

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

Sunday Services 10:30 am November 2020



Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Nov. 1	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>R.I.P. - Rest In Power</i> As we honour those who have gone before us around the Days of the Dead, we recall the power that they can have even after death.	Toni Janik
Nov. 8	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Founded on the Faith - 140th Anniversary</i> Before the cornerstone was laid for our building, our church was here. Its foundations come from faith in love without exceptions. We are here, present, as a church in celebration, commemoration, and contemplation, revering the past with enduring faith in the dawning future.	Lorie Lyons
Nov. 15 1 pm	CUC National Service	<i>Sustaining Our Light</i> We have another opportunity to join Unitarian Universalists across the country, finding sustenance with each other, and sustaining the light together.	CUC
Nov. 22	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>TFW (That Feeling When...)</i> We all have oddly specific feelings when something strange happens. And as odd as these may feel, we can also relate to them - because they are surprisingly normal when facing the unexpected.	Baylis/ Stone Trio
Nov. 29	Jane Innerd	<i>Reflections on Being a Universalist</i>	Toni Janik
Dec. 6	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Power Dynamic Imbalance</i> appears in many different forms... some of these are blatant, but others may not be so apparent, depending on which side of the equation you might be on.	Toni Janik

*There will be no services at the church until further notice due to COVID-19. Services will be available at the usual time via Zoom. You will receive notifications by email and/or telephone. The website, uuOlinda.org, will be kept up-to-date regarding services and meetings. Rev. Rod is publishing his reflections on the website. You can access them by going to UUOlinda.org and clicking on the appropriate Recent Post (upper right-hand corner.) His reflections are also being mailed to those who prefer to read printed materials.

From The Board

COVID-19 = CHANGE: an equation that needs no explanation, no interpretation - an equation that did not exist eight months ago!

It is an equation however that each of us now have our own story about, our own experience with and our ongoing personal journey we live into each day. It is one that our church community has lived with for the last seven months and continues to integrate into the ongoing path Olinda takes - especially while celebrating our 140th year of existence.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Rev Rod, all of the members of the Board, and all Church Committee Chairpersons for their leadership, passion and visioning around the creation of the unique and varied ways being used to serve and grow our membership. I have been witness to the current Board of Trustees working diligently in navigating the continuous impacts that COVID presents to us, planning Olinda's operations into the next 12 months and beyond.

In reading the reports within this newsletter you will glean some awareness of main items the church is currently addressing. I readily acknowledge that so much more is happening beyond and beneath the pages of this newsletter. I particularly draw your attention to the areas of Adult Religious Education, the Work of the Bylaw Committee, and the creativity of the Sunday Services Committee as examples of the church's continuous growth and expansion during this time of pandemic enforced restraint.

I also share with you both an awareness and an invitation. The AWARENESS: the Board elections are fast approaching and the Nomination Committee will soon be searching for and open to names of those of you who may be interested in becoming involved on the Board level. The INVITATION: I invite you to begin now to search within yourself to see if you are called to step into this unique and powerful way of serving Olinda. Is now your time?

Wishing you all the best as we continue to celebrate all those who walked this path before us – to whom we owe our gratitude for their strong belief and actions that created the space we now call our own – the space that for 140 years was called and that we continue to call Olinda.

Respectfully,

Stephen Brennan, President

Clergy Connection

With our **140th Anniversary service on Nov. 8**, we formally begin a year-long celebration, commemoration, and contemplation about the past, present, and future of our church. And this task includes reflection on how we relate and connect with each other – historically and in times to come. One way we do that is by considering the meaning of **covenant** and how it is central to our tradition, which continues to be one of our themes this year.

One way we've nurtured our connections this fall season, was in looking at our roots as we joined the international online service celebrating 250 years of Universalism in North America on October 4. We have another opportunity for wider connection with another **Canada-wide Sunday Service on Nov. 15 at 1PM**. There is also a Friday Regional Gathering on Nov. 14. Both of these are **free of charge**.

You can also attend **Saturday workshops on Nov. 14**, for which there is a sliding scale from \$20-\$100 – the **deadline** to register for that is **Nov. 10**. I will be sending a separate link where you can register.

