

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, 2019

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
June 2	Rev. Rod Emilio Solano-Quesnel	<i>A Flower With Your Name on It</i> – When Norbert Čapek first offered a Flower Celebration in what is today Czechia, he wanted a ritual in which everyone would feel included – and the practice of radical inclusion can begin with a flower freely given and freely received.	Baylis-Stone Trio with Karen Andersen Miller
June 9	Rev. Rod Emilio Solano-Quesnel	<i>In Good Company</i> - Being in community invites us to share of ourselves in a way that we may be our best selves. It is also a reminder to each of us that we matter to each other. And we can practice this as we formally welcoming new members to our church.	Lorie Lyons
June 16	Rev. Rod Emilio Solano-Quesnel	<i>Ineffable</i> - The time that we spend together has an effect on us that can be difficult to describe. And yet it is one of those things we easily miss when it's not there. As our program year winds down, we contemplate the different ways we can be with each other.	Toni Janik with Karen & Bill
June 23	Kim DeYong	<i>An Injustice Not to Try</i> – Entering politics can be critical for correcting societal wrongs and fighting injustice, but it is also daunting. Politics can be nasty, intimidating, and unfair. Yet as Howard Pawley made clear, to let self-doubt stymie positive action would itself be an injustice to our potential good works.	Baylis-Stone duo
June 30	Dr. Ray Hobbs	<i>On Geriatrics and Nutrition</i>	Lorie Lyons
July 21	Ray Stone	TBA	Lorie Lyons
Aug. 18	Helen Moore	TBA	Baylis duo
Sept. 8	Rev. Rod Emilio Solano-Quesnel	<i>Welcome Back & Water Ceremony</i>	Toni Janik

Clergy Connection

I was very glad to see so many of you at the Bakeless Bakesale on May 18 – the church looked and felt very full. Not only was it full with people, but also full of great energy and conviviality! I always find it very invigorating to spend time both with familiar people, as well as occasional guests.

Another gathering that I found enriching was with my colleagues, the UU Ministers of Canada (UUMoC) in Calgary, from **April 29-May 4**, where we explored ways to strengthen our ministry. I followed this by meeting with the Board of the Canadian Unitarian Council in Toronto from **May 9-12**, where I saw our delegates Laurie and Ray Stone, during the Annual General Meeting on May 11.

Upon my return, I was sad to hear the news that our friend **Jim Reid** died in the early morning of May 12. I have met with Jim's family and we are planning a memorial service and celebration of life at our church on **Saturday, June 29, at noon**. You are all invited to come as we remember the special times we shared with Jim.

As we close off the program year, we still have several special gatherings. Our **Flower Celebration** is set for **June 2**, featuring a tradition of radical inclusion started by Czech Unitarian Norbert Čapek – the theme is *a flower with your name on it*. You are invited to bring a flower to offer communally – and be ready to walk away with an entirely different flower, offered by someone else in our community.

And **June 9** is also a special day for continuing gathering and celebration. We will formally welcome **new members** to our church during the morning service. Afterwards, we can continue the celebration at our **annual Picnic** after the service, hosted by Linda and John Upcott (or at the church, if the weather tells us!). And while you're already in the area, we can then proceed to the **Peace Party** at Seacliff Park in Leamington at 3:30pm, which is hosted by the interfaith group Leamington Ministerial, giving us the opportunity to socialize with many of our neighbours from other faith traditions.

A new addition to our church life we can look forward to in September is a **Committee on Shared Ministry (CoSM)** comprising Steve Brennan, Carol Hylton, Mariette Preyde, and me. We've already met on May 18 and will meet again on June 22, as we continue to clarify the CoSM's mandate and structure.

This has been a very exciting year for us – and it's not over yet! Our church continues gathering during the summer, even if it's with a different pace and focus, inviting time and space for a different set of connections, and perhaps some opportunities for renewal. I look forward to hearing your stories in September!

Warm regards,
--Rod

From The Board

Last month the congregation lost one of its members, James Reid, who was a real gentleman in every sense of the word. He treated everyone that he met with respect and kindness and I never heard him raise his voice to anyone. He was what I call “Good People” and I was honoured to consider him a friend. I understand that a Memorial Service will be held in the church, on June 29.

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter before summer break. The time flies by, and also the weather so far has not cooperated in making us think of warm and lazy summer days. It was nice to have John and Sharon van Abbema visit us during the busy month of May and share the B.B.Q. It is good to see they are doing well on the east coast.

Sue Markham has completed her Lay Chaplain training and there will be a congregational vote on June 16th to accept her. Joyse Gilbert, who has done a great job for us, will continue in her role until her term is up in November. We do need to have two Lay Chaplains on call when our minister is away so if this is something that might interest you please let me or Rev. Rod know.

