

**Teaching in Faith:**  
Some Recommended Resources  
Renaissance Teacher Development Module  
April, 2006

These resources are both about teaching adults and for adults teaching children/youth. Essex Conversations, Parker Palmer and Sharon Daloz Parks provide great foundations for thinking about teaching in the fullest sense in religious education settings. There are very important messages, incredibly accessibly presented in Kate Erslev's book. *Nurturing Children and Youth: A Developmental Guidebook* provides a comprehensive overview of typical child and youth development. Sally Patton's book gives good background about welcoming children and youth, typical and atypical. And the Adams et al, Derman-Sparks and colleagues, Tatum, and Teaching Tolerance resources are helpful to ensuring that our pedagogy aligns with our UU values and principles, by being actively anti-racist. Two ends of the lifespan continuum, early childhood and older adulthood are beautifully addressed in the Nieuwejaar and the Schachter-Shalom books, respectively. Also included, in separate small lists, are recommended resources for stories and recommended resources for active spiritual practices appropriate for UU lifespan faith development programs

**Some Suggested Resources:**

Adams, Maurianne, Bell Lee Anne, and Griffin, Pat. (Eds.) (1997). *Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice: A Sourcebook*. New York: Routledge.

Beaudoin, Thomas. (1998). *Virtual Faith: The Irreverent Spiritual Quest of Generation X*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Derman-Sparks and Ramsey, Patricia G. (2006). *What if All the Kids are White? Anti-Bias Multicultural Education with Young Children and Families*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Derman-Sparks, Louise & Phillips, Carol Brunson. (1997). *Teaching/Learning Anti-Racism: A Developmental Approach*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Essex Conversations Coordinating Committee (2001). *Essex Conversations: Visions for Lifespan Religious Education*. Boston: Skinner House.

Erslev, Kate Tweedie (2004). *Full Circle: Fifteen Ways to Grow Lifelong UUs*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

Fitzpatrick, Jean Grasso (1991). *Something More: Nurturing Your Child's Spiritual Growth*. New York: The Penguin Group, USA.

Fowler, James W. (1995) *Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning*. San Francisco: Harper.

Gardner, Howard (1993). *Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences*. New York: Basic Books.

Garland, Diana R. (1999). *Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Hurd, Tracey L. (2005). *Nurturing Children and Youth: A Developmental Guidebook*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

Jenkins, Peggy J. (1995). *Nurturing Spirituality in Children*. Hillsboro, OR: Beyond Words Publishing.

Moore, Mary Elizabeth (1998). *Teaching From the Heart*. Harrisburg: Trinity Press.

Myers, Barbara Kimes and Myers, William (1992). *Engaging in Transcendence: The Church's Ministry and Covenant with Young Children*. Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press.

Nieuwejaar, Jean (1999). *The Gift of Faith*. Boston: Skinner House.

Palmer, Parker (1997). *The Courage to Teach*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Parks, Sharon Daloz (2001) *Big Questions, Worthy Dreams: Mentoring Young Adults in their Search for Meaning, Purpose and Faith*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Patton, Sally (2004). *Welcoming Children with Special Needs: A Guidebook for Faith Communities*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

Schachter-Shalom, Zalman and Miller, Ron (1999) *From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Profound new vision for Growing Older*. New York: Warner Books.  
[www.spiritualeldering.org](http://www.spiritualeldering.org)

Tain, Shell (2003). *The Youth Group Advisor's Handbook*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

Tatum, Beverly Daniel (1997). *Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations about Race*. New York: Basic Books.

Teaching Tolerance Project. (1997). *Starting Small: Teaching Tolerance in Preschool and Early Grades*. Montgomery, AL: Southern Poverty Law Center.  
[www.tolerance.org](http://www.tolerance.org)

**Teaching Resources: Excellent Story Sources for UU Settings**

Buice, Christopher (1995). *Bucketful of Dreams: Contemporary Parables for All Ages*. Boston: Skinner House.

Grohsmeyer, Janeen K. (2004). *A Lamp in Every Corner: Our Unitarian Universalist Storybook*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

McDonald, Colleen M. (Ed.) (2003). *What if Nobody Forgave and Other Stories*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association.

Moore, Mary Ann (1994). *Hide and Seek with God*. Boston: Skinner House

Pearmain, Elisa Davy (1998). *Doorways to the Soul: Fifty-two Wisdom Tales from Around the World*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press.

Stafford, Anika (2005). *Aisha's Moonlit Walk: Stories and Celebrations for the Pagan Year*. Boston: Skinner House.

Williams, Betsy Hill (Ed.) (2003). *UU and Me: Collected Stories*. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association

### **Teaching Resources: Spiritual Practices with Children and Youth**

Alexander, Scott W. (1999). *Everyday Spiritual Practice: Simple Pathways for Enriching Your Life*. Boston: Skinner House.

Darian, Shea. (2001). *Seven Times the Sun: Guiding Your Child through the Rhythms of the Day*. Gilead Press. [www.gileadpress.net](http://www.gileadpress.net)