

The Olinda Outpost

Monthly Newsletter of the [Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda](#)



Sunday Services 10:30 am November 2023

Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Oct 29	Sarah Wert	<i>Bread of Life - Day of the Dead Celebration. You are welcome to bring pictures or mementos of your loved one(s).</i>	Toni Janik
Nov 5* 1:30 pm	Rev. Brian Kiely (Zoom)	<i>In this polarized world...can we just talk?- #2 in the Series <i>Meaning Making in Liminal Times</i>. This service will be live from the Pacific Coast at 10:30 am their time.</i>	
Nov 12	Conrad Dippel	<i>Sharing What I Believe</i>	Lorie Lyons
Nov 19	Randy Lepp	<i>Relief, Development & Peace - The Mennonite Central Committee Story, Part 1</i>	Baylis/ Stone Trio
Nov 26 1:00 pm	CUC National (Zoom)	<i>Reemerging, Reimagining, & Renewal - First Sunday of Advent</i>	
Dec. 3	Ray Stone	<i>Self Care and Spirituality</i>	Baylis Duet

The Olinda church building is open for in-person services. Masks are available should you chose to wear one. The services will also continue to be broadcast via Zoom. A link to the service is emailed to those interested on Saturday afternoons. If you would like to be included, email Bobbye Baylis at bbaylis@cogeco.ca.

*Nov. 5: Daylight Savings ends.

Report from the Board

Change is the essence of life, but some days it seems that we have had more change arriving faster than we really need! Change drives the evolution of our church as you can witness in our Zoom services, website, and newsletters. What drives the change? Well, covid, advancing technology, and climate change have been powerful driving forces! We now use an updated version of our publishing software WordPress for our website and although we have kept up with Newsletter preparation and distribution and recordings of sermons and committee meetings, we have fallen behind in uploading the proper internet links for all the information and must ask for your patience while we learn new tricks and get everything functioning smoothly. We are learning and have already made progress in our video recordings and Sunday services. The video recordings of services are made by the Zoom system in mp4 format and these can be played by most computer systems or transformed into YouTube videos.

The church suffered an interruption in its telephone messaging last month, but I believe this has now been fixed. The telephone system is part of our Rogers internet service and is fed into the telephone in the minister's office on the second floor. The connection to the telephone in the dining room was made by a cable that exited next to the second-floor window in the printer room, traveled outside for some distance and finally joining old Bell wiring and entering the dining room at a southside window. The minister's phone still worked, but the connection to the dining room failed. I have discussed with the Property committee putting in a new connecting cable that stays entirely inside the building for the connection between floors, but in the meantime, we are again receiving and recording telephone messages.

In communications among "Leaders" in the CUC, it is a pleasure to see our humble church mentioned and part of its mission statement frequently quoted: "This church was founded on the faith the Love is a more positive force for good than fear." It is certainly relevant in these troubled times. Our church is run largely by volunteers, and we thank those who have applied for police clearances that our insurer needs to document the safety of children and seniors in our care as well as Vice-President Michael Hoffman for his valuable guidance.

We all enjoy meeting and singing with other members at church services and discussing local and world events. However, please monitor covid cases and exercise caution. Extra face masks are available on the front table in the church if you need them. Protect yourselves with the new Covid and flu shots as appropriate. As we begin our search for a new minister, your health is vital for the health of the Church!

Keep well and stay safe, and enjoy the changes around us!

Bill Baylis, Board President

Spirit of Christmas—A Musical

The Spirit of Christmas: Musical Revue at the Bank Theatre

The Membership Committee cordially invites everyone to a holiday event. The Bank Theatre in Leamington in partnership with the Faith Mennonite Church is presenting *The Spirit of Christmas* - a musical revue for all ages. We are organizing a group outing for UU congregants for the performance on **Friday, December 8th at 7:00 pm**. The ticket cost is by donation at the event but advance registration is required.

If you would like to attend, please contact Carmen Smith by email at carm.smith1@gmail.com or telephone (519) 733-0548 **no later than November 8th at 6 pm**. Please let Carmen know as soon as possible as this is a very popular holiday event and is sold out every year.

Note: Accessible seating is available for wheelchair, walkers or other special needs.

For further information, please visit banktheatre.com/project/spirit-of-christmas-a-musical-revue



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.

Nov. 5 12:30 pm
Finance Committee Meeting (precedes service)

Nov. 9 10 am
Membership Committee Meeting via Zoom

Nov. 9 7 pm
Board Meeting

Nov. 12 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

Nov. 19 Noon
Social Responsibility Committee Meeting

Nov. 20
December Newsletter Reports Due

Membership & Publicity Report

We've had 2 very successful Dinners for 6, 8, 10 and there is another planned for November 18th. Karen Miller is hosting a Dinner for 8 Plus on Saturday November 18th with a classical quartet concert. Connect with Karen by phone to sign up and let her know what dish you will be bringing. The meal will start with appetizers at 4 PM and the music promises to be delightful.