The church picnic will be held June 9th at the Upcott farm , if the weather is good or at the church if the weather looks threatening. The Peace Picnic will be held at Seacliff Park the same day at 3:30 in the afternoon so it will be possible to attend both, and we recommend doing that. We need to support events that celebrate the diversity of our population.

Please try to attend the two services during the summer. The service leaders, speakers and musicians all work hard to make these services enjoyable so please plan to attend. The church expenses still continue during the summer so these services are a good time to keep up your pledge.

The Committee on Shared Ministry has had its first meeting and the church is alive and well entering the summer break and we will all return in September ready to start back with regular services and ready to make this church better. I hope you all have a stress-free and healthy summer.

John Upcott
President

Important Dates

June 2 Noon
Social Responsibility Meeting

June 9 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal

June 9 Noon
Annual Picnic

June 9 3:30 pm
Peace Picnic at Seacliff Park

June 13 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

June 16 Noon
Congregational Meeting on
Lay Chaplain

June 23 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

June 29 Noon
Memorial Service & Celebration
of Life for Jim Reid

Sept. 2
September Newsletter
Reports Due

Finance Committee Report

Our annual aUUction was held on Saturday, April 27, in the afternoon, preceded by a Chili Luncheon. There was a record turnout for the luncheon and even more folks (almost 50) attended the aUUction. The bidding was enthusiastic, especially for the ever-popular home-baked food items. How we love to eat each others' baking and canning! We also appreciate each others' art: June Blacker's paintings alone brought in \$231. We all had a lot of fun. People are still signing up for summer and fall events, but the total income from the aUUction already totals \$4,566.17. This plus the over \$1000 in the aUUction Special Fund and the \$640 raised during the two Soup Luncheons means we can start thinking about the next major improvement we should make to our heritage building. Suggestions are welcome!

The last major fundraising event of the year, the Barbecue and Bakeless Bake Sale, was held on Saturday, May 19, hosted by John and Linda Upcott. We had a record turnout in spite of (or maybe because of) the rather dreary weather. It was a special treat that we were joined by John and Sharon van Abbema, presently residing in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Many, many thanks to John and Linda for hosting the event as well as inviting John and Sharon to visit. Further thanks are due to the several helpers, including but not limited to Mariette, Elaine, and the Brennans (a really yummy fruit salad!) This event brought in \$500 for the meal and \$650 for the Bakeless Bake Sale, the proceeds going to the Operating Fund.

One project for this committee for next fall is to go through our various financial activities and make sure we are in compliance with the fact that we are now incorporated. This will be undertaken by a sub-committee. Please let me know if you are interested in being on this sub-committee.

Please check the two remaining event sign-up sheets in the Tranquility Room and consider whether you can attend. There are plenty of spaces available.

Have a great summer!

Bobbye Baylis, Finance Trustee

Congregational Meeting

Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda
Sunday, June 16, 2019, at noon

We will be voting on our new Lay Chaplain

Caring Committee Report

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we're here we should dance.

Sincere sympathies are extended to the family of James Reid on his passing. For those that knew him, he had served on many church committees and will be missed. A celebration of life is planned for June 29th at noon at the church.

Had a lovely conversation with Marion Thompson over the telephone and she is managing well. A cheery hello is extended to Tina Bell along with Walter Sinclair wishing them the best. Hoping all is well with Emil and Eunice Buhne, Don and Sylvia Dotzert, Evelyn Dresser and Laverne Hicks.

This is the last report before the summer break. Therefore on behalf of the caring committee, I would like to wish everyone a healthy and safe summer and a Happy Father's Day to all our dads in this month of June.

Submitted by Linda Upcott



What Is A Dad?

A Dad is a person
Who is loving and kind,
And often he knows
What you have on your mind.

He's someone who listens,
suggests, and defends
A dad can be one
of your very best friends;

He's proud of your triumphs,
but when things go wrong,
A dad can be patient
and helpful and strong.

In all that you do,
Dad, love plays a part.
There's always a place for it
deep in your heart

And each year that passes,
You're even more glad,
More grateful and proud
just to call him your dad;

Thank you Dad...
for listening and caring,
for giving and sharing,
but, especially, for just being
you;

Author Unknown

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

Leona Crowder

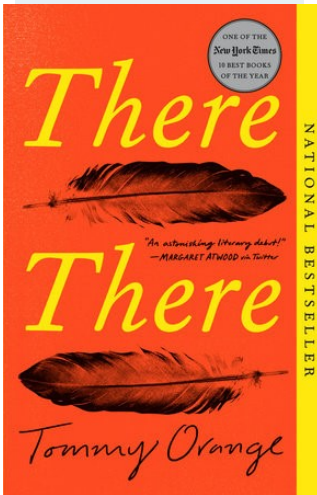
Linda Upcott

Olinda Reads Recommendation

[There There](#)

by Tommy Orange

(Knopf, 2018). Fiction



Tommy Orange's "groundbreaking, extraordinary" (*The New York Times*) *There There* is the story of twelve unforgettable characters, Urban Indians living in Oakland, California, who converge and collide on one fateful day. As we learn the reasons that each person is attending the Big Oakland Powwow, some generous, some fearful, some joyful, some violent, momentum builds toward a shocking yet inevitable conclusion that changes everything.

