

QUOTES FROM FAMOUS AMERICAN UNITARIANS AND UNIVERSALISTS

Original language preserved

Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) It was we, the people; not we, the white male; not yet we, the male citizens; but we the whole people, who formed the Union.

Olympia Brown (1835-1926) There is nothing in all the world so important to you as to be loyal to the faith which has placed before you the loftiest ideal, comforted you in sorrow, strengthened you for noble duty and made the world beautiful for you.

William Ellery Channing (1780-1842) The soul by its sense of right, or its perception of moral distinctions, is clothed with sovereignty over itself, and through this alone, it understands and recognizes the Sovereign of the Universe.

Clarence Darrow (1857-1938) The pursuit of truth shall set you free- even if you never catch up with it.

Dorothea Dix (1802-1887) The tapestry of history has no part at which you can cut it and leave the design intelligible.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) Cast conformity behind you, and acquaint men first hand with Deity.

Sophia Fahs (1876-1978) Life becomes religion whenever we make it so: when some new light is seen, when some deeper appreciation is felt, when some larger outlook is gained, when some nobler purpose is formed, when some task is well done.

Robert Fulghum (1937-) Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you.

Margaret Fuller (1810-1850) If you have knowledge, let others light their candles from it.

Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) For what is Mysticism? Is it not the attempt to draw near to God, not by rite or ceremonies, but by inward disposition? Is it not merely a hard word for "the Kingdom of Heaven is within?"

Aldai Stevenson (1900-1965) The power of the liberal is in helping ourselves and others to see some of the possibilities inherent in viewpoints other than one's own.



WELCOME TO 1UU: THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF OWENSBORO

OUR COVENANT

Written by our founders in 1987

We come together in love, open to each other's beliefs.

As a congregation, we create a place for open dialogue, search for truth, meaning, spiritual growth, and justice.

To these ends we commit to each other and to the larger community ourselves and our talents.



**We are a Welcoming Congregation,
home to the Owensboro Interfaith Center,
and Planning Headquarters for Faith Fest Owensboro.**



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Owensboro was founded in 1987 and officially chartered by the Unitarian Universalist Association in April 1988. The Honor Roll of founding members hangs proudly in our entryway.

OUR MISSION

Building healthy interfaith relationships through education, dialogue, and service

OUR CURRENT LEADERSHIP

We are available to answer questions and help you settle into our company.

We encourage you to come several times to get used to the flow.

President: Ray Kassinger (270) 499-0892

Minister: Rev. Dr. Claudia A. Ramisch
(270) 683-1462 hermitstuff@bellsouth.net



**1221 CEDAR ST.
(Corner of Cedar & Parrish)
OWENSBORO KY 42301
www.uuowensboro.org**



PARTICIPATION IN OUR CONGREGATION

TO BECOME A MEMBER If you embrace the principles espoused by the Unitarian Universalist Association and concur with our covenant, you are invited to consider membership. New members attend an Orientation Program (4 sessions) and are approved by the Board. Ask a board member or the minister to help you make this commitment.

PLEDGE COMMITMENTS Our annual canvass asks participants in the congregation to make a pledge whether they are members or friends. Annual pledges are required of voting members. Pledges are made in the form of money, goods, volunteer services, and participation in activities. A packet is available at the church or by email.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Worship: Sunday Service is at 12 noon. Our minister preaches on three Sundays of each month. A member preaches on our Values and Purposes (2023 UUA Proposed Article II revision) on the other Sundays. UU churches practice freedom of the pulpit meaning that the preacher is wholly responsible for the content of the sermon as well as choosing topics.

As an interfaith Congregation, our worship includes Doing Theology Sundays (when we share our own understanding of a presented topic) and Interfaith Education about major feast and observances of the world's enduring Traditions.

Religious Education: Coffee & Conversation is Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Chalice Center. Topics are posted on the bulletin board.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

We participate in at least one public event a month. Some occur every year:

- January— MLK Commemorative Coffeehouse
- Spring— CROP Hunger Walk
- June— Pride Picnic
- August— Multicultural Fest
- September— 9/11 Peace Vigil
- October— Coming Out Day
- November— Faith Fest & Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

SUMMER SERIES

Every summer we do a 5-6 week series on Sunday mornings. It's on a different interfaith topic each year, includes extended periods for meditation, and engages us more playfully than the rest of the year.

ABOUT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

The Unitarian and Universalist movements in the United States trace their roots to the time of the pilgrims and their desire for religious freedom. However, Unitarian Universalism is a relatively new association of those two older traditions that were known as “free churches” or “liberal religions.”

Unitarianism actually began in the earliest Christian Church. It emphasized the Oneness of God. The formulation of the Nicene Creed in 325 CE established the Trinity as Christian dogma and made Unitarianism's beliefs heretical. It resurfaced in the Anti-Trinitarian movement of the Radical Reformation.

In 1568, King John Sigismund, the only Unitarian king ever, issued the Edict of Torda allowing full religious toleration in Transylvania. Unitarianism reached its height in Rakow, Poland in the early 1600's where an ecumenical theological school and annual synod flourished. Social acceptance of Unitarianism waned with the reassertion of dogmatic traditions, but continued to live in England and then moved to America. The American Unitarian Association was formed in 1825.

Universalism also began in the earliest church. It emphasized the belief that God intended salvation to be universal. It resurfaced as a response to elements of the Protestant Reformation that emphasized predestination and theories of eternal punishment. It spread across Europe to England and then to America where it was officially organized in 1793.



In America the two traditions thrived as influential minorities. Many educators, social reformers, justice activists, politicians, and humanitarians that shaped our American heritage were associated with either the Unitarians or Universalists.

In 1961, the two communities decided they could be a stronger liberal voice, especially in the Civil Rights Movement, if they joined together. The Unitarian Universalist Association was formed as a non-creedal faith based on principles. Soon non-Christians began to join us. Today, we are vibrant interfaith congregations continuing the tradition of free and liberal religion by embracing the loftiest ideals of all World religions, the inspiration of the arts, the discoveries of science, and the insights of personal spiritual seeking.