour *The Bridge* facilities and was very impressed, especially because they offer volunteer opportunities and other ways to contribute to our larger community.

This new year brings a new chapter to our church, as we officially come into **incorporation**, thanks to ongoing efforts by the Board and other leadership at Olinda, as well as collaboration with other Unitarian Universalist neighbours! This move will bring some governance and legal clarity to our work, helping us to carry it out as responsibly as possible.

At the invitation of the Sunday Services Committee, we have also made some adjustments to how we invite sharing during Joys & Sorrows. There is a deeper discussion around these in the article *Honouring our Lives' Landmarks*.

This month we are paying special attention to religious education and faith formation, along with some exploration of the challenges and opportunities that our spiritual communities face in nurturing lifespan learning that inspires all ages. I look forward to continuing this work with you!

Warm regards,
--Rev. Rod

From The Board

I hope all had a wonderful holiday, did not eat too much and stayed healthy throughout the season.

This is the start of a very interesting year. Rev. Rod has settled in and has been welcomed by the congregation and I am sure he feels much more comfortable in his role with the church; there is a lot to look forward to.

If you do New Year's Resolutions I hope they all come true for you, but it is not something I do. While every year, at the start, comes with the thought of renewed hope for a better year, it seems to me that every year has good things that happen. But also every year brings its problems and challenges. This thinking is not really earth shaking because we all know that is just what happens, but please do not let me discourage your excitement.

On a more serious note we all have passions in life and things we believe everyone agrees with, but when it comes to politics or other world happenings some may have different views to ours. Rev. Rod has introduced a slightly different way of doing the Joys and Sorrows portion of our service. I totally agree that we need to make time to share with each other the events and emotions that we feel, but when it comes to world events that we have no control over or cannot do anything about at the time, perhaps it may be better to bring those up at coffee hour or at the social responsibility committee meeting. We want to attract new people and we need to make them feel comfortable when they attend.

Bill Baylis has agreed to be our liaison to the C.U.C. It gives the C.U.C. a specific person to contact and should make communication with them and they with us better. Thanks, Bill.

Just a reminder that the Annual Reports are being collected at this time and the date for Olinda's Annual Meeting will be February 24th 2019.

I do hope that 2019 will be a great year for all of you and know that the church will still be here in 2020.

John Upcott

President

Important Dates

Jan. 9 10 am
Membership/Publicity
Committee Meeting

Jan. 10 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Jan. 13 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

Jan. 13 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

Jan. 13
Annual Reports Due

Jan. 16 11 am
Soup Lunch Fundraiser

Jan. 20 Noon
Social Responsibility
Committee Meeting

Jan. 22
February Newsletter Reports
due

Jan. 27 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

Feb. 10 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

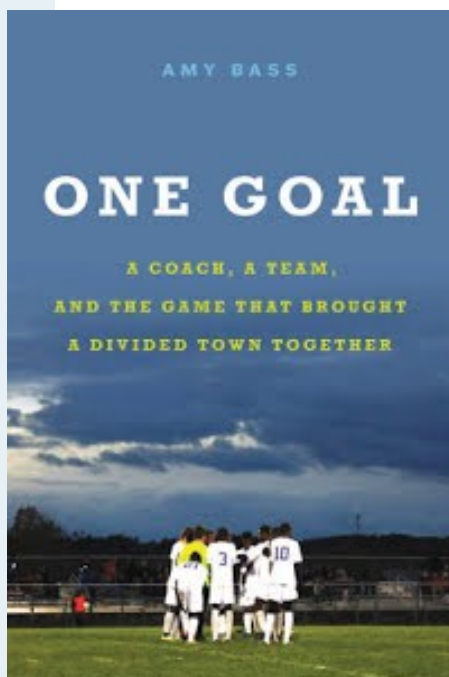
Olinda Reads Recommendation

One Goal: A Coach, a Team, and the Game That Brought a Divided Town Together

by Amy Bass

Hachette Books, 2018. Nonfiction.

When thousands of Somali refugees resettled in Lewiston, Maine, a struggling, overwhelmingly white town, longtime residents grew uneasy. Then the mayor wrote a letter asking Somalis to stop coming, which became a national story. While scandal threatened to subsume the town, its high school's soccer coach integrated Somali kids onto his team, and their passion began to heal old wounds. Taking readers behind the tumult of this controversial team—and onto the pitch where the teammates vied to become state champions and achieved a vital sense of understanding—*One Goal* is a timely story about overcoming the prejudices that divide us.



Financial Report

I am very thankful for the 29 voting members that attended the Congregational Budget Meeting on December 2. I personally thank President John Upcott for allowing me to present the 2019 budget for the membership's approval.

After your confidence in approving the ~\$28,300 deficit budget for 2018, it was my honour to report that we were on track to finish the year with only ~\$7603 deficit but I challenged those present to prove me incorrect and finish 2018 in the black. Treasurer Helen Moore and myself will be sitting down with the final 2018 figures in the coming weeks but I feel confident that you rose to the challenge and completed the year strong.