Jacquie Red Feather is newly sober and trying to make it back to the family she left behind in shame. Dene Oxendene is pulling his life back together after his uncle's death and has come to work at the powwow to honour his uncle's memory. Opal Viola Victoria Bear Shield has come to watch her nephew Orvil, who has taught himself traditional Indian dance through YouTube videos and will perform in public for the very first time. There will be glorious communion and a spectacle of sacred tradition and pageantry. And there will be sacrifice, and heroism, and loss. "*There There*" is a wondrous and shattering portrait of an America few of us have ever seen.

Note: The Editors thank Karen Miller for selecting the books that have appeared in this column since November, 2018.

UU Olinda Annual Picnic

Sunday, June 9

Hosted by Linda and John Upcott

In good weather, the picnic will be at the Upcott farm. If it rains it will be at the church. Please bring a dish to share if you can. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Tables will be available but if you want to bring a chair you can and if you do not wish to use paper plates please bring your own place setting and silverware.

The Peace Picnic in Leamington is the same day but does not start until 3:30 so it will be possible to attend both.

Olinda Lifespan Learning

In the last few months, the committee has had a couple of meetings to explore and decide on concepts/ action for our youth.

There has been much enthusiasm from Stuart, Sarah, Laurie and myself to provide relevant topics that augment the points that Rev. Rod has been presenting during services.

Please be welcome to add any of your suggestions to the design of any lesson or direction you would like to see us take. Luckily, we have experienced the necessity to be flexible, adjusting our lessons to even the smallest number of children, as typically one will regularly attend.

For Earth Day a generous amount of money was collected for Bradley and me to partake in some form of earth-centred positive action, and so far we have arrived at a few ideas that involve picking up refuse by the side of the Olinda Church and the side road and approaching ERCA to see if there are trees we could purchase and plant. Additionally, Bradley and I would like to weed the church gardens if that is agreeable to other participating congregants. We have not finalized anything yet as I am still investigating.

Rev. Rod had asked if people would be willing to take a Vulnerable Sector Clearance form to facilitate the possibility that any congregant could offer even the smallest amount of assistance with Lifespan Learning. It seems many of you did take a form allowing your participation in valuable Intergenerational Educational opportunities. This is most appreciated by all of us on the committee.

The last piece of information is to remind the congregation of the Church Picnic followed by the Peace Picnic on June 9th at Seacliff Park. We are hoping to play bocci ball with all who are interested and I am thinking of a couple of games that require initiative and cooperation. Let's see what I come up with!

Warmly,

Sue Markham, *Lifespan Learning Trustee*

Membership Committee Report

I did not submit a report for the May newsletter so at this time I would like to express how wonderful the April 14th installation service was for Rev. Rod and our shared ministry. It was a very memorable service that was both heart-warming and spiritual. I'm sure Rev. Rod's parents felt very proud on this occasion and Sarah's parents were grateful to experience this expression of devotion of the UU Church of Olinda. Despite being a rainy day, the bouquets of spring flowers, delicious food served and friendly congregation helped to make it a very joyful occasion. Thank you to all who helped make this day a success.

The articles in the Southpoint Sun and The Kingsville Reporter about the installation service and welcoming Rev. Rod were more complete than I had expected and the photos taken were very good. It was very gracious on their part to take the time and effort to include the news to the extent they did so a thank you note was sent to both community papers. This was the perfect opportunity to advertise our church while celebrating our new ministry.

The May Barbecue and Bakeless Bake Sale was well attended and helped to raise funds in addition to providing fellowship for all, including friends and members who may have difficulty attending a church service. Besides the chief barbecuer, John Upcott, several others contributed to making this an event worthwhile repeating every spring. We really appreciate the work done in preparing food, moving and setting up tables and cleaning up afterwards.

This past week I did some garden work in the front of the church as requested at the end of last year and approved by the Board. The main goal was to make the gardens easier to maintain so some plants were replaced by new ones, more garden fabric was put down then mulch was spread over much of the area. It is not completely done since I have to wait for the daffodils to die back but it should be finished by the end of June. I will be adding a few plants at the back of the church near the Ginkgo Biloba tree by making a small crescent focal point garden. It is becoming a much nicer space to relax and enjoy with the added benefit of attracting more birds and butterflies.

On a sad note, we mourn the loss of our long-time member, Jim Reid, who passed away this month after a long illness. He will be remembered for being such a gentleman and kind, soft spoken person. His memorial service will be at the church on June 29th

Respectfully submitted,
Lorie Lyons, *Trustee Membership/Publicity*