At our Church, our Lifespan and Religious Education Committee is offering a three-week **Adult RE** program called *What Matters Now*, on **Wednesdays Nov. 11, 18, and 25 at 7PM**, with a possible extension into the first two weeks of December. This will be a time to explore some deeper questions in community and delve into the practice of covenant. All sessions will be run virtually. You can let me or Laurie Stone know if you are interested, by Nov. 6.

I attended the fall **Canadian Unitarian Council Board Retreat** from **Sept. 30-Oct. 4**, where we had extensive conversations on how the CUC can best serve our congregations Canada-wide, with a particular look at the context of 2020. One thing that has already been very visible is the number of virtual events in which we're taking part. Among these was an afternoon workshop on **Congregational Conflict Levels & Intervention Strategies** on **Oct. 17**, which I attended, along with two other Board members.

Starting on **October 21**, I will be participating in **Beloved Conversations**, an anti-racism program hosted by Meadville Lombard Theological School. I will be joined virtually by several Canadian UU ministers. Many on the CUC Board are also participating. This program spans over **four months**, including a monthly session, as well as some group conversations.

I am also set to participate in this year's **Carters Church and Charity Law Seminar** on **Nov. 5**. This is a good practice in any year, but it's particularly useful on a year like this one, as we take another look at our bylaws, and as other organizational governance questions are coming up worldwide.

I look forward to seeing you at our Anniversary service, and the other opportunities for engagement this month!

In Solidarity,
--Rev. Rod

Important Dates

No in-person meetings are planned; all meetings noted below are virtual meetings, utilizing Zoom technology.

If that should change, a revised schedule will be published.

Oct. 28 10 am
Membership Committee Meeting

Nov. 8 Noon
Finance Comm. Meeting

Nov. 12 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Nov. 22 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

Nov. 24
November Newsletter Reports Due

Dec. 6 Noon
Congregational Budget Meeting

Dec. 20 Noon
General Congregational Meeting on By-Laws

From the By-Law Committee

When we were checking into what changes to the By-Laws would be needed to allow for electronic meetings, we also became aware of changes needed to comply with having incorporated the church. With the help of a lawyer friend of Rev. Fran Dearman, Margaret Kohr, we were directed to a website for federally incorporated non-governmental organizations (NGO'S.) This website includes a By-Law Builder that lists the items recommended to be in the By-Laws of such organizations. With Margaret's help we were able to narrow this list down to 43 items, many of which were already in our existing By-Laws, but many needed to be added.

The resulting proposed By-Laws contain most of the items in our present By-Laws. The additional material largely covers possible occurrences that we would not have ordinarily considered and other items that we would have considered too obvious to have warranted a by-law. **The only actual change is caused by the requirement by federal legislation to have the Membership elect a Board of Directors, specifying that term.** Furthermore, that Board is supposed, at its first meeting, to elect the officers and create committees. In order to comply with our present practice, we are having the Nominating Committee ask potential directors which office they would be willing to take. This information would be in their report as appearing in the Annual Report. So when the Members are voting for the individual directors, they know which office that person is willing to take on. Some of the positions available are, of course, chairs of committees. We decided to allow these chairs (except for Finance) to opt out of being a Director if they want. This would relieve them of having to attend all meetings but they would have no vote. This simply adds flexibility and this option may not actually be used. We shall see.

The process we are following has involved creating proposed By-Laws using the Ground Rules listed in the Newsletter. This draft was shown to the Board and a few other individuals, then modified per their suggestions. This draft has been submitted to the Board for further review. The by-laws as approved at the Nov. 12 Board meeting will be distributed to the Members for their comments, with the hope that they can be approved at a Congregational Meeting on Dec. 20, allowing for a full month of interaction with the Members. If it transpires that more time is needed, this approval date can be delayed; Margaret Kohr has assured us that our present By-Laws are adequate for a newly incorporated NGO. But the sooner we can take care of this requirement, the better, particularly as the new By-Laws allow electronic meetings, something that was not even in our long-term plans back in 2018, the date of our last amendment!

