

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 October 2022

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Oct. 2	Liz James	<i>The Inherent Mirth and Dignity</i> - Liz James comes from a family that expresses love through practical jokes. Where does humour fit into Unitarian Universalism? Come hear the story behind the creation of the 175,000 person Facebook group, The Hysterical Society.	Baylis-Stone Trio
Oct. 9	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>A Triumph – Not in Vain</i> - Many traditions commemorate figures who made the greatest of sacrifices for a noble cause. Who are these figures in our own faith's story?	Baylis-Stone Trio
Oct. 16	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Ablutions</i> - As a ritual, handwashing combines the holy with the mundane. As spiritual preparation, it is only the beginning.	Toni Janik
Oct. 23	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>Defenders of the Faith</i> - A just cause may be served through grandiose acts – and it can also be furthered by simple acts.	Lorie Lyons
Oct. 30	Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel	<i>At the Altar of our Ancestors</i> - Shrines in casual corners connect time and space. We can remember those gone before us in our annual Day of the Dead commemoration.	Baylis-Stone Trio
Nov. 6	Charlotte Innerd	<i>Treasures from the Archives</i> - Olinda's long history has been well preserved in our Archives. We'll look at some gems from the archives and how they have shaped our history and theology.	Lorie Lyons

The building is open for in-person services following a COVID-19 protocol requiring masks and maintaining a 2 meter distance. The services will also continue to be broadcast via Zoom. 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 UUOlin-da.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.

Report from the Board

Fall equinox on the evening of September 22, 2022, marked the end of Summer and the start of Fall. Minor repairs and cleaning of the church have been undertaken or at least initiated, and the grounds have been beautifully landscaped. News reports from around this time herald the reduction of COVID restrictions, as vaccination rates peak and case loads drop. We all look forward to greeting friends in church again without masks, being able to sense emotions through expressions, and perhaps even joining in singing! However, COVID is still in the air threatening the health especially of the elderly and immunocompromised. In Ontario, as I write, there are about 5,500 new cases and 50 additional deaths from COVID every day, so for now we should continue to follow the health guidelines recommended by our minister and Board.

Since the September start of our regular Fall season, most of our church services have been offered in “hybrid” format, both live in church and online through Zoom. Our minister Rev. Rod Solano Quesnel emails links around 3 pm the day before the Zoom service to everyone on his list for the Zoom service. Please contact him at rev.rod.esq@gmail.com if you would like to be added to his list. If you would like to attend a live service, wonderful!, but please come to the church a few minutes early and be prepared to wear a mask. We hope to start a light version of coffee hour soon.

Most Sunday Services begin at 10:30 am and run for about an hour. However, the service on September 25 is an online national service from the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) starting at 1 pm. Entitled “Unsettled and Unafraid,” it is in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The CUC encourages us to “Join Elder-in-Residence Sharon Jinkerson Brass, Rev. Danielle Webber and folks from across the country as they reflect on what the process of un-colonizing looks and feels like to them.”

The service on October 2, is a serious online presentation by Liz James on Humour in a UU setting. Liz has become an expert on religious communication and is the founder of [Mirth & Dignity](#) and its popular facebook page. Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel returns to lead us in the remaining Sunday services in October.

With the relaxation of COVID constraints, I look forward to increased social interaction within our UU community. Thanks to Toni Janik and the membership committee for restarting the “Dinners for 8” (or so) series. These occasions are great ways to get to know fellow UU members on a deeper level than possible during coffee-hour chats. May we all share a wonderful Canadian Thanksgiving on October 10, and then enjoy Halloween on October 31 in preparation for El Dia de Los Muertos on November 2 (which we’ll celebrate in church on October 30)!

Bill Baylis, President

Clergy Connection

I'm excited to see a growing number of you in person! And I'm glad that many of you also continue to find the ongoing online options useful. As this fall season offers us a better sense of what levels of infection risk we may need to manage, the Board will be periodically evaluating our precautionary measures. Currently, it continues to be an expectation that in-person attendees be vaccinated and wear masks indoors, with exemptions for medical conditions.

Other in-person opportunities that are opening up are our **dinner series** (for 6-8 attendees). You can find the details in this Newsletter and can sign up as soon as you find a spot that suits you. These are great community-building events in our Church, and a chance to see fellow participants outside of Sunday.

Also, now that in-person services are back on, I'm restarting the **in-person Café Drop-ins** most **Tuesdays** from **2-4pm** at the **Lakeside Bakery** in Leamington. These are in addition to the online Drop-ins most Thursdays in the afternoon or early evening (times will be specified by e-mail each week).

