

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 2025**



Date	Speaker	Title	Musician(s)
Oct. 5	Rev. Paul Langston-Daley	<i>Our Values and Covenants as UUs - Last Year the UUA completed a multi-year process of reaffirming and renewing our Principles and Purposes. The result was overwhelming support for a new set of values and covenants that ground us, guide us, and give us wings. Today will explore these values and covenants and how they can help us center love.</i>	Scott Bley
Oct. 12	Rev. Paul Langston-Daley	<i>Giving Thanks</i>	Toni Janik
Oct. 19	Rev. Paul Langston-Daley	<i>The Tender Places In our Hearts - TWEOs: What we expected and did not receive; the places that have not known love.</i>	Lorie Lyons
Oct. 26	TBA	<i>TBA</i>	Baylis/ Stone Duo
Nov. 2	Rev. Paul Langston-Daley	<i>All Souls Sunday - Today we remember and hold in our hearts all those close to us who have died in the past year. Please bring a photo or memento of your loved ones (pets are included as loved ones) to place on our altar as we take time to remember and honour those who have joined the ancestors.</i>	Toni Janik

The Olinda church building is open for in-person services. The services are also broadcast via Zoom. On Saturday afternoons a link to the coming Sunday service is emailed to those interested. If you would like to be included, email Bobbye Baylis at bbaylis@cogeco.ca.

Report from the Board

It's already autumn! Equinox, when summer officially ends and fall starts, arrived on September 21. Fall is the favorite season for many of us, as the weather cools and we celebrate bountiful harvests with feasts of Thanksgiving and friendship. This year, at the UU Church of Olinda, we also welcome our new minister, Reverend Paul Langston-Daley, to an island of peace and relative harmony in a stormy sea of international strife and conflict. Rev. Paul has already held the water welcome communion and hosted the congregation for an open house in his sleek, newly constructed three-story apartment just off Bevel Line Road south of Leamington, which he shares with his cats, Odin and Loki.

This year, the Unitarian Universalists of America (UUA) launched "Sing Out Love", a new online hymnal of old and new hymn arrangements that requires a subscription to use. It's designed to promote and fairly encourage and compensate composers and arrangers and to offer an ever expanding library of new works for our use. We at UUOlinda have taken out an annual subscription to give it a try, so you may encounter a variety of new hymns and arrangements in our services this year. For general information on the project, Google singoutlove.org, and for an introductory video on its use including legal copyright restrictions, see <https://www.uua.org/worship/lab/virtual-hymnal>. If you would like to access the new hymnal as part of our UUOlinda team, please send the request to me at bayliswe@gmail.com along with your preferred email address.

There's another musical event at our church you should know about, namely a special benefit concert in our church on October 25 for the Bridge Leamington Charity. Reverend Jim Hatt, who served us as a part-time minister for the first half of 2025, providing not only live and Zoom sermons and teas, but also pastoral care, is also a singer who performs with the popular group "Guys Who Like to Sing." As described on their poster, they are giving a free benefit concert in our church for the Bridge charity on Saturday, October 25, from 2 – 4 pm, Rev. Jim and his "Guys" have also invited the Olinda Choir to add a piece or two of their choosing. I would like us to revive a wonderful Canadian hymn, *Circle of Song* by Tony Turner and arranged by Jane Perry in 2002. We performed it here and in the Ann Arbor choir festival and it deserves to be heard more often! Singers old and new, please join us for rehearsals and performance of this relevant revival!

Finally, we must not forget Halloween on October 31 and the "Day of the Dead" on November 1-2. Rev. Rod taught us the meaning and significance of the Day of the Dead for remembering and honouring and recently deceased ancestors. This year, our resident architect "Big Pumpkin" Stuart Miller answered the call to sponsor the historical Bethel United Church, which was moved to Heritage Village at 6155 on Arner Townline (at Road 4 in Kingsville). It was founded in 1885, just a few years after our own church was built. We can pass out information about our church and its significant history as costumed children and their parents visit for trick and treating on Thursday, October 30, between 6 and 8 pm. We will be celebrating the 146th anniversary of the founding of our own church on November 10.

Bill Baylis, President

Minister's Report

Dear friends:

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and with it, an opportunity to appreciate the beauty and joy of this community. On October 12th, we'll celebrate our abundance with a Cornbread Communion*. And on November 2nd, we will celebrate All Souls as we remember those who have influenced our lives; please bring photos or mementos of loved ones (pets included) you wish to hold in beloved memory. We will honour those from our community who died this year and remember them.