Bobbye Baylis

Ground Rules for Proposed By-Laws

In order to conform to the requirements of Incorporation, our By-Laws need to contain elements in the Model By-Laws for Non-Profit Corporations. The committee doing the revision (Steve Brennan, Helen Moore, and Bobbye Baylis) is adhering to the following ground rules:

- The new By-Laws must contain the individual items as set out in the model by-laws for federally incorporated non-profits, at least those items recommended by Margaret Kohr, the lawyer who had also helped Toronto First UU.
- They must conform to the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. For example, at the Annual Meeting the Members will elect Directors who will sit on a Board of Directors, as opposed to our present nomenclature: Board of Trustees, etc.
- All details in our present By-Laws (last amended in 2018) are included in the new By-Laws, except where change is required to conform to corporation rules.
- Nothing in the new By-Laws conflicts with other documents, such as Rod's Letter of Call or the package submitted to the Federal Department for Corporations.
- These By-Laws must be approved at a special meeting of the Members and also must be submitted to Corporations Canada Innovation, Science & Economic Development, Canada. If we amend them, the same process must be followed and will cost us \$200 each time. Hence, following the advice of Margaret Kohr, we have kept the By-Laws as general as possible, with some details moved to a Governance Document, which will not be as difficult to modify as needed.
- Because we wanted to include as much of the original By-Laws as possible, we did include details that we felt will not need to be changed at any time in the future, at least not soon.
- The committee felt that this was not the time for a complete re-write of the By-Laws. That would have required assembling the various committees and much discussion with a wider group of people, as was done when the present By-Laws were written in 1984 (last revision, 2018.) It did not seem feasible to do this without face-to-face meetings. **So these By-Laws are simply a combination of the model (which in some places is written in legalese), our previous By-Laws, and the incorporation documents.**
- We are checking with Margaret Kohr at each stage of the development of these By-Laws, so we can be assured that the end product will satisfy the government.

Special attention has been taken to assure that these revised By-Laws reflect our long-standing traditions, for which we have great respect.

General Congregational Meeting

Vote on the Proposed By-Laws

December 20, 2020

At noon following the Zoom Service



Christmas Family

The Board of Directors has approved our sponsoring one or more families from Children's Aid for gifts of clothing and toys at Christmas. Linda Upcott, along with John Upcott, has generously agreed to do the shopping. We have been assigned a 2 parent family with daughters aged 5 and 3 as well as a single mother with a 5 year old son and daughters aged 4 and 3. Each year gift cards for groceries from the family's store of choice are also given.

If you wish to make a contribution to purchase Christmas gifts for one of our families, please send a cheque or e-transfer your donation, being sure to indicate that it is for the Christmas families. For instructions on e-transfer, please call or email Bobbye Baylis or me.

You will be credited for the donation in your annual income tax receipt from the church.

Thank you, Helen Moore, Treasurer

Finance Trustee Report

Our 2020 Budget preparations are under way and the Finance Committee will be approving the Budget on November 8. This budget is always based on the actual expenses of the past year and on our best estimate of the expected income in 2021. Our expenses have been about the same as in the past; clearly utilities at the church are lower but they never were very high! Office expenses were higher due to mailing out sermons and newsletters, but email and Zoom do not cost us much. Thankfully you have still been very supportive with cheques and e-transfers in spite of not being able to meet at the church.

Early in November you will be receiving a Letter of Appeal, requesting that you fill out a pledge form for 2021. You might consider sending the information to Helen via email or giving her a call if you do not want to get the pledge form to a mail box.

Since we are still not close to being able to meet in person for services or events, we have started brainstorming about fundraisers that can be done "remotely." Your ideas are welcome!

Thank you for your support, Bobbye Baylis, Finance Trustee

Religious Education

Contacts for Children's and Young Peoples Programs

To register for Zoom Children's Programming on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am, contact
Mx Katharine Childs

Director of Religious Exploration, Unitarian Church of Montreal

Direction de l'exploration religieuse, Église unitarienne de Montréal

Chair, Canadian UU Religious Educators

(they/them/theirs)

kchilds.dre@gmail.com

To register for Zoom Children's Programming on Wednesday, contact

Seth Anderson-Matz (he/him/his)

Young Children's Program Coordinator

First Universalist Church of Minneapolis

seth@firstuniv.org

Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda Adult Religion Education

Insight to "What matters now" series:

2020 has been a stress-filled and surreal-feeling year for all of us.

