



Newsletter from
The Tristate
Hindu Temple
& Cultural
Center

November 2016

Bhagavad Gita 9:22

*Ananya-s-chintayanto maam yae janaah pary-upaasatae
Taesham nithya-abhi-yuktaanaam yoga-kshemam vahami-aham*

(Those people who take refuge in me, think of none but me, always united in me,

To them, I take the responsibility of granting everything needed and preserving everything granted)

A message from Panditji, Shri Surendra Mishra:

Diwali is the most significant religious festival among Hindus. Diwali, also known as Deepavali, is the Festival of Lights. The festival spiritually signifies the victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, good over evil, and hope over despair. In most places, Diwali is celebrated for five days.

Diwali is historically a Hindu festival with its origins in the era of Lord Rama or probably even before that at the time of churning of the milky ocean when Goddess Lakshmi came out as the boon to the Gods and the whole humanity. Various deities are worshipped and appeased during the celebrations, of whom Goddess Lakshmi, Lord Ganesha, Lord Kuber are the most prominent names that come to mind. Lord Yamraj, God Dhanvantari, God Hanuman, Goddess Kali, Goddess Saraswathi and Lord Krishna are also worshipped during Diwali.

In other news:

Mata Ki Chowki and Dussehra celebrations:



Meet our Champions behind the scenes:

The Volunteer Committee:

The Volunteer Committee devotes their time to keep the Temple open when Panditji is away from the Temple for Pooja ceremonies at the homes of our community members or on vacation. Panditji is off on Mondays and the volunteers open the temple from 6 – 7.30 pm for bhajans, discourses, meditation and aarti. The current committee includes: **Dr. Santaram Chilukuri, Mrs. Annapurna Kalva, Dr. Prahlad Kedia (Chair), Mr. Vinodbhai Patel, Mr. Arvindbhai Patel and Mr. Gopalbhai Patel.** We offer our sincerest thanks and gratitude to our Volunteers for the time they spent for our community. In November and December, Panditji is going to India for 5 weeks on vacation, and we need more members to volunteer and help keep the temple open and active in his absence. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the temple or Dr. Prahlad Kedia.

Sunday School:

The Vedic Heritage Sunday School is held at the temple from 5-6.30 pm. The schedule includes yoga, crafts/art/coloring session, shloka and bhajan lessons, basics of the Hindi language, and stories/snack session. A long term curriculum is being worked on with inclusion of Bhagavad Gita and other activities.

In the last few weeks we did shlokas, yoga and crafts. The kids are now actively preparing for their presentation at the Cultural Society of India Diwali function in Owensboro. Please bring your children for the classes and introduce them to our cultural and religious heritage. **The school is in session at the Tristate Hindu Temple on Sundays from 5-6.30 pm.**

Diwali 2016:



Exciting news on the Temple Expansion Plan:

To follow up on information from the previous newsletter: The Board of Trustees met on October 22, 2016 and voted to approve the Temple Expansion Plan. Once the finer details and concerns from Board Members are worked out, the **New Temple Plan will be presented to all of you in the General Body Meeting, currently scheduled for December 11, 2016 at 3 pm.** Here is a preliminary sketch presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees by our Architect. We, at the various temple committees are of course, tremendously excited ... and hope to bring you more details very soon.



NORTHEAST AERIAL

TRISTATE HINDU TEMPLE
NEWBURGH, IN

LAMAR
ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN



SITE PLAN

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This newsletter is a humble attempt to keep the community updated on the events and activities at the Tristate Hindu Temple and Cultural Center. We would like to hear your suggestions and comments. Please feel free to write to us at tristate.temple@gmail.com