

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER



FAITHIFY CAMPAIGN

IUU is running a Faithify campaign, to raise money for the water-proofing of our basement. The hope is that someday it will be renovated to house Owensboro's first Interfaith Center. We need every member and friend to help get the word out.

Faithify is a Unitarian Universalist crowdfunding site. Here is how it works. Campaigns are set for a limited amount of time. Donors read the

proposal and stories of those seeking money, and then they pledge money. At the end of the campaign is when any money is actually transferred, but the full goal must have been met, otherwise no money is awarded. We have a \$5000 goal, and have \$1200 pledged so far with 43 days left to meet that goal.

Here is the link to our Faithify campaign page: <https://faithify.org/projects/owensboro-interfaith-center-preparation/>. Please share this on your

Facebook, Instagram, etc. See Rev. Claudia for flyers to post. If we can get the word out to all our friends and partners in the community, we can reach our goal.

FUN CLUB MAY MEET-UP

Bring Your Own Vinyl, at The Spot Coffee and Finery.

MAY 19, 5-8 pm.

217 Williamsburg Square, Owensboro

CONSCIENTIOUS SHOPPER?

Consider the following great gifts:

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, or Chocolate Products by UUCO Artists

Meditation Moment/UUA

Give All to Love

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Give all to love;
Obey thy heart;
Friends, kindred, days,
Estate, good-fame,
Plans, credit and the Muse,—
Nothing refuse.

It requireth courage stout.
Souls above doubt,
Valor unbending,
It will reward,—
They shall return
More than they were,
And ever ascending.

'T is a brave master;
Let it have scope:
Follow it utterly,
Hope beyond hope.
It was never for the mean;

MAY EVENTS

01 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
02 WED	Home Office 2-4 pm Board Meeting 5:30 pm
05 SAT	Reiki 8:30 am
06 SUN	Spiritual Mentoring 9:30 am This Little Light during service
07 MON	NonVlt O'boro 7 pm
08 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
13 SUN	Spiritual Mentoring 9:30 am Standing Women after service
15 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
20 SUN	Spiritual Mentoring 9:30 am
22 TUE	Women Clergy 12:30-2 pm Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
23 WED	NonVlt O'boro Steering 5 pm
24 THU	ODCMA @ OHRH 9 am
27 SUN	Potluck after service
29 TUE	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm

Claudia's Travel Plans:

Visiting home May 6 through 12

On retreat May 28 through 31

Interfaith Moment

Beltane, April 30-May 1

Beltane is a Pagan fertility holiday, halfway between the Spring Equinox and the Summer Solstice, that celebrates the coming of Summer. *BBC Religions* brief on the holiday: http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/paganism/holydays/beltane_1.shtml. In addition, *Patheos* (a site that hosts credible articles, discussions, and blogs on world religions) is a good source for Paganism articles. Check out: <http://www.patheos.com/about-patheos>, and <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/panmankey/2015/04/what-do-we-really-know-about-beltane/>. Luckily for us, we have a contributor this month that is not only very knowledgeable on Paganism, but also lives within the tradition.

Our Family's Journey of Spring Cleaning

By Rev. Linda Craig

May 1, Beltane was called May Day. As children we danced the May pole. We understood this represented the colors of spring. When I grew up, the dance became more meaningful. My dad used to say when you will understand this day when you know why $1+1=3$. I understand the May Pole represents the binding forces of nature. Each color, and the pole, represents aspects of fertility of mind, body, and soul.

Bel-fires (bonfires) were lit and we rid our barns, sheds, and cellars of items that had finished serving their purpose. We smoked out the barns, hen houses, and hog stalls. All the livestock were sent to the way back fields. Everything was washed, painted and/or oiled. The dairy was cleansed three times. Everything was washed; walls, blankets, coats, cupboards, even the washbasin. If needed, we moved the outhouse (I never knew a year it wasn't needed) and the old hole buried. The grounds were cleared. The oldest foods were used or thrown away. Seedlings and spring foods were planted (peas, lettuce, onions, flowers). We went through everything. It was important to make sure we got rid of anything that could spread "cooties." We buried, burned, or cleaned everything inside and out. When this was done, we were ready for summer's eve.

Folkways lore: it is said, it is bad luck to marry in May. May is reserved for the union of the natural world, according to my grandmother, Grandma Craig. My grandfather spoke Manx Gaelic. We celebrated Boaldyn [Beltane in Manx Gaelic] meals with dark chocolate meringue pie, deviled eggs, bread, canned green beans and apple butter. We rarely had meat in early spring.

May your mind be cleared and become fertile ground for new growth. May your body be refreshed and renewed. And may your soul experience a revitalization of renewed spirit. Blessings on your journey.

COMING UP THIS MONTH:

THIS LITTLE LIGHT GRANT 2018

This time every year, we give out our This Little Light Grant. This grant is made to an individual or non-profit organization in Daviess County “who present an application for a project that improves the quality of human life in Owensboro-Daviess County.” Last year’s winner was Working Hands. This year’s winner is The Foundation for Healing through the Arts.

The Foundation for Healing through the Arts is dedicated to promoting the healing of survivors of

sexual assault and oppression through creative outlets. Their projects include partnering with V-Day Owensboro to put on the *Vagina Monologues* and *MMRP*. They plan to use this year’s grant to expand their mission of healing from sexual violence by adding a performance of *The MENDING Monologues*.

For more information on The Foundation for Healing through the Arts, see their Facebook page here: [https://](https://www.facebook.com/FFHTA/)

www.facebook.com/FFHTA/. For information on auditions for *The MENDING*, see: <https://www.facebook.com/wkyufm.org/post/nonviolent-owensboro-encouraging-peaceful-public-dialogue#stream/0>



SPRING PLANTING

Looking for resources to help guide you with the Spring planting? Check the Old Farmer’s Almanac for a planting guide based on your zipcode. Here is a link to one for Owensboro: <https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/KY/Owensboro>.

Don’t forget to check out the Owensboro Regional Farmer’s Market. Besides purchasing your tomato plants, you can get great local, seasonal produce. Here is their guide to what’s in season and available: <http://www.owensbororegionalfarmersmarket.org/season-guide.html>.

LAST MONTH’S CORNER...



Gateways



Linda, 60 at Gangnam



Josh's 18th