

## QUOTES FROM FAMOUS AMERICAN UNITARIANS AND UNIVERSALISTS

Original language preserved

**Susan B. Anthony** (1820-1906) It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; not yet we, the male citizens; but we the whole people, who formed the Union.

**Olympia Brown** (1835-1926) There is nothing in all the world so important to you as to be loyal to the faith which has placed before you the loftiest ideal, comforted you in sorrow, strengthened you for noble duty and made the world beautiful for you.

**William Ellery Channing** (1780-1842) The soul by its sense of right, or its perception of moral distinctions, is clothed with sovereignty over itself, and through this alone, it understands and recognizes the Sovereign of the Universe.

**Clarence Darrow** (1857-1938) The pursuit of truth shall set you free- even if you never catch up with it.

**Dorothea Dix** (1802-1887) The tapestry of history has no part at which you can cut it and leave the design intelligible.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson** (1803-1882) Cast conformity behind you, and acquaint men first hand with Deity.

**Sophia Fahs** (1876-1978) Life becomes religion whenever we make it so: when some new light is seen, when some deeper appreciation is felt, when some larger outlook is gained, when some nobler purpose is formed, when some task is well done.

**Robert Fulghum** (1937- ) Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you.

**Margaret Fuller** (1810-1850) If you have knowledge, let others light their candles from it.

**Florence Nightingale** (1820-1910) For what is Mysticism? Is it not the attempt to draw near to God, not by rite or ceremonies, but by inward disposition? Is it not merely a hard word for "the Kingdom of Heaven is within?"

**Adlai Stevenson** (1900-1965) The power of the liberal is in helping ourselves and others to see some of the possibilities inherent in viewpoints other than one's own.



We are a UUA  
Welcoming  
Congregation

## WELCOME TO 1UU



### OUR COVENANT

We come together in 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 ourselves and our talents.

*Written by our founders in 1987*

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Owensboro was founded in 1987 and officially chartered by the Unitarian Universalist Association in April 1988. The Honor Roll of founding members hangs proudly in our entryway.



### OUR MISSION

Building healthy interfaith relationships through education, dialogue, and service.

### OUR CURRENT LEADERSHIP

We are available to answer questions and help you settle into our company. We also have several trained Spiritual Mentors willing to speak with you. Contact us!

President: Tom Hicks (270) 684-1548  
Minister: Rev. Dr. Claudia A. Ramisch  
(270) 683-1462 hermitstuff@bellsouth.net

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A full calendar and monthly newsletter are posted on our website

## PARTICIPATION IN OUR CONGREGATION

### TO BECOME A MEMBER

If you embrace the principles espoused by the Unitarian Universalist Association and concur with our covenant, you are invited to consider membership. New members attend an Orientation Program (4 sessions) and are approved by the Board. Ask a board member or the minister to help you make this commitment.

### PLEDGE COMMITMENTS

Our annual canvass asks participants in the congregation to make a pledge whether they are members or friends. Annual pledges are required of voting members. Pledges are made in the form of money, goods, volunteer services, and participation in activities. A packet is available at the church or by email.

### THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

We have made a special commitment to Interfaith work. Members learn deeply about their chosen practice and root. They also commit to helping others do the same. Finally, they work to become proficient in theological reflection and conversation crossing the boundaries of Traditions.



## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Worship

**Sunday Service** is at 10:30 a.m. Our minister preaches on three Sundays of each month. A member preaches on our Principles or Sources of Inspiration on the other Sundays. UU churches practice *freedom of the pulpit* meaning that the preacher is wholly responsible for the content of the sermon as well as choosing topics.

### Religious Education

Special workshops for ADULTS are offered once a month. Information is posted on the website and bulletin board in Sanctuary. Registration is generally required.

CHILDREN'S Sunday is often offered during Service. The program uses a children's story of a Unitarian/Universalist hero as the focus and includes intergenerational activities.

### Yoga & Meditation

**Yoga & Meditation** is offered on Tuesday at 6 pm. It is taught by Linda Lindsey-Stephens. Linda is a very encouraging teacher certified to teach beginners and students with limited mobility.

## ABOUT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

The Unitarian Universalist movement in the United States traces its roots to the time of the pilgrims and their need for religious freedom. However, Unitarian Universalism is a relatively new association of two older traditions known as "free" or "liberal religions."

**Unitarianism** actually began in the earliest Christian Church. It emphasized the Oneness of God. The formulation of the Nicene Creed in 325 CE established the Trinity as Christian dogma and made Unitarianism heretical. It resurfaced in the Anti-Trinitarian movement of the Protestant Reformation. In 1568, King John Sigismund, the only Unitarian king ever, issued an edict of religious toleration in Transylvania. Unitarianism reached its height in Rakow, Poland in the early 1600's where a theological school and annual synod flourished. Social acceptance of Unitarianism waned with the reassertion of dogmatic traditions, but continued to live in England and then moved to America. The American Unitarian Association was formed in 1825.

**Universalism** also began in the earliest church. It emphasized the belief that God intended salvation to be universal. It resurfaced as a response to elements of the Protestant Reformation that emphasized predestination and theories of eternal punishment. It spread across Europe to England and then to America where it was officially organized in 1793.

**In America** the two traditions thrived as influential minorities. Many educators, social reformers, justice activists, politicians, and humanitarians that shaped our heritage were associated with either the Unitarians or Universalists. In 1961, the two communities decided they could be a stronger liberal voice if they joined together. The Unitarian Universalist Association was formed and non-Christians joined us. Today we are vibrant interfaith congregations.



**Today Unitarian Universalism** continues the tradition of free and liberal religion by embracing the loftiest ideals of all World religions. Instead of a creed it uses these seven principles to define itself:

- ❖ The inherent worth & dignity of every person
- ❖ Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- ❖ Acceptance of one another & encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- ❖ A free and responsible search for truth & meaning
- ❖ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
- ❖ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, justice for all
- ❖ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part