

Unitarian Universalist Association
Affirming the Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person

UUA Teacher Development Survey

1. Welcome!

Dear friends and colleagues,

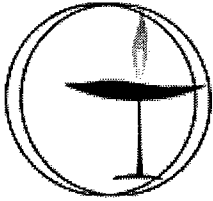
Thank you for participating in our confidential survey about preparing and supporting teachers in Lifespan Faith Development (LFD) programs. Whether ministering to adults or youth, most LFD programs depend on volunteer teachers. Those working with children and youth may experience teaching as a nourishing spiritual act. Without support, they may find it challenging and frustrating. How do we train, nurture and sustain lifespan faith development teachers? This survey focuses on current and future practices.

Lifespan faith development programs create shared ministry. All program participants are teachers and learners together, regardless of age. While we use many terms to describe those leading and guiding our educational programs, in this survey we use the term teacher.

We hope that you enjoy this survey. We look forward to learning from you. Your responses, collected through a secure network, will be kept strictly confidential and will inform future UUA resource development. If you have any questions about this survey or topic, please feel free to contact me (thurd@uua.org). On behalf of the UUA Lifespan Faith Development group, thank you!

In faith,

Tracey L. Hurd, Ph.D.
Resource Developer
Lifespan Faith Development
Unitarian Universalist Association



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2. Your Lifespan Faith Development Program

1. Size of Children/Youth Program

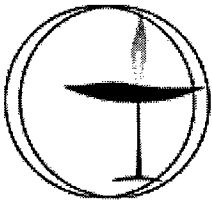
- Small (under 50)
- Mid-Size (50-199)
- Large (200 or more)
- Comments

2. Congregation Size

- Small (up to 150 members)
- Mid-Size (150-550 members)
- Large (550+ members)
- Comments

3. Place

- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban



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3. Current Focus for Preparing and Supporting Teachers

This section asks questions about what content you focus on when preparing and supporting teachers in your lifespan faith development programs.

4. Briefly describe the content you focus on in your current approach to prepare and support teachers in your program.

5. In my current approach, I focus on Unitarian Universalism...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never

6. In my current approach, I focus on Team Teaching...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never

7. In my current approach, I focus on Curriculum...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never

8. In my current approach, I focus on Logistics... (e.g. attendance, medical information, room, time, etc.)

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never

9. In my current approach, I focus on Classroom Management...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



10. In my current approach, I focus on Supplies...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



11. In my current approach, I focus on Safe Congregation guidelines...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



12. In my current approach, I focus on Developmental Characteristics of Children or Youth...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



13. In my current approach, I focus on Families...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



14. In my current approach, I focus on Anti-Bias Education...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never



15. In my current approach, I focus on Worship...

Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never




16. In my current approach I focus on Adult (Teacher) Spiritual Development...


Always Usually Occasionally Rarely Never




17. In your current approach to preparing and supporting teachers, what are your Top Five Priorities?

To find possible items, click on the arrows next to the boxes.

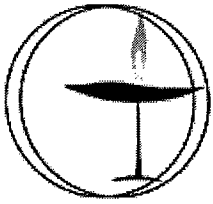
First Priority: 

Second Priority: 

Third Priority: 

Fourth Priority:

Fifth Priority:



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4. Current Format for Preparing and Supporting Teachers

This section asks questions about the formats you use when preparing and supporting teachers for your lifespan faith development program.

18. My current format includes Group Training Sessions. (Please indicate the length of time and frequency in the Comments box.)

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

19. My current format includes Individual Meetings with Teachers and the Religious Educator.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

20. My current format includes Teaching Team Meetings.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never

Comments

21. My current format includes providing Written Materials (including teacher training handbooks, articles, books, inspiration, pamphlets). Please specify in the comments box.

Always

Usually

Occasionally

Rarely

Never

Comments

22. My current format includes providing Opportunities for Written Reflection (e.g. weekly evaluation of lessons or monthly meetings for those who teach). Please specify in the comments box.