As the Canadian Unitarian Council's National Service *Unsettled and Unafraid*, on Sept. 25, explores the ongoing process of decolonizing, it also reminds us that our newest holiday on **Sept. 30** is **Orange Shirt Day**, formally called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. These are times when we can make additional efforts to learn about Indigenous experiences.

I will be attending the CUC Board's in-person retreat, in Mississauga, for our first in-person encounter in over two years! I'm excited that **Liz James**, from **Mirth & Dignity**, has agreed to join us that **Sunday, Oct. 2**. Every time I hear Liz speak, I find joyful and inspirational insights.

The rest of October offers us a time to consider our heritage and ancestry, as well as opportunities to reflect on how we may serve just causes – be this through grandiose gestures, or by everyday deeds. Our fore-bearers have offered us many examples of this spectrum of action. We also remember our ancestors on our annual commemoration of the **Days of the Dead**, on **Oct. 30**. And we can cap this retrospection with a visit from our resident archivist **Charlotte Innerd**, who will guide us in a look back around our Church's anniversary on **Nov. 6**.

I look forward to meeting up with more of you as we explore these dimensions in time and space.

Warm regards,
--Rev. Rod

Important Dates

Committee meetings may either be in-person or via Zoom. Committee chairs need to notify their members how the meeting will be held when they send out meeting reminders.

Oct. 13 7 pm
Board Meeting

Oct. 16 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

Oct. 23 Noon
Finance Committee Meeting

Oct. 25
November Newsletter Reports Due

Oct. 27 10 am
Membership Committee Meeting

Oct. 27 7 pm
Governance Documents Committee Meeting

Oct. 30 Noon
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

“How I Spent My Summer Vacation” (Part 1)

Many of us can recall the first Fall day as we came back to elementary school, when we dreaded the Teacher asking “who wants to tell us what they did on their summer vacation?” The eager beavers, who grunted while thrusting their hands up high, wanted to brag about their family vacation back to see family in Paris or maybe somewhere we hadn’t even heard of, like Iceland. The rest of us tried to look invisible, hoping not to be asked to “volunteer” to give such a report. Sometimes, our Teacher would give us until the next school day to stress over having to write a “so many words” paper on our summer vacation, and then he/she would randomly choose some of us to bumble self-consciously through our papers we had scribbled (to the required number of words, right on), in front of the rest of the class. I never relished being chosen, as there was never anything I thought was earth-shattering to report. It was pretty much “same old, same old” for lucky us, as every summer as soon as school was out, we went up to my grandmother’s cottage in Kincardine, Ontario, up in The Bruce, on the shores of Lake Huron. However, to us, it really was Paradise for any kid; walk out the front door of the cottage, across the lawn, down a few steps, and you were on the Beach, gazing at Lake Huron. Walk out the back door, down the driveway and onto the fourth hole of the Kincardine Golf and Country Club. Everyone in my family for several generations had been good golfers, and we all started *very* young. I was barely able to walk steadily before I was on the course, usually with my mother. My mother was a super good golfer with some regional notoriety and awards. I trudged along behind her and her golfing cronies, dragging along an old cut down woody putter, that had been my grandfather’s, hitting the ball as far as I could. Even at that young age, I was an avid golfer, on the course every day. As I got older, I learned not only all the intricacies and strategies of the game, but also the “courtesies” of the game, the “unwritten” rules of proper etiquette on the course. As I progressed in proficiency, I became quite good at the game, if I do say so myself, second to the Ontario Junior Champion one year.

When we were not busy playing golf, my brother and I would be busy designing and building “forts” in trees on my grandmother’s property. Primarily, the forts were built from scraps of wood we found washed up on the beach, or scraps of wood and nails mooched from neighbours along the cottages, donated to us, after construction projects were finished. In the row along where my grandmother’s cottage was, along the fourth hole, there were only eleven cottages. All were built around the same time, on land leased for 99 years from the golf club, much like many reserves now do up in cottage country. There was, however, no guarantee that you would ever have an extension to your lease. Some of the other cottagers were owned by relatives, most not. Some had kids our age, who we usually only saw during the summer vacation months, or at funerals. Sometimes, the other kids our age would help us hunt for supplies for fort building, and therefore would gain “special status” as visitors allowed to enter our fort. Usually, we built the forts among trees in heavily grown areas along the side of the fourth hole of the course. That way, as errant golf balls (and there were many) made their way into the “out of bounds” area below us, one of us would quickly shimmy down the fort ladder, grab the ball, and take off. Later, we would sell the golf balls we had “inherited” from the golfers and split the proceeds. At the time, it seemed innocent enough,

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Dinners for 6 and 8 Fall 2022

We're thrilled to announce that the always popular Dinners for 8 are in the planning stages for this fall. There are 3 hosts who have come forward to make these events a reality. If you are not familiar with this event, they are typically held at a member's home and up to 4 or 6 people are invited to sign up with the host for a themed dinner. Both individuals and couples are welcome and encouraged to attend. The hosts will be providing coffee, tea, and non-alcoholic beverages. Each guest brings one dish to the dinner from the list provided by the host. To sign up please contact the hosts at the email address provided on their sign-up sheet in the October newsletter. The host will confirm your request to be included in their dinner. For each event space is limited to the number of guests the host has indicated they can comfortably accommodate.

