

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

## AD HOC SAFE CONGREGATION TRAINING CONTINUES

The Ad Hoc Committee has been studying Safe Congregation attitudes and practices since mid-August. Safe Congregation is both an educational course and a mindset for protecting vulnerable members in a church setting. Generally speaking, it informs Board practices, how church policies are written, and member interactions.

Specifically, topics for review have included:

- What is the Meaning of "Safe and Healthy"
- Systems Thinking & General Safety
- Board Leadership and Finances
- Volunteering
- Triangulation & Basic Conflict Management

The last three sessions of this course will include:

- Pastoral Care
- Babysitting/Child Care
- Partnerships & Our Public Face  
(including Communications)

Committee members have received copies of all UUCO policies, Safe Congregation curriculum articles, materials from the Commission on the Appraisal, and other resources for congregational leaders. They have listened to and made presentations, engaged in role plays and discussions, and made observations of principles in real-life situations.

At the conclusion of this course, the Committee will form into three subcommittees to review policies and bylaws through different lenses: Safe Congregation culture, theological perspectives, and congregational polity.

Next semester, the data gathered from the Appreciative Inquiry interviews and the work of the subcommittees will be assessed, a revitalized mission articulated, and bylaw and policy revisions or proposals crafted. Stay tuned for more information as the process continues!

### FAITH FEST OWENSBORO 2012 BEGINS WITH:

EMMA'S REVOLUTION  
Celebration Concert

Friday, 9 November @ 7:30 pm  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
Corner of Cedar & Parrish  
\$12 in Advance / \$15 at the door



CONTACT CLAUDIA FOR TICKETS: 683-1462  
Or purchase online at [www.emmasrevolution.com](http://www.emmasrevolution.com)

MEDITATION FOR  
NATIONAL  
COMING OUT DAY

THURSDAY, 11 OCTOBER  
6:30-7:00 PM  
IN THE SANCTUARY

**ANNUAL AIDS WALK**  
**SATURDAY: 20 October 2012**  
Kentucky Wesleyan College  
Registration: 11:00 am  
Walk: 12 noon

To benefit:  
Tri-State AIDS Holiday Project



**ANNUAL CROP WALK**  
**SUNDAY: 14 October 2012**  
Fisher Park

Registration: 1:45 pm  
Walk: 2:00 pm

Local Agency to receive 25%:  
Woodlawn United Methodist  
Saturday Soup Supper



**INTERFAITH MOMENT:  
Canonization of Guru Granth Sahib: 20 October**



*Golden Temple, Punjab*

The Guru Granth Sahib is a sacred scripture of the world and the Eternal Guru of the Sikhs. Its adoration or veneration is an article of faith with the Sikhs.

The sacred verses of Sri Guru Granth Sahib are called Gurbani, which means the Guru's word or the song messages. In Sikhism, the Guru is the 'Wisdom of the Word' and not a human or a book. God revealed the Word through the holy men and women from time to time, and the most recent revelations were entered in the text of Sri Guru Granth Sahib. To the Sikhs, any scripture not

included in the Guru Granth is unacceptable as the Guru's word or authority behind their theology. Those who explain the scripture or teach the doctrines contained in the scripture are respected as teachers, granthi, missionaries, saints or enlightened souls in the Sikh religion.

The Sikhs regard Sri Guru Granth Sahib as a complete, inviolable and final embodiment of the message for them. There is to be no word beyond the Word. And that's how their last guru, Guru Gobind Singh, spoke to the congregation on October 20, 1708 shortly before his ascension. "Those who desire to behold the Guru should obey the Granth Sahib. Its contents are the visible body of the Guru."

Sri Guru Granth Sahib contains hymns of 36 composers written in twenty-two languages employing a phonetically perfected Gurmukhi script on 1430 pages. It has been preserved in its original format since its last completion by Guru Gobind Singh in 1705.

**From [www.searchgurbani.com](http://www.searchgurbani.com)  
by Harbans Lal, PhD**

In response to the Oak Creek, WI shooting, about 400 Sikhs attended a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee hearing on 19 Sept. "The Sikh Coalition, a civil rights organization, is asking Congress to track hate crimes against Sikhs. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Roy L. Austin Jr. said that the Justice Department would convene a meeting of religious groups in October to consider expanding hate crime tracking statistics to include Sikhs. The Sikh Coalition also wants government officials and candidates to take a pledge to abstain from using language that incites bigotry, to invest in anti-bullying campaigns and to create a presidential task force to track progress on hate crime prevention."

9/23/2012 The Huffington Post

**Gratitude Potluck  
Sunday, 14 October  
11:45 am**

**CROP Walk to Follow  
UUCO IS IN CHARGE OF  
THE PARRISH AVE. WATER STOP  
& CROSSWALK**

**Autumn Meditation**

**By Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Strong**

We know the leaves are dying.  
We know that their blaze of beauty  
is a preparation for death.  
It is a time when we appreciate  
the effort of nature to rise  
above the ordinariness  
of life and death.  
It is a time when we visibly  
comprehend glory and wonder.  
And we worship with thanks.  
We feel now that the air  
is cold and crisp.  
We feel now a clearing from the skies  
of the heaviness of the hazes  
of summer.  
It is a time when we appreciate  
the crispness and sharpness  
of the realities of life and death.  
It is a time when we physically  
comprehend the relief  
that clarity and insight can bring.  
And we worship with thanks.  
We hear now the dry rustle  
of plants and grasses.  
We hear now a crackling  
from the earth that tells  
of the withering  
of the fullness of life.  
It is a time when we appreciate  
approaching rest from  
the frantic fullness.  
It is a time when we hear  
a different voice within,  
and know that life is settling down  
for a well deserved wintering.  
Let it be so within each of our lives  
as we prepare for an autumn  
in our own life cycle.  
For we all need rest and respite  
if we are to understand  
and appreciate the rhythm of life  
in our soul that enables us  
to worship with thanks.