Always

Usually

Occasionally

Rarely

Never

Comments

23. My current format includes Mentorships (both formal and informal). Please specify in comments box.

Always

Usually

Occasionally

Rarely

Never

Comments

24. My current format for preparing and supporting teachers includes Small Group Ministry.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Please comment:

25. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in Workshops (including district conferences). Please specify in comments box.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

26. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in Trainings (e.g. OWL trainings). Please specify in comments box.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

27. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in Retreats (e.g. gatherings of religious education teachers). Please specify in comments box.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

28. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in UU Weeklong Camps or Conferences. Please specify in comments box.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

29. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in General Assembly.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

30. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in Renaissance Modules.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally

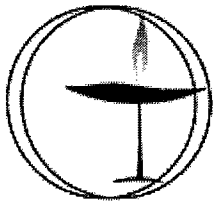
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments

31. My current format includes encouraging teacher participation in local community and/or academic workshops.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Sometimes

32. My current format for preparing and supporting teachers, includes encouraging teacher participation in Intergenerational Programs (e.g. family life education or programs). Please specify in the comments box.

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Comments



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5. Future Visions for Preparing and Supporting Teachers

This section asks questions about what you would like to do to prepare and support teachers in your lifespan faith development programs.

33. Which of the following would you ideally like to offer to teachers? Please comment with detail.

Outside the Congregation Opportunities?

Workshops (including district conferences)	
Trainings (including particular curricula training such as OWL)	
Retreats (e.g. gatherings of religious education teachers, committees, etc.)	
UU weeklong RE camps or conferences	
General Assembly (GA)	
Renaissance Modules	
Local Community and/or Academic Workshops	
Other	

34. Which of the following would you ideally like to provide for teachers? Please comment with detail.

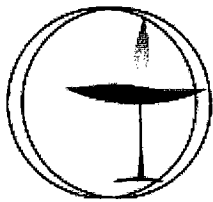
Within Congregation Opportunities?

Small group ministry (including groups just for teachers)	
Intergenerational programs (e.g. family life education or programs)	
Meetings of teaching teams with the Religious Educator	
Mentorships (both formal and informal)	
Other	

35. Which of the following would you ideally like to offer to teachers? Please comment with detail.

Individual Opportunities?

On-line Learning Opportunities	
CD's on UU topics or teaching, for home use	
Videos on UU topics or teaching, for home use	



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6. Future Approaches

This section asks questions about what teachers in your lifespan faith development program request for preparation and support. It also asks for your perspective on approaches that might work.

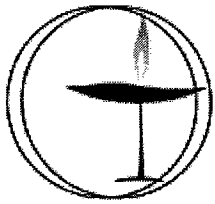
36. What experiences or resources do teachers in your lifespan faith development program request? Please comment freely.

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37. As you envision future preparation and support of teachers, what approaches would you most like to use?

To find possible choices, click on the arrows next to the boxes.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

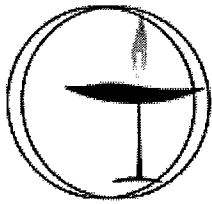


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7. Your Thoughts

Please share your thoughts and visions for teacher preparation and support in your lifespan faith development programs.



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8. About You

Thank you for filling out the survey. This section asks questions about who you are. All information is strictly confidential.

39. Your Identification/Position in Congregation

- Religious Education Professional
- Minister
- Other
- Other (please specify)

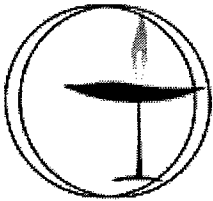
40. Congregation

41. Name/Contact Information

42. Email address

43. Address

Street	<input type="text"/>
City	<input type="text"/>
State	<input type="text"/>
Zip	<input type="text"/>



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9. Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this confidential survey. Your input is vital to our efforts to meet the needs of congregations. We are grateful to you for sharing your current practice, thoughts and visions. Updates about this survey and our ongoing work on teacher preparation and support will be posted on the UUA Lifespan Faith Development website.

If you have any questions, concerns, or additional ideas about this topic, please feel free to contact Tracey Hurd at the UUA (thurd@uua.org). We share your commitment to lifespan faith development and recognize how pivotal your programs are to the life of our congregations and faith.

Again, thank you for filling out the survey and for all of your help.