These Dinners for 6, 8, 10 are very popular so call your hosts early to join in on the fun. If you would like to host a Dinner in early 2024 please contact Toni no later than the 20th of the month before so I can announce this opportunity for our congregants in the next newsletter.

The membership committee is currently working to get our Telephone Tree and Church Directory updated. Please see the notice below so your contact information can be as up to date as possible. Also we are working to update the Emergency Contact Forms for everyone. Please review your information and please consider submitting an updated form. You'll find the form on Page 10 of this Newsletter. Thank You.

We've been planning to promote a community event for all. To participate in this event on Friday December 8th, see page 3 for more details on how you can reserve tickets for this Holiday Event entitled: Spirit of Christmas.

Our document "All About Us" is now revised and ready for distribution to whomever would like a copy. Copies are available in the Church Library and will soon be available on our Facebook Page and on our Website. If you or someone you know would like a digital copy, please contact Toni Janik DJanik1@cogeco.ca

Toni Janik
Chair Membership and Publicity

Updated Church Directory in Progress

Please review your listing in the Olinda Church Directory and let Bobbye Baylis know before November 12th if you'd like your listing updated. Have you moved? Has your email address changed? Have you changed your phone number?

If you are not currently listed in our directory, but would like to be, please send us your contact information.

Thanks!

Note from the Treasurer

In early or mid November you'll receive the Letter of Appeal, the amount of your 2023 pledge and a record of your donations to date. This year you will also receive a yellow pledge card.

Please return your pledge card, if you are willing to pledge for 2024. If you wish to notify me of your pledge, instead of mailing your pledge or giving it to me in person, you can do so by phone or email.

You can donate to the church by e-transfer, mailing a cheque to 290 Lester Drive, Essex, ON N8M 3G9 or by putting cash or cheque in the offering plate at church on Sunday.

Thanks for your ongoing offerings to support our church as well as your gifts of service.

Helen Moore

Caring Committee Report

The month of November is all about gratitude, cozy evenings curled up by the fire with hot cocoa, delicious food, and so much more. The days will be getting shorter with the time change November 5th.

Sincere condolences to the family of Eunice Goyette who passed away October 10th 2023, one month short of her 98th birthday. She had a treasured life with many memories left behind. Her influence will continue to make a difference. She was an amazing person and an inspiration to all who knew her. Over the years she taught Sunday School and participated as one of the church organists and also helped with the caring committee. She will be greatly missed.

Happy to report that Carabel Ringrose is now settling in her new home at Royal Oak Nursing Home in Kingsville along with her husband Hector Ringrose. Wishing them both all the best.

A cheery get well to Leona Crowder as she continues to recover from her knee surgery and any other congregants dealing with health issues.

We ask that you keep Gord Taylor in your thoughts and wish him comfort as he is now in hospice.

Let us remember all our veterans this November 11th.

Submitted by Linda Upcott

Caring Committee Members

Carmen Smith

Linda Upcott

Adult Religious Education

Adult Religious Education The Sacred in Everyday Life

Dates: Mondays at 7:00 p.m., Via Zoom

October 30: Animals

November 20: Leisure

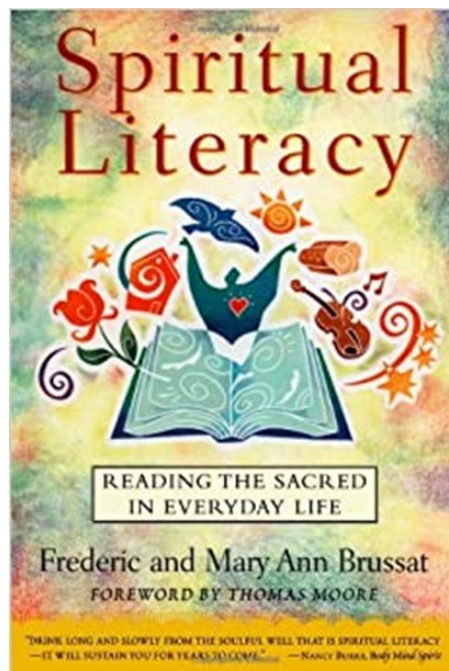
December 4: Creativity

Participants will be reading *Spiritual Literacy: Reading The Sacred in Everyday Life* by Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat. If you do not have it yet, the book may be purchased through Chapters Indigo in Windsor or your favourite bookstore in the area. It sells for \$48.00 Canadian for the soft cover edition.

Led by Karen Andersen Miller, Chair, Lifespan Learning Committee

To register or for questions e-mail

k.a.miller@wavedirect.com or phone Karen—her contact info is in our directory



“What Makes You Happy?”

