



# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

## INGATHERING By Rev. Tamara Lebak

In gathering  
In the fall  
In the church  
In the quiet  
In the noise  
In thought  
In the spirit  
In anticipation  
In calm  
In the beginning  
In the end  
In transition  
In gratitude  
In hope  
In love  
In faith  
In unison  
Ingathering.

### 6TH ANNUAL PEACE VIGIL

11 SEPTEMBER 2012, 6:30-8:00 PM  
SING-UP IN THE SANCTUARY

## Annual Canvass Begins

September brings Stewardship Season with it. This past Sunday, 2 September, we distributed the annual pledge packet as prepared and approved by the Ad Hoc Committee. A printed version of the following letter was read. The approved budget is on Page 2 of this newsletter. Packets were mailed on 4 September to those absent on Sunday. If you do not receive a packet and want one, please contact Elaine.

Dear All,

The Ad Hoc Committee has just completed the process of appreciative inquiry. Through that process, it has become clear to us, that though we are all well-intentioned people, we hold two completely different visions of a church. We believe the differences are irreconcilable.

To enable the Ad Hoc Committee and the Congregation to develop a budget and financial plan that sustains us, we ask you to consider the following options:

1. I commit to the ministry model of the UU Congregation of Owensboro: its covenant, its called minister, and the principles of Unitarian Universalism, either as a member or friend.
2. I prefer to move my membership to an Emerging Fellowship to be organized and covenanted elsewhere by those participating.
3. I choose to withdraw my membership.

Two pledges forms are included in the pledge packet, one for the UU Congregation of Owensboro as defined in option 1 and another for an Emerging Fellowship as defined in option 2. Please return one of the forms to the Ad Hoc Committee by 1 October 2012. Should you choose to withdraw your membership, no action is necessary. If the committee does not receive a pledge form from you by 1 October 2012, it will consider your membership withdrawn.

Yours truly,  
The Ad Hoc Committee  
Elaine Winstead, Treasurer



## INTERFAITH MOMENT: DAYS OF AWE, Jewish Year 5773

ROSH HOSHANA (sunset Sept 16-nightfall Sept 18)-YOM KIPPUR (sunset Sept 25- nightfall Sept 26)

EXCERPTS from [Dr. Steven Katz, Boston University] & (Judaism 101)

[Jewish tradition says Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of creation. On Rosh Hashanah, people are inscribed in the Book of Life, make atonement, and right relationships that have gone awry. Jews say a special prayer seeking forgiveness at midnight, when the gates of heaven are especially open. They pray that sins be forgiven and that they can begin with a new slate. At the start of Rosh Hashanah they greet each other with the words: "May you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life."

The mood of the 10 days is one of repentance. All are judged in the scales of good and evil. But the theme is that humans can avert the evil decree by various acts. It's very much in keeping with the Jewish notion that forgiveness is not just a matter of God's grace, but a matter of human energy. God can only forgive acts against God. But when we hurt each other, only we can repair the damage we've caused.

Yom Kippur is the holiest day in Judaism, the Sabbath of Sabbaths.

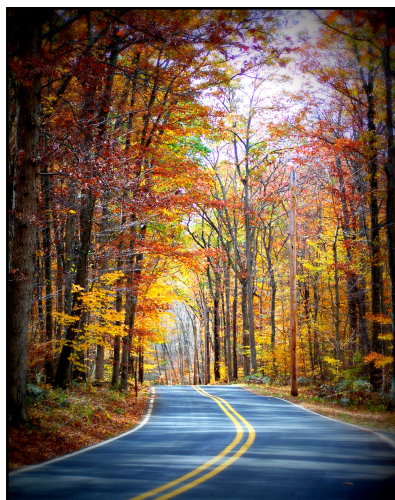
The Bible says of it, "You will afflict your soul." The rabbis interpret this as fasting. A meal before sundown on Yom Kippur is obligatory, to prepare for the fast which includes food, drink, bathing, perfume, and all other forms of comfort or ease.

The Yom Kippur prayer Kol Nidre is the most famous prayer in Judaism. Before going to the synagogue to say Kol Nidre ("all vows") people put on white clothes to symbolize purity.]

(The prayer opens the service and asks to annul personal vows to God in the last year and the coming year. It is understood to mean people are to be careful in making promises. They pray God won't take us seriously when one speaks in duress and makes promise that are beyond one's ability. Of course, this only applies to vows made to God. Vows between individuals, business promises, and public commitments are governed by human standards.)

