

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



## Crop Walk

This year will be the 14th annual CROP Walk. CROP Walks are events sponsored by Church World Service, and organized at the community level by local groups and churches. The money raised goes to fight hunger around the world through various projects, with 25% going to a designated local organization to combat local hunger issues.

This year's walk is beginning at GRADD/Joe Ford Nature Park, at 2 pm. The walk will be roughly 1.5

miles, roundtrip. It isn't necessary to complete the walk.

The local agency designated to receive funds this year is Owensboro Regional Recovery. It is a men's recovery center and homeless shelter. For more information, see their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/OwensboroRegionalRecovery/>.

The rest goes to help Church World Service support programs that promote sustainable food production & emergency relief. To donate, you can

go to Claudia's member page at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/owensboroky/Member/MyPage/2298244/Claudia-Ramisch>. Alternatively, checks can be made out to CWS/CROP and handed to Claudia.

Thanks and appreciation to Dr. Claudia Ramisch for contributing to this article. For more information on CROP Walk, see <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/>.

**FUN CLUB SEPTEMBER MEET-UP**  
Bluegrass on the Banks, @Overlook Stage in Smother's Park  
Friday, September 21, 7 pm

### Meditation Moment/UUA

#### Materializing

by Jean M. Olsen

In what form did the spirit appear to you today,  
the blossom of a flower,  
the tug of a child's hand,  
the silent twinkling stars,  
an old woman smiling at the bus stop,  
a lover's -gentle hug,  
a presence so close to your soul

you could almost touch it,  
words of truth formed  
unbidden in your mind?

The holy disguised in so many ways,  
may your senses open wide in recognition.

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

01 SAT	Reiki by Appt 8:30am
02 SUN	Bag Lunch Committee on Ministry, after lunch
03 MON	NonVlt O'boro 7 pm
05 WED	Home Office 2-4 pm Board Meeting 5:30 pm
06 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
09 SUN	Bag Lunch
11 TUE	Peace Vigil 6:30 - 8 pm
13 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
15 SAT	Yard Sale 7am - 1pm
16 SUN	Lunch Out (Y)
17 MON	<i>I Am Not Your Negro</i> , film @DCPL 6 pm
19 WED	NonVlt O'boro Steering 5 pm
20 THU	ODCMA @OHRH 9 am Yoga & Meditation 6 pm Intl, Peace Day @Smother's 6 pm
21 FRI	Fun Club: Bluegrass on the Banks @Smother's Park 7- 9 pm (Y)
23 SUN	Bag Lunch CROP Walk @Joe Ford 2 pm
25 TUE	Women Clergy 12:30 pm
27 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
30 SUN	Potluck

**Claudia's Away:**  
27 Sept. -3 Oct.

## Interfaith Moment

Maskel, Ethiopian Orthodox Church, September 26-27

Maskel celebrates the finding of the True Cross by the Roman Queen Helena, mother of the first Holy Roman Emperor of Rome, Constantine. The story in Ethiopian lore tells that while searching in the Holy Land, she received instruction in a dream to light a large bonfire and follow the smoke. When she did, it led her to the spot where the True Cross was buried<sup>[1]</sup>. It is a belief of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church that a piece of the True Cross came to be protected and hidden in Ethiopia<sup>[2]</sup>.

The day before Maskel, large bonfires (Demeras) are lit in cities and villages across the country. Branches are arranged around a central pole. They are left to burn until there is nothing but ash. It is tradition to see which way the pole falls as a sign of the year to come. The day of Maskel is a day of worship and feasting<sup>[1]</sup>.

The festival of Maskel is extremely unique, with Ethiopia not only being the only country to commemorate the finding of the True Cross on such a national holiday, but also preserving the local story of the dream and bonfire of Saint Helena. It has been celebrated for nearly 1,600 years. For these reasons, it is now recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage festival<sup>[2][3]</sup>.

As we have just finished a series on the power of meditation, the story of Maskel is a good lesson that while dedication is important, sometimes it can't get us completely to where we need to be. We need to be open to the whispered messages, guidance, and inspiration around us.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201710030959.html>

<https://www.readthespirit.com/religious-holidays-festivals/tag/queen-helena/>

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/commemoration-feast-of-the-finding-of-the-true-holy-cross-of-christ-00858>

**COMING UP THIS MONTH:**

## Nonviolent Owensboro, and a Week of Nonviolent Actions

Nonviolent Owensboro is participating in the Campaign Nonviolence National Week of Actions. They are organizing or sponsoring a number of events around Owensboro, September 11 through September 20.

The observances start Tuesday, September 11, with an Interfaith Meditation Service and Peace Vigil. It will be held at IUU, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. It will feature prayers and meditation from a variety of traditions.

The next event is a film screening September 17, at Daviess County Public Library. The film, *I am not Your Negro*, is a documentary on civil rights and racism that features the story of activist James Baldwin. The event starts at 6 pm.

The week wraps up on the International Day of Peace, with the Owensboro Peace Rally. It will be held from 6 pm to 7 pm, at Smother's Park on Thursday, September 20.

For more information, see <https://www.facebook.com/NVOBO/>.

### The Quirky Vegetarian

Here is where next month's menu will be posted.

## The Quirky Vegetarian

Putting on very own vegetarian pop-up restaurant once a month, in the Chalice Center, on the 3rd Monday. Our first event will be October 15. This will be a fundraiser for important projects such as founding an Interfaith Center, paying the electric bill, and feeding our minister.

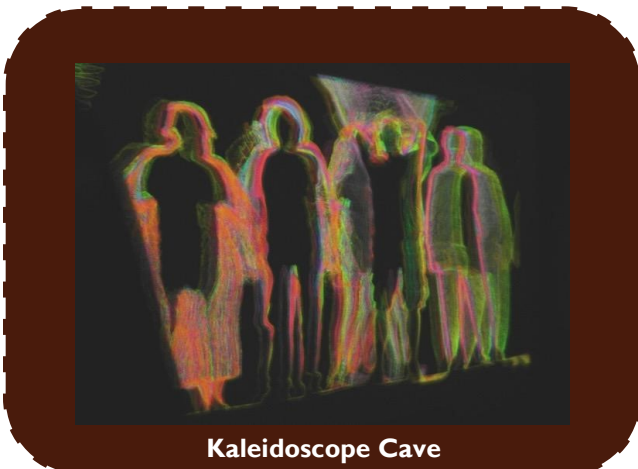
This will be a limited and by reservation only event. We will put up fliers and spread the word by mouth, and those interested can contact Clau-

dia or Linda to make reservations and prepay. Reservations are limited to 23 persons. The menu will be announced at the beginning of each month, here in this newsletter, on our Facebook page, and on the announcement board. Reservations close the Wednesday before the 3rd Monday.

We need fliers posted, word spread, volunteers to either help cook or help serve. Many dishes will be able to be prepared at home. This is neces-

sary as we only have one small stove in the Chalice Center. Those cooking will be provided with recipes and ingredients. If you are interested in helping, please let Linda, Rachael, or Claudia know. Watch for each month's menu, posted in the newsletter.

### LAST MONTH'S CORNER



**Kaleidoscope Cave**



**Multicultural Festival**