



UUA Call for Fieldtest Congregations Two New Tapestry of Faith Children's Curricula

September, 2009

The UUA seeks fieldtesting congregations diverse in size, location and culture.

Faithful Journeys, for Grades 2/3

By the Rev. Alice Anacheka-Nasemann and the Rev. Lynn Ungar Faithful Journeys teaches children who Unitarian Universalists are, what we believe and how we make decisions and use our personal agency to act in faith. The program equips children with language and experiences to develop and articulate a strong UU faith identity. Stories introduce Fanny Barrier Williams, Christopher Reeve, Sophia Lyon Fahs, Ethelred Brown and others from our faith heritage. Activities range from making a Zen garden and planning a "minimalist" party to staging a peace songs parade and playing a card-matching game to better understand our Unitarian Universalist Principles. Throughout the program, children have opportunities to share their own stories of faithful action and represent them with footprints or wheelchair tracks on a Faithful Journeys Path.

Windows and Mirrors, for Grades 4/5

By Gabrielle Farrell, Natalie Fenimore and Dr. Jenice View. The metaphor of windows and mirrors represents the dynamic relationship among our self-awareness, our views of others and our reflections on how others may see us. Children explore their own perspectives and learn to seek out, care about and respect those of others. Sessions explore topics intrinsically filled with diversity—for example, economic justice, anti-racism, forgiveness and prayer. Each session affirms that there are always multiple viewpoints and everyone's viewpoint matters. Each child makes a Window/Mirror Panel, exploring the metaphor creatively in response to session topics. As a mirror, the panel reflects aspects of the individual child. As a window, it represents their view beyond themselves to the local and global communities to which they belong. A collective display at the program's conclusion gives the congregation a window into the children's experiences and a mirror to see themselves.

Each program offers:

- 16 sessions
- Informative introductory material to prepare teachers to lead effectively
- Goals and learning objectives for each session
- Core stories that teach UU values, Principles and religious concepts
- Engaging activities based on a variety of learning styles
- Session activity choices to help you tailor the session to your needs
- Parent resources and Taking It Home activities for families
- Faith in Action activities to engage the group in living our faith within or outside the congregation
- On-line format that is free, searchable and adaptable.

For more information and to apply to be a fieldtest congregation, contact fieldtest@uua.org or Alicia LeBlanc at 617-948-4371.