

Sixth Principle Resources
for Unitarian Universalist
Congregations

On Flower
Communion
Sunday

Spring, 2009



*We Covenant to Affirm and
Promote the Goal of World
Community with Peace,
Liberty and Justice for All*

Celebrating Flower Communion is an excellent opportunity for UU congregations to express their commitment to our Sixth Principle: *We Covenant to Affirm and Promote the Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty and Justice for All.*

Following are a few suggestions for bringing *Sixth Principle Ministry* to life in relation to your Flower Communion service in Seven Areas:

- Spiritually,
- Through Education,
- Through Advocacy,
- Through Partnership,
- Through Stewardship,
- Through Pilgrimage and Witness, and
- Through Associational Leadership.

Hopefully they will inspire even more creative ideas.

For more information about any of the suggestions, or to share additional ideas, please contact the UUA's Office of International Resources

Spiritually

- Make good use of the excellent materials written and collected by Reginald Zottoli and [available on uua.org](https://www.uua.org). This collection includes historical information about Reverends Norbert and Maja Capek, readings written by Norbert Capek for the original Flower services, and suggestions of appropriate hymns.
- Include the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists (ICUU)'s most recent [Global Chalice Lighting Reading](#)

- Offer heartfelt thoughts and prayers for all U/U brothers and sisters around the world.
 - Extend your spiritual support to some of the [newest members](#) of the international U/U community in Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and Congo (Brazzaville).
 - Remember the new Bishop of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church - [Reverend Ferenc Balint](#).
 - Offer thanks for the [International Council of Unitarians and Universalists \(ICUU\)](#), [UU Partner Church Council \(UUPCC\)](#), [UU United Nations Office \(UU-UNO\)](#), [UU Global Aids Coalition \(UUGAC\)](#), [UU Service Committee \(UUSC\)](#), [UU Holdeen India Program \(UUHIP\)](#) and many others.
- Offer your spiritual support to religious people around the world, especially those who suffer for righteousness sake:
 - Remember the leaders of the [Coalition Against Water Privatization](#), and the work they are doing in South Africa.
 - The Ghanaian leaders of the "[Every Child Is Our Child](#)" program - and their North American partners at the UU United Nations Office.

Through Education

- Schedule a book group discussion of Richard Henry's biography, [Norbert Fabian Capek: A Spiritual Journey](#)
- Use intergenerational Religious Education materials [created by the UUPCC](#) or the ICUU's "[The Garden of Unitarian-Universalism](#)."
- Schedule a small group ministry focus on international engagement by using modules [created by the UUSC](#).

Through Justice Making and Advocacy

- During the Flower Communion service highlight the international advocacy work your congregation is already involved with, or invite the congregation to consider doing so by:
 - ◊ Becoming involved in the UUSC's [Drumbeat for Darfur campaign](#)
 - ◊ Participating in the [Peacemaking](#) study/action process
 - ◊ Using the [Resource Guide](#) to address the 2006 *Statement of Conscience* on Global Warming/Climate Change.

Through Partnership

- During the Flower Communion Service remember the importance of your congregation's international partnership with a UU congregation in Transylvania, Hungary, India or the Philippines.
- If your congregation doesn't have a partner-church, invite a conversation to become involved with partner church ministry through the UUPCC.

Through Faithful Stewardship

- Request a special offering during the Flower Communion service to support an international engagement project, like:
 - ◇ Supporting U/Uism in Africa.
 - ◇ The UU Church of the Philippine's Dormitory Project
 - ◇ The UU-UNO's "Every Child is Our Child" Program
 - ◇ The HIV/AIDS Orphanage Project of the [UU Association of Uganda](#)

(for more information about any of these funds, please contact the International Resources Office)

Through Pilgrimage and Witness

- During the Flower Communion Service or following it:
 - ◊ Announce a congregational pilgrimage to your partner church
 - ◊ Share pictures and stories about a recent congregational pilgrimage
 - ◊ Invite the congregation to imagine a place where their religious witness would be helpful, and invite them to plan to do so.
- Share information about [UUPCC pilgrimages](#) – no partner church experience required.
- Invite a speaker from a [UUSC Just Journeys](#) experience to share his or her experience with your congregation.

Through Associational Leadership

- Honor the International engagement leadership that a member of your congregation has provided locally or to the Unitarian Universalist movement.
- Commit to share your congregation's experiences in international engagement with other UU congregations – the [UUA's International Resources Office](#) would like to help you do so!

About *A Faith Without Borders*

A Faith Without Borders is a program developed by the UUA's International Resources Office which invites and supports congregational integration of a faithful and holistic vision of international engagement into their ministry.



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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
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