Another thing to get on your calendar...

Rev. Nicoline Guerrier from the Canadian Unitarian Council will be here November 1st to lead us in a Start Up Workshop. This is an opportunity for all of us to understand the roles and responsibilities of the minister, the leadership and the congregation at large. Nicoline will meet with the entire congregation from 9 am to noon (lunch will be provided). And then Leadership will meet with Nicoline in the afternoon to discuss what arose in the morning session as well as the covenant and other important items. **Please plan to attend the morning session. It's important that we hear from you as we plan for the future of the church.**

I'll be working with the Committee on Shared Ministry in the coming months to develop a plan for creating our Covenant and Accountability structure. We will post opportunities for gathering and conversation to illuminate, inspire and inform our final Covenant and Accountability process.

And lastly, if it is not your practice to get out and be in nature, I encourage you to do so in whatever ways you are able in the coming weeks. Fall is fast approaching, and the lush green of the earth will soon be gone as rest (and snow) overtakes the land. These beautiful days of late summer/early autumn offer crisp air, the sharp bite of a fresh apple, and soon the sound of fallen leaves crunching underfoot. This earth is a gorgeous place, offering so many wonderful, awe-inspiring moments. Time in nature reminds us that all life is unique. From stardust or gods or both, whatever one's framing for this world, it is clear that what is here has intrinsic value. There is dignity and worthiness to all life. To hold that belief seems rarer and more uncommon with every passing day. As Unitarian Universalists we counter this spreading malady by holding love at the center, respecting the dignity and worthiness of all life. We speak out when others are denied their dignity to remind us all that no one is expendable, no one is worthless, no one is beyond salvation. No One. The promise of a world made whole is up to us. May the beauty we see be reflected in all that we do. May love guide us on.

Shanti, Paul

*(Does anyone have a good gluten free cornbread recipe?)

This lovely one came to visit me as I was writing this article:



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.

Sept. 28 Noon
Social Responsibility
Committee Meeting

Oct. 5 Noon
Sunday Services Meeting

Oct. 9 10 am
Membership Committee
Meeting

Oct. 9 7 pm
Board Meeting

Oct. 16 11:30 am
Lunch in the County

Oct. 20
September Newsletter
Reports Due

Note from the Treasurer

Thanks to Rev. Paul Langston-Daley and all who contribute to our Sunday Services including musicians and tech team. Thanks to Laurie Hylton who arranged for the church hallway to be completely refurbished so that it is now bright white. Thanks to Carol Hylton, Carmen Smith, Linda Upcott and Trudy Ware who cleaned kitchen and other cupboards in August in preparation for the church year. Thanks to Mariette Preyde who prepares our weekly coffee hour and also organizes and works on our potlucks including the delicious and delightful one on September 14. Thanks to Toni Janik and Bobbye Baylis for editing and printing the newsletter each month. Thanks to Bobbye for preparing and printing the new church directory. Thanks to our Board President Bill Baylis and Board members. Thanks to Lorie Lyons who continues to work on our church gardens, including the front garden and please note how large the trees Lorie planted in the back garden have grown along with the green hostas and pachysandra. Thanks to John Upcott who regularly checks our church and picks up our mail. Our cleaning lady, Lenny DeSanti, did a major clean, with her husband's assistance, including the front door and porch, the sanctuary, remainder of the main floor, basement and second floor which contains Rev. Paul Langston-Daley's office and the print room. Thanks to Derek Freeman who keeps our lawns mowed. Many in our church wear many hats and do many tasks. I have not enumerated all of them. Thanks to all who work to make this small church function as a haven of religious freedom at these four corners of Olinda.

Rev. Paul has reinstituted passing the offering plates for donations. That had been suspended when we did not attend in-person church during Covid and was not begun again because regular donors were mailing cheques, offering cash or making e-transfers. It initially seemed that would be asking people twice but now, with increased attendance, everyone has an opportunity to donate. Thanks to all who continued to donate despite the offering plates not being passed. Thanks to all who are also now donating.

During this month of October, the Letter of Appeal, a record of your pledge and donations to the end of September, along with a pledge card will be prepared and placed in an envelope. If you are at church when those are ready, I'll give them to you, or give the envelope to someone who will soon meet with you or I'll mail the envelope. So you can be expecting that sometime later this month.

