

unitarian universalist congregation of owensboro

REV. DR. CLAUDIA A. RAMISCH
MINISTER
CLAUD PORTER
LEGAL COUNSEL

APRIL 2013
NEWSLETTER



We come together in fellowship and love open to each other's beliefs.
As a congregation we create a place for open dialogue,
search for truth, meaning, spiritual growth, and justice.
To these ends we commit to each other
and to the larger community
our selves and
our talents.

UUCO Covenant
Written by our Founders in 1987

Ad Hoc Committee Near End of Work

Preparations being made for discussion;
reports being prepared for
Annual Meeting

The Ad Hoc Committee has completed a draft of new bylaws and outlined three new policies in the last phase of its work. The draft of the bylaws will be posted on the UUCO website and available in hard copy in the sanctuary. Members are encouraged to review them before discussion sessions scheduled for 7 and 21 April at 9:30 a.m. in the Chalice Center. Ad Hoc Committee members will be available to explain their process of revision and the resulting document at both discussion sessions. They will also take comments and questions. If necessary they can make changes to the draft at their last meeting on 17 April.

Proposed policies will not be drafted before the Annual Meeting but will be

handed off to be completed by the new Board. They include: Membership, Finances, and Safe Congregation.

Last year (2012), at the March meeting, the Board suspended the bylaws for nominating and electing a Board and appointing committees for a period of no less than 5 weeks and no more than 13 months. Special rules have been drafted for this Annual Meeting so that the election of the Board can be reinstated in accord with the Ad Hoc Proposal which has been followed this year.

Reports are also being prepared for the Annual Meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee, the Committee on Ministry, Treasurer, and Minister will offer reports. An account of the year's activities will also be presented.

Please check the website and mark your calendar to attend the discussion sessions and Annual Meeting.

EXCERPT OF AN EASTER PRAYER BY
REV. SAMUEL A. TRUMBORE



Eternal spirit,
we witness you
bringing green growth throwing out
tiny tendrils seeking support;
sprouting thin twigs reaching for
the bright golden sun;
guiding new tubers seeking water
in dark, sandy soil,
Be in and amongst us...
Let us celebrate together,
the one who never gives up
even in the darkest night of winter,
our blue green planet earth,
resurrected anew each spring.

From Worship Web @ uua.org

Announcement Of
ANNUAL MEETING 2013
28 APRIL

Immediately After Service In The Sanctuary

Religious Education Sessions
Sunday, 7 & 21 April @ 9:30 am
Presentations & Discussion
On Proposed Bylaws, Policies, and Plans

THANK YOU, 5TH YEAR VEGGIE FEAST TEAM

Linda Craig, Event Manager

Helen Bea, Marilyn Duncan, Deanna Estes, DuWayne Keenan
Charlot Martin, Scott Payne, Claud & Karen Porter
Claudia Ramisch, Marie Roberts, Brad Smith, Gracie Starks
Peggy Wilson, Elaine Winstead, & Alan Veach of New Hope

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK AND FOR A SMOOTH COMMUNITY EVENT!

Laura (Facilities Manager @ Trinity) thanks you for being "self-sufficient and for leaving everything exceptionally clean!"



What is Scott up to?



THANK YOU UUCO FOR 12 DOZEN FILLED EASTER EGGS FOR 1ST CHRISTIAN!

THE MENDING MONOLOGUES

Come to Owensboro through UUCO

Article From themending.org
by Derek Dujardin

Derek was inspired to create The MENDING Monologues as part of the V-Day Worldwide Campaign to end violence against women and girls and to raise awareness through benefit productions of playwright/founder Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*.

As a writer, speaker and performer, Derek Dujardin is on the forefront of a new theater movement that helps men find their voice and speak out against violence. In the process, he is helping countless men and women heal by getting in touch with what the true cost of violence is to their relationships.

"Men need to tell these stories and women need to hear them. It's healing for both, and a sort of reconciliation is reached. I don't know how to explain it. After watching our show, women tell me, 'I didn't know men cared or thought about these things,'" said Dujardin.

According to Dujardin, there is a ripple effect to violence. What he calls "second-hand abuse" or collateral damage done to men via the abuse done to the women in their lives. When a woman experiences abuse, her father, friends, lovers, brothers, husbands and sons—are also affected in many ways. Unfortunately, men don't talk about these wounds and their feelings of disempowerment around violence. They ignore them, they stuff them. As a result, women think that men just don't care.

"By telling these stories, men regain a measure of control over something they have felt powerless to help, heal, fix or smash," said Dujardin.

"I think this is a great partnership," comments Dujardin. "If we're really going to stop violence, you can't have 50% of the population believing that this is not

their problem or getting turned off by the content or tone of the conversation. That's why drama and comedy are such powerful tools for change. It makes its point—without preaching."

Following in the footsteps of their big sister, The MENDING Monologues allow individuals to stage royalty-free community shows of this work as long as the proceeds raise funds for women's shelters or for groups committed to stopping violence. Ten-percent of the proceeds each show will fund The MENDING Monologue Foundation.

Proceeds of Owensboro's first production of The MENDING Monologues will benefit OASIS.

INTERFAITH MOMENT

THERAVADA BUDDHISM observes its New Year for three days at the full moon of April, this year 25-28 April. Theravada Buddhism is the oldest and most orthodox school of Buddhism. It is centered in southern Asia and keeps the Pali Scriptures of the Buddha.

The beginning of a new year is, generally, a time for "taking stock" of one's karma, cleansing, and well-wishing. Laity ritually bathe the Buddha-images and sprinkle water on monks and elders, showing respect and offering good wishes. Monks chant blessings on the laity. Together they share the merit of the occasion with the dead. Often large sand stupas are built with each grain of sand representing the demerits of daily life. Then as the sands are washed away by river or rain, life is renewed. Check out this link to hear a Theravadan chant of the Mangala Sutta from a monastery in California. It is an instruction by the Buddha on leading a blessed life.

http://www.abhayagiri.org/audio/highest_blessings_2009

UUCO APRIL ACTIVITIES

02 APR: TUE (RSVP by Mon)
Caregiver's Lunch 12n (CC)

07 APR: SUN
Bylaws Discussion 9:30am (CC)
Twisters 1:30 pm (S)

09 APR: TUE
Interfaith Study Group 12n (CC)

13 APR: SAT (RSVP by Fri)
Reiki Share 6pm (S)

14 APR: SUN
LGBTQ Prayer Service 3pm (S)

18-20 APR: THU-SAT
MENDING Monologues 8pm (S)

19-20 APR: FRI-SAT
(Pre-Registration required)
Reiki Class (CC)

21 APR: SUN
Bylaws Discussion 9:30am (CC)

28 APR: SUN
Annual Meeting, After service (S)



HEARTLAND DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING 12-13 APRIL, MUNCIE, IN

The District will be voting on a proposal for merging with Prairie Star and Central Midwest Districts to form the Mid-America Region. The resulting region would include 12 states and be staffed by the 6 professionals presently serving the area (2 from each District.) Details regarding the proposal are available @ www.heartlanduuc.org