

Quotations for Association Sunday

☒ “The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to and exercise its corporate powers for religious, educational and humanitarian purposes. The primary purpose of the Association is to serve the needs of its member congregations, organize new congregations, extend and strengthen Unitarian Universalist institutions and implement its principles.”

Bylaws of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Article II; Section c-2.2.

☒ “We are each other’s business: we are each other’s harvest: we are each other’s magnitude and bond.”

Gwendolyn Brooks

☒ “The individual, if left alone from birth, would remain primitive and beastlike in thoughts and feelings to a degree that we can hardly conceive. Individuals are what they are and have the significance they have not so much by virtue of their individuality, but rather as a member of a great human community which directs their material and spiritual existence from the cradle to the grave.”

Albert Einstein in Ideas and Opinions

☒ “Universalists are often asked to tell where they stand. The only true answer to give to this question is that we do not stand at all—we move.”

L. B. Fisher

☒ “We live unavoidably side by side.”

Immanuel Kant

☒ “To grow, to be reborn, one must remain vulnerable...open to the possibility of more suffering, but also open to love.”

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

☒ “We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us.... And among those fibers, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects. On a daily basis, we affect the web of all existence, just as we are affected by it.”

Herman Melville

☒ “Is there an image for the church community which includes the sense of family but also helps us make sense of conflict and diversity—an image that will allow community to educate us (that is, lead us out) into the public realm? I have been helped by thinking of the church as ‘a school of the Spirit,’ a place where God is continually drawing me out of myself into larger life.”

Parker Palmer

☒ “A strange necessity has been laid upon me to devote my life to the central concern that transcends the walls that divide and would achieve in literal fact what is experienced as literal truth; human life is one and all [people] are members of one another. And this insight is spiritual and it is at the core or religious experience.”

Howard Thurman in the Creative Encounter, p 152.