Have fun and enjoy these much-anticipated dinners.

(1) The first dinner will be held on Saturday October 22, 2022, at the home of Dan and Toni Janik in Windsor. Theme – Fall Harvest – Number of Diners - 8

To Sign Up: Email djanik1@cogeco.ca or phone 519-966-6434

Appetizers at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6:00 pm

Appetizers		
Entree	Toni Janik	Chicken
Tossed Salad		
Hot Vegetable 1	Dan Janik	Squash and Stuffing
Hot Vegetable 2		
Starch		
Wine		
Dessert		

(2) The second dinner will be held on Saturday October 29, 2022 at the home of Carmen and John Smith in Kingsville. Theme – Mexican Fiesta – Number of Diners - 6

To Sign Up: Email Carmen carm.smith1@gmail.com

Appetizers at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6:00 pm

Appetizers		
Entrée	John Smith	Burritos (vegetarian and chicken) and roasted chicken
Starch		
Tossed Salad		
Wine		
Dessert	Carmen Smith	Mexican Chocolate Cheesecake

See page 6 for information on the third dinner Saturday November 19th hosted by Judy and Anne.

“How I Spent My Summer Vacation” (Part 1) Continued from p. 4

but, of course, we never told our parents about our scheme. When we had enough money, we'd go uptown in Kincardine, to the Woolworths “Five and Dime” store. It was like going to the best flea market on earth, lots of inexpensive toys, puzzles, and comic books for purchase. There was also a “penny” candy section, where, for maybe 5 cents at the most, we could buy enough candy, safely held in a little brown bag, to give us stomach aches for days! It was, at that time, that I became interested in reading what was called “The Classics”: special comics, 5 cents more than regular “trash” comics, as my grandmother called them, with titles like *Robin Hood*, *Treasure Island*, *Black Beauty* and even some by Jules Verne. I would read them over and over, until the covers started to come off. I even read them by night, under the bed covers, by flashlight, hoping my reading wouldn't be interrupted by angry parents. From there, when I was old enough, I was allowed to get a Library Card from the Kincardine Public Library, and thus began my thirst to read as many books as I was allowed to take out at one time. Usually, I had them all read, and re-read, within a few days, and then had to wait until the end of the week for the next visit to the Library. I loved the smell not only of the books, but also of the Library itself. Still do. I even remember the Librarian, Miss Martin, who looked, to my then young eyes, to be 105, but she was so knowledgeable and helpful, I can still see her face. Those beloved summer days at my grandmother's cottage, are long gone, but the memories of those days are embedded deep in my memory.

To be continued...

Judith L. Carter

Dinners for 6 and 8 Continued from p. 5

- (3) The third dinner will be held on Saturday November 19, 2022, at the home of Judy Carter and Anne Purtell in Amherstburg. Theme – Family Favourites – Number of Diners – 6. Our Household is alcohol, drug and vaping free, and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided; prefer no alcohol used in recipes brought by guests
GUESTS MUST BE fully vaccinated & boosted.

To Sign Up: Email Judy carterljudy7@gmail.com

Appetizers: 5:00 pm

Appetizers & Cranberry Sauce And Gravy	Anne Purtell	
Entrée – Turkey, Ham and Dressing	Judy Carter	
Salad & Dressing(s)		
Hot Fall Vegetable		
Hot Potato Dish		
Dessert		

Dinner: 6:00 pm- 8:30 pm

Caring Committee Report

At this time of year, we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for. The maple trees before our windows light up our rooms even on cloudy days. Our wish for everyone this Thanksgiving is that you find yourselves surrounded by those you love.

Special thinking of you thoughts extended to Marion Thompson, as she is slowly recovering in hospital with a foot injury, and Wilf Innerd while he is awaiting a procedure. Greetings to all congregants in retirement homes and nursing homes and just at home, wishing you all good health.

Enjoy this Thanksgiving and remember, "The more you practice the art of thankfulness, the more you have to be thankful for." (Norman Vincent Peale)

Submitted by: Linda Upcott

Caring Committee Members

Carol Hylton

Carmen Smith

Anne Purtell

Linda Upcott

Christmas Note from the Treasurer

On my morning walk this warm summer day with bright flowers blooming and majestic trees standing tall, it isn't that easy to think of Christmas, but alas, it appears on the distant horizon and calendar.