What is normal continues to change adding to the anxiety.

Social, political events and COVID-19 present opportunities for us to

- Assess the impact of these events on ourselves, communities, and the world

- Provide support and fellowship with our members

- Build our church community

- Plan and commit to helping the larger community and world.

Each 90-minute session will include some facilitated small-group work and exercises that build upon the previous sessions. You are asked to make a commitment to attend all three sessions.

"What matters now" will be held on three subsequent Weds evenings

November 11, 2020	The Present Moment and Covenanting
November 18, 2020	Pre-existing social issues
November 25, 2020	Discussing the current situation and what commitments could we make individually and collectively

Additional sessions may be added in early December

TO PRE-REGISTER: Please email or call Rev. Rod or Laurie Stone

Membership and Publicity

The Membership Committee met on a sunny beautiful day September 23 outside at the church in the area near the memorial garden. We physically distanced ourselves, brought our own chairs, wore masks, etc. and found the getting together, socially and responsibly, was greatly enjoyed by our small group. We will see what the weather holds for us when we next meet on Wednesday October 28th.

Our membership committee has been busy getting ready for our church's 140th anniversary celebration on November 8th, 2020. It will be a virtual service of celebration and commemoration. The bookend celebration next September 19th (2021) will mark the 140th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone. The original cornerstone was laid on September 21, 1881 and is still in place today. Our UU Church of Olinda is the oldest church in Canada continuously used as a Universalist or Unitarian Universalist Church.

We are hoping that the celebration event planned for September 2021 will be an in-person celebration but in the meantime we believe that you will find all the celebrations and commemorations to be uplifting, fulfilling and truly honouring our past while we plan for the future of our church.

One of the celebrations for our 140th anniversary is the availability of owning your own copy of Louise Foulds' book *"Universalists in Ontario."* Our deepest thanks and gratitude to Jane Innerd for writing an updated history of our church covering the last twenty years entitled, *"The Little Church at the Crossroads: A Brief History of the First 120 Years of The Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda together with A History of the Years 2000 to 2020 In Celebration of the 140th Anniversary."* To order your copy of both publications please complete the order form found on the last page of this newsletter and send it to Helen Moore, Treasurer.

Toni Janik
Membership and Publicity Trustee

Caring Committee Report

This month, the maple trees before your window light up a room like a great lamp. In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those in October. Enjoy the scenery everyone.

We hope you are all keeping well and managing okay while you are staying safe at home. In these covid times, many families have challenges with numerous health issues, just know we are all here for your support.

A cheery hello to all our friends in retirement homes and nursing homes, or just at home.

Found a new possible welcome sign to consider, for when we meet face to face to remind us of all the new rules, which goes like this:

AVOID MEN: M-mouth

E-eyes

N-nose

INSTEAD,

FOLLOW WOMEN: W-wash your hands

O-obey social distancing

M-mask up

E-exercise and eat well

N-no unnecessary crowding

Stay Safe everyone!

Submitted by,
Linda Upcott

Caring Committee Members

Eunice Goyette

June Blacker

Leona Crowder

Linda Upcott

What Matters Now

An Adult RE Program

Wednesdays 7-8:30PM

November 11, 18, and 25

(possible extension into December)

*The Lifespan & Religious Education Committee
is offering a 3-week program
to connect, converse, and covenant together*

Contact Rev. Rod or Laurie Stone
by Nov. 6

Apple Crumble

It's fall once again and when it's cool outside, the leaves crunching under my feet, I begin to crave a warm traditional dessert that reminds me of home and family. Here's a time honoured recipe for Apple Crumble.

Optional Variation: Add 1/2cup raspberries to the apples. The berries provide a lovely pink hue to this dessert.

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Lightly grease a 9 x 9 baking dish with butter or margarine.