We are preparing the budget and you will see the schedule for meetings prepared by Finance Chair, Mireya Campbell, on the next page of the newsletter. Our Annual Congregational Budget meeting will be held November 30.

On this gorgeous warm sunny summer September Saturday, it seems December and Christmas are far distant. The Board did, however, vote at our September 11th Board meeting to sponsor at least two Childrens' Aid Society families. You may donate for those families whenever you wish. Donations are income tax receiptable.

Thanks for your ongoing generosity and gifts of service.

You may donate by:

1. e-transfers to treasureruolinda@gmail.com or uolinda@gmail.com
2. cheque mailed to the church or 290 Lester Drive, Essex, ON N8M 3G9
3. cheque or cash put in offering plate at church.

Schedule for 2026 Operating Budget

The process of creating an Operating Budget for 2026 begins in October. The following schedule is being presented to inform all 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. Hope to see you at the meetings!

Date	Time	Description
Oct. 19	After Church	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.
Nov. 2	After Church	Meeting of the Finance Committee to approve the Budget.
Nov. 13	7 PM	Board Meeting at which Budget will be presented for approval.
Nov.30	After Church	Congregational Budget Meeting.

Mireya Campbell (Finance Chair)

We Are All in This Together

While at church Sunday, I was struck by the words of Rev. Paul. He stated that Unitarian Universalist are frequent users of the word “love”. In my interpretation, I imagine us always being clear that we are “standing on the side of love”. We do whatever it takes to be flag bearers of our most valued 8 principles. Most of the time, we try to be present and supportive of the people in our church and beyond, but I think one of Paul’s points was that how do we manage to live these principles when things get difficult. When the conditions of the world get frightening and exhaustion sets in, do we shut down and choose to only take care of ourselves or do we stay the course of justice, equity and yes, love?

Staying “in love” comes with its own power and frankly, its own responsibility. I offer that helping others in whatever ways we can is essentially “standing on the side of love”. With that, I have been very vocal about the necessity of funding and supporting food banks. I think we could agree that food, water and housing are the most basic of human rights and, although I would admit the housing crisis requires innovative solutions to a larger, complicated problem, supplying our food banks is an action we can easily take.

Let’s not become complacent, let’s put reminders in our phones or on our calendars to highlight one day of the month when we make that donation. We have boxes at our church for both the food banks of the area and for Period Promise. Let’s keep living our UU principles and fill them up!

On Friday October 17 (5-9) and Saturday October 18 (10-4) enjoy the more than 25 vendors at the Maple Market. The proceeds from this event go towards making sure community meal programs and food banks are funded to do this humanitarian work. [See the poster on the next Page.](#)

Thanks!

Sue Markham



Maple Market

Leamington United Church

9 John St. (near the library)

Fri. Oct 17 (5-9), Sat. Oct 18 (10-4)

Browse more than 25 vendors!

Market benefits our weekly community meal program.

Crafts, foods, wellness and more!

Dine on a barbecued hotdog or have a bowl of soup and a roll. Meet Maple Megalasaurs who has treats for kids!

mmloving@gmail.com 519-326-9461

Drop off your Salvation Army

Food Drive items

Caring Committee Report

Caring Committee Members

Carmen Smith

Linda Upcott

Fall is in the air, bringing with it the beauty of the leaves changing, cozy nights spent reading or cooking with loved ones, and plenty of pumpkin goodies. My wish this Thanksgiving is that you find yourself surrounded by those you love.

Sending greetings to all congregants and friends who are coping with health issues, may we continue to reach out to one another when needed.

A cheery Olinda hello to our far away friends, especially John and Sharon van Abbema in Halifax. May you acknowledge that you are often in our thoughts and wishing you well.

Submitted by : Linda Upcott

Nominating Committee Update

The Board of Directors for our Church is responsible for the care and management of the affairs and property of the church. Board members are nominated and elected/selected at the Annual Congregational meeting for a one year term. The Nominating Committee has begun the task of seeking nominees who are willing to serve as Board members and/or as Chairpersons of various Committees. If you have skills to contribute to the Church's leadership and are interested in participating as a Board member or Committee Chair, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee to discuss:

Carol Hylton
Kathryn Brennan
Carmen Smith

Guys Who Like to Sing—Fundraiser

Come out and join us for a lively afternoon of music while we raise money for the Bridge In Leamington. See next page for more details.

