Nurturing and Supporting Adult Spiritual Growth

General Assembly 2010

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Who are the adults in our congregations?





What do ADULT LEARNERS Need?





Reflection on an adult learning experience

- What was that new learning?
- Did you set out to learn it or did the learning happen in the course of something else?
- What made it possible for you to learn what you learned?
- What made it desirable for you to learn what you learned?

Characteristics of adult learners

- They come with experience.
- They ask questions.
- Some are skeptical and challenging; others are goaloriented.
- They make commitments to learning what has relevance in their lives.
- They are voluntary learners who are self-directed and highly motivated under the right conditions.
- They seek particular kinds of information and experiences to supplement what they already know.

In short....

Adults seek information and learning that is useful to them to navigate their lives.



FAITH DEVELOPMENT



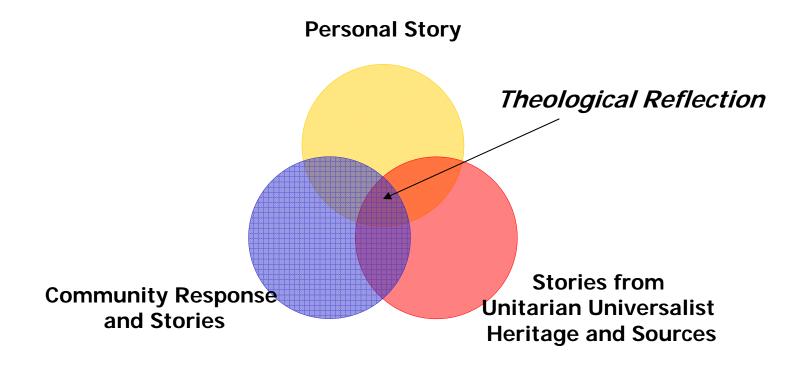
A special kind of adult learning

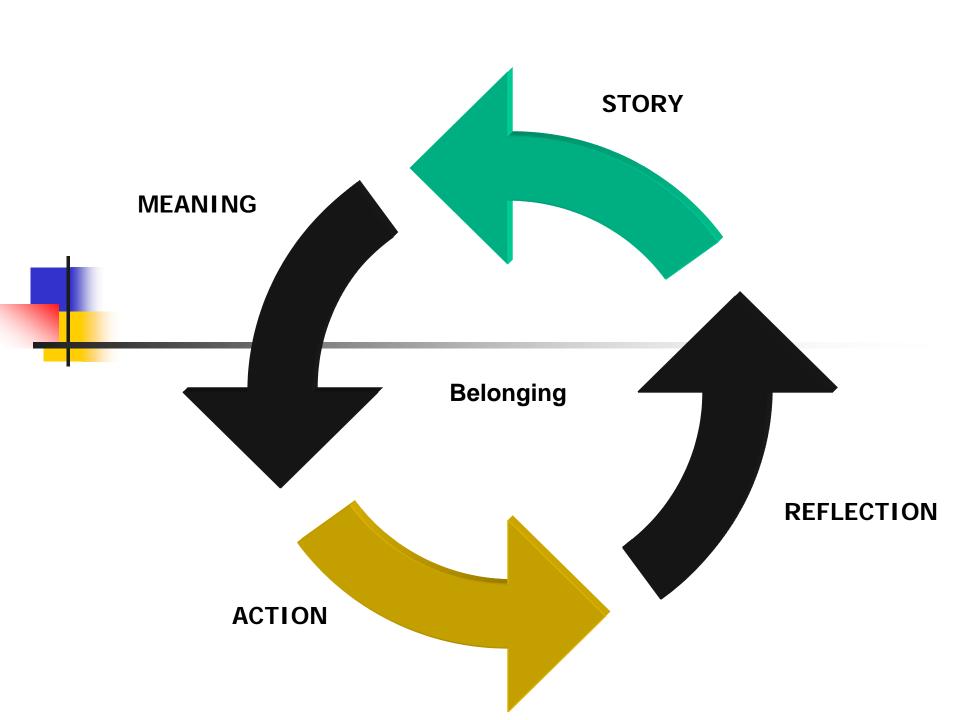
Sharing in Pairs

Recall a faith development experience that you have had as an adult, something that

- nurtured you as a spiritual being,
- or helped sustain you through a challenging time,
- or helped you identify a way in which you are called to bring more love and justice into the world.

Theological Reflection Model





PRACTICAL TIPS

Conduct a Needs Assessment

- I would like to...
- Know more about UUism
- Connect with other people
- Explore, deepen, and nurture my sense of spirituality
- Engage deep religious or ethical questions
- Other_____

The best times for me are _____



- Keep your plans simple and manageable
- Offer variety and balance

VOLUNTEERS



Pay attention to how you recruit, train and support volunteers



www.uua.org

- Put "adults" in the search box
- Go to "Top Picks for Adult Faith Development"



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