Ingredients: For Fruit Filling

4 cups sliced and peeled apples
1 Tablespoon Lemon Juice
1/2 cup sugar
2 Tablespoons Cornstarch

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Ingredients for Crumble Topping

1/2 cup all purpose flour  
3/4 cup sugar or sugar free substitute  
1/2 teaspoon Cinnamon  
Pinch salt  
1/2 cup rolled oats  
6 Tablespoons cold butter cut into pieces

Method: Combine Flour, 3/4 cup sugar, cinnamon, salt and oats. Cut in butter, keep cold until ready to use.

In a separate bowl: Combine apples, lemon juice, 1/2 cup sugar and cornstarch. Put fruit in bottom of baking dish, top with Crumble Topping, and bake for 1 hour.

Enjoy !

Toni Janik

### **Congregational Budget Meeting**

Vote on the 2021 Budget  
And 2020 Nominating Committee  
December 6, 2020  
At noon following the Zoom Service

## Celebrating our 140th Anniversary

*In Celebration of the UU Church of Olinda's 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the following two publications are now available for you to have your own copies.*

### Universalists in Ontario

by Louise Foulds

A Centennial Project of the Unitarian Universalist

Church of Olinda – 1980

Revised Second Edition for the

125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church - 2005

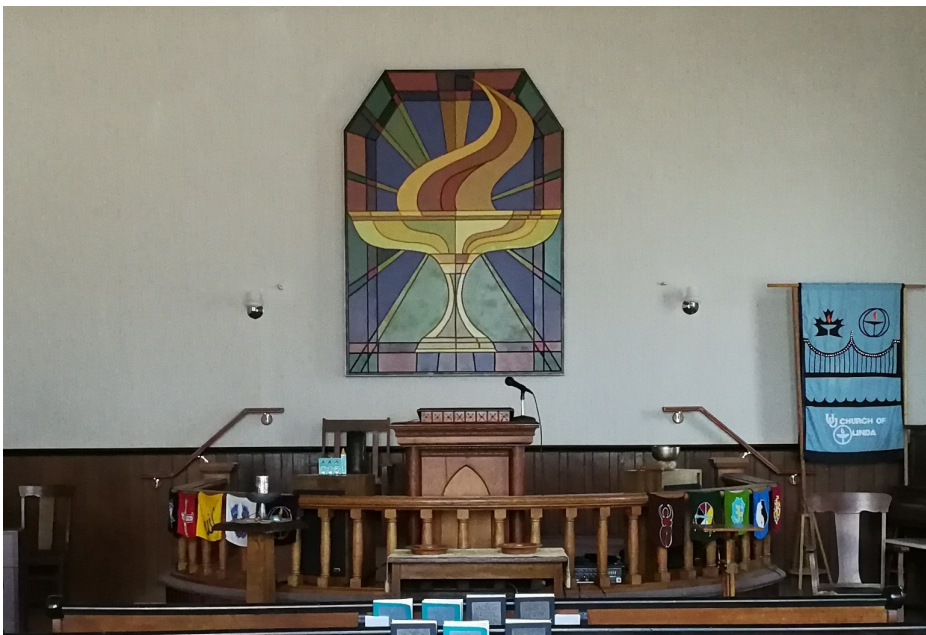
The Little Church at the Crossroads:  
A Brief History of the First 120 Years of  
The Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda  
together with

A History of the Years 2000 to 2020

In Celebration of the 140th Anniversary.

By Jane Innerd

**For your copies please complete the order form on the next page.**



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda**

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda Publications Order Form**

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Mailing Address with postal code:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete order form and submit with payment to:**

**Helen Moore, Treasurer,**

**UU Church of Olinda**

**2953 Olinda Side Road, RR. #2**

**Ruthven, Ontario**

**N0P 2G0**

**Cheques should be payable to: UU Church of Olinda**

|                                                               |                 |                                       |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Universalists in Ontario by<br/>Louise Foulds</b>          | <b>Quantity</b> | <b>Price<br/>\$15.00 per<br/>copy</b> | <b>Total Cost</b> |
| <b>A Little Church at the Cross-<br/>roads by Jane Innerd</b> |                 | <b>Complimen-<br/>tary</b>            |                   |
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**within Essex County is free**

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