

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Owensboro



Tom Hicks, President



MAY 2015



Rev. Dr. Claudia A. Ramisch, Minister



*FOR ALL WHO MOTHER* by Rev. Dr. Victoria Weistein

*We reflect in thanksgiving this day for all those whose lives have nurtured ours. The life-giving ones Who heal with their presence Who listen in sympathy Who give wise advice ... but only when asked for it. We are grateful for all those who have mothered us Who have held us gently in times of sorrow Who celebrated with us our triumphs -- no matter how small Who noticed when we changed and grew, who praised us for taking risks who took genuine pride in our success, and who expressed genuine compassion when we did not succeed. On this day that honors Mothers let us honor all mothers -men and women alike- who from somewhere in their being have freely and wholeheartedly given life, and sustenance, and vision to us.*



## ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

The Annual Meeting was held on 26 April immediately following service. Reports were

offered by the President of the Board, the Chair of Congregational Life, the Treasurer, and the Minister. Printed copies of these reports were distributed and are posted in the sanctuary.

The new Board was elected: President, Tom Hicks; Vice-president, Linda Craig; Secretary, DuWayne Keenan; Members-at-large, Scott Payne and Claud Porter. We are grateful for your willingness to serve the Congregation in leadership positions!

Thank you, to Eleanor Gray-Coe for your Board work this past year. Thank you, to Helen Bea, Rebecca Hopkins, and Maude Earhart for service to the Congregational Life Committee this past year. We are appreciative of your efforts and investment in UUCO.

A proposal was made to take the final steps to become a Welcoming Congregation. The action steps and significance of this designation were discussed. With an affirmative vote by the assembly, we have just two things left to do: Complete the educational component (watch

for details on when this will be scheduled) and file the application. We hope to have this done before Coming Out Day in October.

Programming projections for 2015-16 were unveiled. The plan includes several events that are now part of UUCO's identity (e.g. MLK Coffeehouse, Denounce Torture events,) a new retreat/workshop series entitled, "Life Is Sacramental," and a short series of Book Discussions. New programs will be offered to the general public for a fee; members and friends of UUCO will get a special rate.

The This Little Light Grant recipient was named, the project described, and our grant intention affirmed. This year's grantee is Working Hands, an organization offering short term help to working families experiencing a "gap" due to an emergency situation. Such families usually don't qualify for assistance--and usually don't need long-term support.



We offer a special thanks to Tom Hicks for keeping everything going while Claudia was on Sabbatical. It is because members continue to "step up," that we continue to operate! But it is because of goodwill while "stepping up" that we are poised to begin our new year with firm hope and glad anticipation!



## INTERFAITH MOMENT: NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Day of Prayer has been designated by the United States Congress. 36 U.S.C. § 119 says: "The President shall issue each year a proclamation designating the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Prayer on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals." The modern law formalizing its annual observance was enacted in 1952, although earlier days of fasting and prayer had been established by the Second Continental Congress from 1775 until 1783, and by President John Adams in 1798 and 1799.

The official designation is not to be confused with the National Day of Prayer Task Force which is an evangelical Christian organization that dominates the celebration in many areas. In fact, the Task Force is coordinating a local event at the Courthouse again this year. This event on 7 May includes a complete reading of the Bible and begins at 11:30 am.

In contrast, the American Humanist Association protests the National Day of Prayer. They are pursuing a designation for the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Reason. Several states will have events on this theme this year. If no event is nearby, the AHA recommends doing community service on that day.

As we have done for several years, our Thursday evening Meditation on 7 May will be dedicated to offering goodwill and encouragement for national leaders and for our country using prayers and reflections from many traditions--including Humanism. Whether you are able to attend one of these events or not, please surround with attention and blessing the needs of our nation and its leadership.

## UPCOMING EVENTS GET READY!



### YARD SALE

It's that time of year when we ask for the treasures and gems you know must leave your home for someone else's! Goods can be dropped off anytime the church is open. Please mark them clearly: YARD SALE. This event tithes to OASIS.



### BE COOL GO GREEN

Here's last year's team hanging at the Farmer's Market with hot coffee for the early morning shoppers and iced tea for the midday browsers...



### MULTICULTURAL FEST

On the 3rd Saturday of August, First Presbyterian hosts ethnic, religious, and cultural organizations on their front lawn. Food, drink, entertainment, and education fill the day!

**NEEDS:**

- Volunteers before the events
- Staff for the events
- Cheerleaders to invite the community to events

## May Events

SAT 02 8:30 am	Reiki Appointments
SUN 03 10:30 am	This Little Light Grant Disbursement
WED 06 1-5 pm	Minister: Home Office
WED 06 6 pm	Board Meeting
THU 07 6/6:30 pm	Tai Chi/ Qi Gong Meditation (National Day of Prayer)
SUN 10 11:45 am	Standing Women for Peace
TUE 12 9-11 am	Minister: Home Office
TUE 12 12 n	Interfaith Study
THU 14 10 am-1 pm	Minister: Home Office
THU 14 6/6:30 pm	Tai Chi/ Qi Gong Meditation
THU 21 6/6:30 pm	Tai Chi/ Qi Gong Meditation
FRI 22 6:30 pm	Drum Circle
THU 28 9 am	Owensboro Daviess Co. Ministerial Association
THU 28 6/6:30 pm	Tai Chi/ Qi Gong Meditation
SUN 31 11:45 am	5th Sunday Potluck



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Owensboro is a visionary church that builds healthy relationships and advocates a just society through spiritual growth, ethical action, and community service.

UUCO Mission Statement