

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



MLK ACTIVITIES

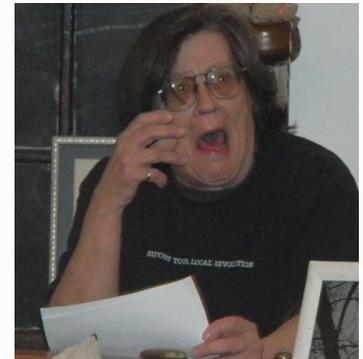
The third Monday of January has been celebrated as Martin Luther King Day since 1986, to honor the great civil rights leader and mourn his assassination. This year will mark the 50th anniversary of Rev. King's death.

Saturday, January 13 we will be hosting the 15th annual Martin Luther King Coffeehouse, written and produced by Charlot Martin. The Coffeehouse pays homage to Dr. King's commitment to peaceful activism through a production of liberal humor

concerning the issues of the day. The doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3 and includes popcorn. Concessions will also be sold and the proceeds will be going to the HL Neblett Community Center.

It isn't too late to make a contribution to this IUU tradition. To make a donation, volunteer to help with concessions, or volunteer talent, contact Linda @ (270) 570-0323 or Claudia @ (270) 683-1462.

The celebration of Dr. King continues Sunday, January 14 as the local Owensboro NAACP MLK program will take place at the Settle Parish Center, starting at 3 p.m.



Charlot, MLK Coffeehouse 2017

Meditation Moment/UUA

God of Life and Beauty
By Lucinda S. Duncan

God of life and beauty:

We pray for the quietness of snowflakes, knowing that love is quiet.

We pray for the kindness of small acts, knowing gentleness is fragile.

We are grateful to know that thoughtfulness makes no sound, that compassion leaves

wonderfully beautiful traces when we open ourselves to wonder.

May ours be a religion which, like the snowflake, goes everywhere in quietness, in love, and with gentle regard for that which is true and beautiful, in us and about us. Amen.

JANUARY EVENTS

(CON. FROM LATE NOV.)

01 MON	NonViolent O'boro 7 pm
02 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
03 WED	Soup Res Due Board Meeting 5:30 pm
06 SAT	Reiki 8:30 am Soup Pick Up 11:30-1 pm
07 SUN	Breakfast Potluck Burning Bowl Service
09 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
11 THU	VOAD Earthquake Prep @Lourdes 9:30 am
13 SAT	MLK Coffeehouse 7-9 pm
14 SUN	MLK Program @Settle Parrish Center 3 pm
16 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
17 WED	NonViolent O'boro Steering 5 pm
20 SAT	Direct Action Training @Zion 9 am-5 pm
23 TUE	Women Clergy 12:30-2 pm Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
25 THU	ODCMA @OHRH 9 am
28 SUN	Potluck after service Pastoral Care Training 1:30- 3:30 pm
30 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm

Interfaith Moment

Mahayana Buddhist New Year

The celebration of the New Year is a time of reflection and mindfulness in Buddhism. There are many sects of Buddhism, the largest of which is known as Mahayana. While some Mahayana celebrate New Year on December 31, many start their observations of this holiday on the first day of the first full moon of January. This year, that day is January 2.

Mahayana Buddhism itself has many subsets with their own varying traditions. *World Religion News* explains the beliefs and varying New Year's traditions in its online article, "How Mahayana Buddhists Celebrate New Year," found at <http://www.worldreligionnews.com/religion-news/buddhism/how-mahayana-buddhists-celebrate-new-year>. Among the different observances are visits to temples, praying, and honoring Buddha and other deities. Of particular importance is reflecting on events of the past year to learn from past mistakes. Across cultures and religions, letting go of the past and resolving to do better for the future is a common theme.

A striking example of this is the Japanese Zen (a subset of Mahayana) fire ritual. In Japanese temples, "an individual writes in a piece of paper symbolizing the relinquishment of karma. Afterwards, the paper is tossed in the fire which eventually signifies the reduction of the accumulated negative karma."

Along with the more reverent activities mentioned, there is also time for celebration. In many Mahayana communities, New Year celebrations include shopping for new household items, cleaning, feasting, and sweets. Fireworks cap off the festivities.

SOUP RESERVATIONS DUE WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3RD

This month's soup is chicken noodle! Meat and vegetarian available. The price is \$8/qt. Place reservations by calling Linda @270-570-0323. Pick up will be Saturday Jan. 6th, from 11:30 pm to 1:00 pm.



COMING UP THIS MONTH:

DIRECT ACTION TRAINING

Nonviolent Owensboro and Pace e Bene will be offering Direct Action Training at Zion UCC on January 20. This seminar will cover Introducing Nonviolence and Nonviolent Social Change. Registration is due January 10.

Pace e Bene is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the mission of fostering “a just and peaceful world through nonviolence education, community-building, and action.” Their Campaign Nonviolence promotes the use of active nonviolence in its many projects. Nonviolent Cities Project, of which Nonviolent Owensboro is a part, is one of these projects.

Pace e Bene’s latest project is The 1000 Trainings Project. From its website: *the 1000 Nonviolence Trainings Project is a new and collaborative initiative to connect nonviolence trainings around the world and highlight the tens of thousands of people being trained in nonviolence in service to a more just and peaceful world. We invite you and your organization to join this historic venture! This month’s Direct Action Training is #959 in the 1000 Trainings Project.*

To register online for this training, visit <http://nonviolencetraininghub.org/events/>

[owensboro-ky-nonviolent-action-training/](http://www.paceebene.org/about/). There is a \$25 registration fee that covers materials and lunch.

For more on Pace e Bene, visit <http://www.paceebene.org/about/>. For The 100 Trainings Project, go to <http://nonviolencetraininghub.org/1000-trainings-project/>. Finally, please take a look at Nonviolent Owensboro’s site, <http://www.uuowensboro.org/nvowensboro.html>.

PASTORAL CARE TRAINING: CHANCE FOR SERVICE

Sunday, January 28 we will be having Pastoral Care Training from 1:30-3:30 p.m. This is a wonderful service opportunity for those looking for ways to contribute to our church community (and take some of the load off of our minister). If you have not already signed up, please check the Activity Board.

CONSCIENTIOUS SHOPPER?

Consider the following great gifts:

- Soup Reservations
- Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, or Chocolate
- Products by UUCO Artists

LAST MONTH'S CORNER...



Claude Tree Decorating



Jane Tree Decorating



Linda Solstice