

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



Community Events This Month

March 21, Color Blast 5K will be held at Moreland Park in Owensboro. This is an annual noncompetitive 5K where participants wear white and are doused with colored powder every mile. It benefits four local non-profit organizations supporting those with disabilities; these are Puzzle Pieces, GRADSA, Dream Rider’s of Kentucky, and Team Karlie. For more information go to <http://www.colorblast5k.org/>. To sign up, go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/KY/Owensboro/ColorBlast5k>.

The Wendell Foster Center will be holding their second annual Half Marathon at Smother’s Park on March 14. This will be a competitive event, complete with prizes. For more information, see <https://wendellfoster.org/halfmarathon/>.

The Foundation for Healing Through the Arts will be putting on *A Memory, a Monologue, a Rant, and a Prayer: One Shot at The Spot* on March 8 at 4 pm. The event will be hosted at The Spot Coffee and Finery, at 217

Williamsburg Square. Proceeds benefit New Beginnings Sexual Assault Support Services, the local crisis center which supports the seven county GRADD area.

Excerpt from: *Release*

By Peter Friedrichs

I long to embrace my life
with a lover’s touch,
or as you would an injured
wren:
precious, tender, true.

Instead, regret and fear,
twin anchors, hold me fast,
close in against the shore.

“Cast off! Cast off!”

I hear them call
from the open, exotic
lands
my heart yearns for.

But the waters in be-
tween
my here and theirs
hold unknown hazards,
unlike this dark familiar

port.

This day, a prayer:
To ease my grip
on what once was,
or what is meant to be.

That I may find
Myself content
To drift and float
Upon life’s boundless sea.

MARCH EVENTS

01 SUN	Women's Peace Mvmt Pt 1 Bag Lunch
02 MON	NonVlt O'boro 6:30 pm
03 TUE	Crochet for a Cause postponed organizer on maternity leave
08 SUN	Board Mtg 9 am Women's Peace Mvmt Pt 2 Bag Lunch
09 MON	Buddhist Meditation 6 pm
12 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
14 SAT	Pi Day Meeting Bowling Green
15 SUN	Guest Preacher: Women's Peace Mvmt Lunch Out (Y)
19 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
22 SUN	Member Reflection Bag Lunch
23 MON	Buddhist Meditation 6 pm
26 THU	Yoga & Meditation 6 pm
29 SUN	Potluck

CONSCIENTIOUS SHOPPER?

Consider the following great gifts:

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

Interfaith Moment

Holi, March 10

Updated and reprinted from March 2018

Holi is known as The Festival of Colors. Worldwide, it is observed by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs; in India, it is observed by nearly everyone, regardless of religion. A Spring and Harvest festival, it is also associated with the legend of Prince Prahlad, as well as a legend of Lord Krishna's youth.

Paraphrased from the Hindu American Foundation (HAF), the legend of Prince Prahlad is a tale of the reward of virtue. Despite being the son of the Demon King Hiranyakashyap, Prince Prahlad was a faithful devotee of Vishnu. Because Prahlad refused forsake Vishnu, his father tried to have him killed many times, all unsuccessfully. Eventually the job fell to his father's sister, the demon Holika. Immune to fire, she tried to hold the boy inside flame to murder him. To her surprise, her immunity to fire was lost because she used it for evil. She perished, and Prince Prahlad was saved by Vishnu.

The legend of Lord Krishna's youth that has become associated with Holi concerns his uniqueness and playfulness. According to HAF, when he asked his mother why he had blue skin unlike his playmates, his mother playfully suggested throwing color on them. Taken by the idea, Lord Krishna started the tradition of throwing color during the Spring festival.

Besides the streets being filled with clouds of colored powder and streams of colored water shot at passersby through water guns, the joyousness of the festival is also shown in the relaxation of social rules and distinctions (class, caste, gender). Everyone is fair game.

For more information, please visit the following links: http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/hinduism/holydays/holi_1.shtml, and <https://www.hafsite.org/media/pr/holi-toolkit>.

COMING UP THIS MONTH:

THIS LITTLE LIGHT

Sunday, May 3 we will be presenting our annual This Little Light Grant. This grant is outside our regular budget and is funded through donations from members and friends. It comes to around \$18.25 per person. If you haven't yet

made a donation to the fund, please do so. There is a guitar-shaped bank in the sanctuary for your donations.

New Meditation Group

We have a new meditation opportunity hosted at our church. There will be a Buddhist meditation group meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:00 pm. This group is

organized by Paul Edmonds, along with Namchak.org of Owensboro.