All proceeds will be given to the Bridge in Leamington.



Musical Fundraiser for the Bridge in Leamington

Pass The Hat

**UU church of Olinda
2953 Olinda Side Rd. Ruthven**

**FREE to
attend -**

**Donations
welcomed
to support
The Bridge
in Leamington**



**Come see
The Guys Who Like To Sing**

 **Saturday October 25th, 2025**

 **2pm till 4pm**

All proceeds to go to The Bridge/Leamington.

**The Bridge is a resource centre accepting youth
as they are. The Bridge is a safe, welcoming
space to get help with housing, jobs, addiction,
education and more. thebridgeyouth.ca**

Halloween in the County

October! ... is the month that our world celebrates Halloween!

Historically our church had not become involved with Trick or Treating ... until now!

We're all aware of 'Heritage Village' our local historical museum located at 6155 Arner Townline (County Rd. 23) at Kingsville Road 4 (County Rd. 18). The 'Village', has a series of lanes with reconstructed buildings originally located around Essex County. The Olinda General Store, from 1840, once standing proudly at the corner of the Olinda Side Road and what is now County Road 34, has been re-located (in 1982) to Heritage Village. There is also a church building in the Village, the Bethel United Church of 1885, re-located from the Arner Townline at the 6th Concession, in 1978. The village also boasts the original 'Jack Miner' house, a School house, a Jail, and a Train Station building with train car!

You will also remember the Canadian Transportation Museum, visible from the Arner, where a fascinating collection of cars, trucks, & farm equipment are presented. A historical Diner serves meals to the facilities' visitors.

The Education Coordinator offers numerous programs in the park, from casual visits for visitors, through to weddings, and other group events. Trick or Treating Through the Village has been offered for several years. Last year, over 400 costumed children toured the 15 reconstructed buildings, that local organizations have reserved, to both entertain and 'Shell-Out' from during the evening, from 6 to 8 pm, Thursday, 30 Oct'25. Village staff have confirmed that the Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda has been selected to participate in this promotional opportunity, offered to organizations (free of charge), with the reservation of the relocated church building in the Village.

So ... we're looking for Congregation members and friends to volunteer to hand out treats from the church. We have several ideas on the inexpensive 'decoration' of the church and treats that visiting Children will collect. We can distribute our newly updated Church promotional material, that will be handed out to the parents accompanying the kids, in the safe, & fun environment. Volunteers will be requested to appear on site, in a costume (*that is not too scary !!*) 30 to 45 minutes before the 6 pm starting time.

A sheet will be posted in our church (and emailed to all) for volunteer involvement in a) decorating the Village Church building, b) donating & gathering of treats (I'd like to suggest packaged foods, such as 'Raisins', etc. vs packaged candies), & c) handing out of treats, & distribution of our Church brochures. Costs for the short evening, are \$ 5 per child, and free for adults, parents, and volunteers. Parking in the lot or fields for free. More notices will be distributed during the next month, to clarify the a- decoration, b- donating treats, & c- handing out of treats & brochures.

Let's encourage & participate in this fun local historical event with our current church family, while introducing our church to others in the community.

Sincerely, '*Big Pumpkin*' ... Stuart Miller

Membership Committee Report

Thank you all for your contributions to our food bank, our Period Promise campaign which is ongoing, and all the ways you help our community. Once again this year we will be decorating a Mitten Tree with your donations of Hats, Scarves, Mittens, Gloves and Socks. All donations will be given to the Angels Clothing Cupboard—where last year they were received with heartfelt thanks. There will be a box at the front of the church from the first Sunday of November until the third Sunday of December for the Mitten Tree donations.

We had a delightful lunch at the Moonlight Grill in Leamington in September. Thanks to Trudy for organizing this for us. Our October Lunch in the County will be at Freddy's Restaurant on Point Pelee Drive on October 16th at 11:30 AM. Contact Toni to reserve your spot. All are welcome. It's a great opportunity to socialize together.

If you've been thinking of joining the church as a member contact Rev. Paul or Toni to complete the membership form. If you have questions, please ask, we are happy to be of service.

Toni Janik
Membership Chair

JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST FALL LUNCH IN THE COUNTY

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Freddy's Restaurant

at 11:30 A.M.

655 Point Pelee Dr, Leamington

Please call or e-mail me to let me know so I can confirm the count with them. Thank you.

Toni Janik at 519-966-6434 or djanik1@cogeco.ca