At the September 8 board meeting, the board approved a motion to sponsor one or more Children's Aid Society families by purchasing gifts from their wish list. Thanks to John and Linda Upcott who have again agreed to shop for the families. Though it certainly seems early, the shopping takes place in October and November so the unwrapped gifts can be delivered to Children's Aid in plenty of time. If you wish to contribute, you can do so by e-transfer or cheque. Thanks for your consideration.

Thanks also for your continuing donations to support our Ministry and church.

Helen Moore
Treasurer

Finance Report

Once again it is time to plan for the coming year. We will start the process of creating an Operating Budget for 2023 in October. The following schedule is being presented to inform everyone who would like to be part of this process. There are always openings on the Finance Committee for anyone who is interested in the financial health of our church.

Date	Time	Description
Oct. 16	After church, probably via Zoom	Open meeting to discuss budget items. Anyone desiring to be on the Finance Committee should definitely attend this meeting and volunteer to become a member. Lloyd Fund Committee members are requested to attend to answer questions.
Oct. 23		By this date, all Committee budget requests must be submitted to the Finance Chair or the Treasurer so that they can prepare the budget.
Nov. 6	After Church, Zoom (?)	Meeting of the Finance Committee to approve the Budget.
Nov. 10	7 PM	Board Meeting at which Budget will be presented for approval.
Nov. 20	Before Church	Copies of the budget will be available to the congregation for review.
Dec. 4	After Church	Congregational Budget meeting.

See you there!
Bobbye Baylis, Finance Chair

Property Committee Report

OK ... we're on a roll now!

The roof leaks have been resolved, with the replacement of two rear second storey windows. A call into the supplier, T-Murr Exteriors, confirmed that the windows will arrive at the end of September and should be scheduled for installation during the month of October.

We are now pursuing the repair of the existing roof eaves-troughs. Tracking down contractors to perform as they agreed is a real challenge. By the next newsletter, we should have succeeded with this repair.

Before the cold weather sets in, the Property Committee will be replacing the front ramp. Once we begin removal of the various parts, we'll be able to determine the extent of the replacement needed. In the mean time, we'll have caution tape in place to prevent injury during the 'surgery' !

Your (*Conscientious*) Property Committee,

Respectfully, Stuart Miller, Chair

Governance Document Committee Report

At the meeting on September 22, the committee gave final approval to the following terms of reference:

- Summer Services
- Hospitality Committee

The following job descriptions passed First Reading and will be reviewed by those affected before being given final approval at the October 27 meeting.

- Lay Chaplaincy
- Music Director

Submitted by
Bobbye Baylis, Chair
Governance Document Committee

Social Responsibility Committee Report

A Dire Situation in Pakistan

Flooding in Pakistan is causing death and devastation. The causes according to the United States Institute of Peace are a combination of corruption, mismanagement and climate change. Thirty-three million people have been affected with six million people needing immediate assistance. This is devastating in a country that already has high food insecurity, high inflation costs, limited employment, clean water and failing health care. Crops, homes and infrastructure have been washed away with initial early costs estimated to be \$3 billion which is an astronomical amount for a developing country like Pakistan.

Pakistan's climate challenges are immense. The Global Climate Risk index 2021 ranked Pakistan as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world despite being one of the lowest carbon emitters. This begs the question: should the Global North pay the reparations for loss and damage claims of the Global South under the Paris Agreement, which was signed in 2015 and currently has 175 signatories including the European Union?

In Pakistan and other developing countries the main hindrances to climate resilience is weak governance and cooperation. The result is the formation of water mafias, illegal and unregulated construction and poor urban and rural planning. Unfortunately and quite erroneously the Global North wants to plant the blame on corrupt governments rather than look at their own climate initiatives which are desperately lagging behind.

All this political rendering cannot over-shadow the hard realities of life in Pakistan... right now! Over 1,325 people have already died, 1,600 injured, 325,000 homes destroyed, 735,00 livestock and 2 million acres of crops damaged.

This is a massive humanitarian crisis and it is going to need resources that only donations can provide. **Until September 28, the Canadian Government will match any donations by its citizens.** I ask that you find a charity of your choice and help out. Until we take direct action and seriously partake in altering the course of climate change, Pakistan may be just one of the many countries needing billions of dollars in assistance....even our own.

I have included one charity on the ground working with other relief agencies: The Humanitarian Coalition...Give at TOGETHER.CA but there are many others for you to choose. **Please keep the September 28th deadline for donation matching in your plans.**

Sue Markham, Chair
Social Responsibility Committee.