With this in mind, I appreciated the affirmative vote that the members gave to the 2019 proposed budget with a ~\$6900 deficit. We will still have two big projects: incorporation and the installation of Rev. Rod as our called minister.

We have the mid-week luncheons coming up Jan 16, Feb 20 and TBA in March with good intentions of offsetting this deficit. Last year's luncheons and bakeless bake sale were a great way to decrease our proposed deficit along with frugal committees and dedicated volunteers doing multiple jobs. My appreciation to all with whatever they helped with.

Caring Committee Report

Welcome January. New month, new chapter and new wishes.

The committee has been busy with delivering Christmas cookie boxes, and visiting the shut-ins. Leona and I had a pleasant visit with Jim Reid one afternoon; he seemed very talkative and easy to visit with. Leona then visited with Buster and Carabel and did a delivery while I visited with Evelyn Dresser and reminisced.

The Caring Committee had a working lunch with Rev. Rod to review our terms of reference, and we then completed our day with a visit with Marion Thompson at Erie Glen and Tina Bell at the Sun-parlor Home. We missed Walter Sinclair, who was recovering from surgery and doing okay. June Blacker had a welcoming visit with Don and Sylvia Dozert, and Laurie Stone continues to look in on Emil and Eunice Buhne. A cheery hello to Evelyn Fisher; hope to see you in church soon.

May the month give you courage, strength, confidence, and inner peace. May every day in January be filled with hope, love, sunshine, and energy. Let there be joy, fun, and laughter.

Submitted by Linda Upcott

Social Responsibility Committee Report

At the December meeting, the committee discussed several possible activities to undertake in 2019:

- Annual International Dinner will be on March 24, 2019. The topic being considered is the Opioid Crisis and possible speakers for that Sunday were proposed.
- Films that could be shown after church: Logistics of cost-effective download or streaming are being studied.
- Rev. Rod has been looking into organizing Naloxone training at the church, something he did in Ottawa. Any person can go to a pharmacy with an OHIP card and get a Naloxone kit, but a workshop would be better.
- Palm oil production is destroying vast tracts of tropical forest and removing rare animal habitat. We are considering taking this on as an Olinda issue. We will all read up on this and think about how we might be active in increasing awareness.

Submitted by Bobbye Baylis
Secretary, Social Responsibility Committee

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

Leona Crowder

Linda Upcott

Honouring Our Lives' Landmarks

Over the past few weeks, you may have noticed that the invitation to share our Joys & Sorrows during the service has some new words. As always, we are still invited to share significant parts of our lives in the company of our community – personal landmarks in our lives, such as birthdays, visits from friends, illnesses, or deaths of loved ones. These are things in our personal lives that are cause for celebration, or in which we'd appreciate support from our community.

We now also have a portion beforehand where some current events, and their impact, are acknowledged from the pulpit, recognizing that what touches one affects us all. Of course, witness to world events and political matters are important to our faith community – they are part of our covenant to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of which we are all part, as well as the free and responsible search for truth, and our commitment to democratic processes. This work has a place at our church.

These are also complicated matters – with opinions and viewpoints that are often a matter of debate. It can be frustrating to hear someone else's opinion without the opportunity to reply, and potential unscripted debates during a service can be unwelcoming to newcomers. For this reason, we are keeping the deeper conversations about world events, politics, and social advocacy, to other portions of the service – such as the sermon or presentation – or in other opportunities of congregational involvement, such as the Social Responsibility Committee, Board meetings, or other groups.

We'll continue to acknowledge current events from the pulpit during our worship services, while also honouring personal sharing during Joys & Sorrows. Since the events in our own lives – and our feelings about them – are not up for debate, we acknowledge them in community. And your intentional participation in this ritual – by sharing of your lives or witnessing to others' – nourishes our community spirit.

Warm regards,
Rev. Rod

Membership Committee Report

Best wishes to everyone for 2019! Our busiest and most joyous of holidays for most of us is behind us now. Once again we are anticipating more events to enjoy and more work to be done.

The ever popular soup luncheons are returning on January 16th and February 20th which will be hosted by Elaine Stevenson and Toni Janik. This is a great opportunity for fellowship and to support the church with a nominal donation suggested for the meal. We are so grateful to Elaine and Toni for providing this opportunity to meet in a very comfortable, relaxed setting. More details about the luncheons can be found in the newsletter so no one can miss it.

Keep your calendars open for March 2nd when Karen and Stuart Miller will be hosting a Fat Saturday Dinner for 8+. Karen is excited about her planned Cajun Mardi Gras theme for this gathering and she has made it clear to me that “the more the merrier!”

Thank you to the members of the 2018 Membership Committee (Bobbye, Helen, and Toni) for your ideas, contributions and dedication. We also welcomed Rev. Rod to our group this past September and we appreciate his suggestions. We are all looking forward to another year of service to the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Lyons
Trustee

Note from the Treasurer

As a result of much generosity it appears from a preliminary review that the deficit has been changed to a slight surplus.

Thanks for all your donations.

Helen Moore





Happy New Year 2019