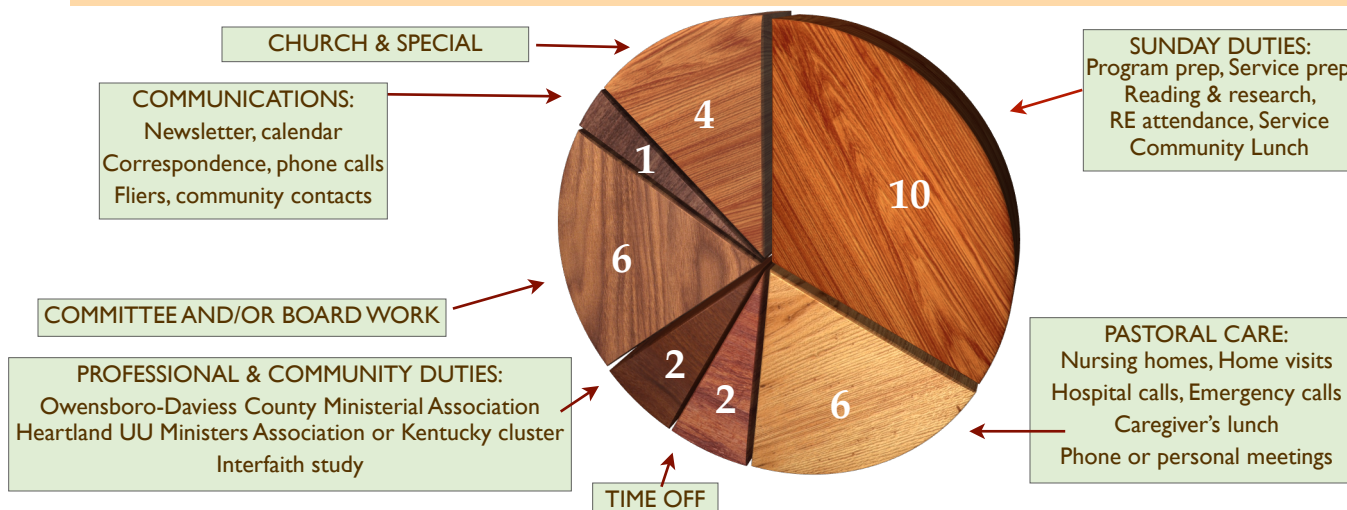
**UUCO OPERATING BUDGET 2012-13**

BUILDING	Monthly	Annual
OMU	175	2100
Atmos	90	1080
Phone	70	840
Insurance	132	1584
Cleaning	133	1590
Pest Control	30	360
Mowing	Moved to Volunteer List	
SUBTOTAL		7554
<b>MINISTER</b>		
Salary & Housing	2396	28740
Health Insurance	397	4764
Long-Term Disability/Life Ins	37	444
GA/Workshops	83	1000
SUBTOTAL		34948
<b>PROGRAMMING</b>		
Child Care	Moved to Volunteer List	
Worship	Moved to Wish List	
Pastoral Care	Moved to Wish List	
SUBTOTAL		
<b>UUA MEMBERSHIP</b>		
Fair Share UUA		
Fair Share Heartland District		
SUBTOTAL		
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
Postage/Office	13	150
Advertising	9	100
Membership	12	144
SUBTOTAL		394
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3577</b>	<b>42896</b>



**UPCOMING:**  
 Annual CROP Walk  
 Sunday, 14 October 2012  
 Beginning @ Fisher Park @ 2 pm

**FROM THE DESK OF REV. RAMISCH: A MONTH OF MINISTRY (NUMBERS = DAYS/MO/ACTIVITY)**



At Canvass time I try to help explain where we are in relation to my Letter of Ministry and UUA standards. Here are some things to know about standards that govern my work:

- UU ministers have a work week of 48 hrs with one full day-evening off each week (4 days/mo.) Our Board allows me to take days off together if I can schedule them. (I avg 58 hr/wk.)
- UU ministers are expected to work 44 wk, study 4 wk, and vacation 4 wk annually. (I work 48 wk/yr.)

- UU ministry is governed locally by a Letter of Ministry that spells out duties, accountabilities, and compensation. The standards come from the UUMA (available online.)
- UUCO's compensation is related to GeoIndex 1 (also online.) My proposed salary/housing package this year is 61% of the recommended mid-range. Approved increases are postponed.
- NB: If you see my DAY OFF move on the calendar, it means something happened that I couldn't take it as planned!