What makes ME happy? When I first wake up, to a slurpy kiss from one of the Corgis, who then, in return, expects a LONG tummy rub! When I go out at dusk to feed the birds and squirrels, and find them already waiting for me, wondering why I’m so late! On a clear day, when I can see the remnants of the moon, wherever it’s at, and at whatever stage it’s at. When I see the sun slowly rising in the East, and creating a smorgasbord of orange colours. A sunset, in reverse, particularly over Lake Huron. When I sit down, first thing, with a cup of coconut flavoured coffee, and watch the birds lined up to feed at our window feeders. When I let the Corgis in and they both want to be on my lap at the same time to say “good morning, and where’s my breakfast?” when I finally feed them their breakfast, and see a smile on each from ear to ear. When I check the calendar to see what we have scheduled for the day, and we have NO appointments, so the day is ours!

When I go to one of my regular follow-up Doctor appointments, and am told everything is FINE! When I go to get gas in town, and the price is DOWN (and cheaper than Windsor). When I go grocery shopping, and actually spend less than \$100! When I go grocery shopping and there are actually some things we like and/or need ON SALE! When I am putzing outside on a summer day, checking on my garden, and seeing the first plants come up! When I pick my first veggies from my garden enclosure, usually beans, and usually by the end of June, and we eat them right away. Playing ball with Oscar (our boy Corgi) who can do that for much longer than your arm will hold out! And watching Chanel (our girl Corgi) try to submarine Oscar as he runs after the ball. Meeting friends for lunch. Having friends or family visit and stay for a bit. Playing (and even winning) at euchre. Going for drives in other parts of The County. Going out to Olinda and getting a dose of spirituality. Going out to Point Pelee Park for a picnic. Buying, and eating, as much corn-on-the-cob as possible, for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner!

Having a nice lazy dinner with my partner Anne. MAKING the nice lazy dinner. Finding new recipes for nice lazy dinners! Football...any kind of, although we prefer US College and NFL games. When the Detroit Lions are WINNING (like now!). Playing cards, jig saw puzzles, or board games. Enjoying our usual fall trip to Oliphant ON (bottom of the Bruce Peninsula) at the cottage we rent at the campground where we had our RV parked for several years. Enjoying the FALL colours. Looking out the window and NOT seeing snow. Getting a GOOD night’s sleep. Waking up in the morning, and having a Pulse! Ahhhh.

So, what makes you happy!?

Respectfully submitted,
Judith L. Carter

Lay Chaplaincy

Have You Ever Thought Of Becoming a Lay Chaplain?



Our UU Church is looking for a lay chaplain to perform and officiate rites of passage (weddings, funerals, memorial services, child dedication services and others) for the general public and in congregations without ministers, for members of the congregation, following guidelines issued by the CUC and additional policies established by each congregation's Board of Directors.

Lay chaplaincy is an important outreach program of the congregation, and the lay chaplains represent their congregation in the wider community. They are expected to perform rites of passage in a manner that celebrates and dignifies those special occasions in human life, adding spiritual depth to the lives of individuals and communities. Lay chaplains are at all times expected to interact with the larger community in a professional manner, and to understand and be able to articulate and model Unitarian Universalist principles and practice.

Lay chaplains are appointed by their congregation for a term for up to 6 years; they report to Olinda Board of Directors and enter into a contract that is annually reviewed with the congregation.

If you are interested and would like further detailed information please contact Sue Markham: worthysole4u@hotmail.com or 226-350-2879.

Contact Information

Minister: While we are between ministers and seek our next minister, you can contact:

President: Bill Baylis: baylis@uwindsor.ca or (519) 738-2118 or Cell phone (519) 980-2431

Chaplain: Sue Markham: worthysole4u@hotmail.com or (226) 350-2879

Membership Chair: Toni Janik: djanik1@cogeco.ca or (519) 966-6434

Finance Report

Once again it is time to plan for the coming year. We started the process of creating an Operating Budget for 2024 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
Nov. 5	12:30 pm Zoom & in church	Meeting of the Finance Committee to approve the Budget.
Nov. 9	7 pm, Zoom	Board Meeting at which the Budget will be presented for approval.
Nov. 19	Before Church	Copies of the budget will be available to the congregation for review.
Dec. 3	After Church	Congregational Budget meeting.

See you there!

Bobby Baylis, Finance Chair

Christmas Families

At our September 14 Board of Directors meeting the Board voted to support Christmas Families chosen by Children's Aid Society.

If you wish to contribute to gifts for the two families, please e-transfer or send a cheque or bring cash or a cheque made out to Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda to a Sunday Service. Please note that the donation is for Christmas Families. This year we were assigned two families, one a Mother with two year old and one year old daughters and the other family with a Mother with five and two year old sons. The two year old daughter is visually challenged. Each year we give each family a food voucher to the grocery store of their choice. Those will be especially welcome this year.

Once again, John and Linda Upcott have generously agreed to shop using the families' wish lists which Children's Aid provides.

Thank you for your consideration.
Helen Moore

Emergency Contact Form

UU Church of Olinda Congregant Emergency Contact Form

Your Name: _____

Primary Contact Name: (e.g. Next of Kin)

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____



Secondary Contact Name: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Your Signature: _____

Date: _____

Email or mail (address in church directory) completed form to:

Toni Janik

Membership & Publicity Trustee

djanik1@cogeco.ca