

# Welcome to the Faith Development Office Webinar



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Before we get started.....

Please mute your microphone  
and turn off your camera.

Find the Meeting Chat box and  
introduce yourself.



## “Housekeeping”

Audio problem? Mute audio on your computer. Call in by phone.

We'll have time for questions at the end.

Recorded webinar, slides and transcript  
will be posted online:

[www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars](http://www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars)



# Theme Based Ministry: Highlights from LREDA Fall Conference October 2015

## Presenters

Sheila Schuh

DRE, First Unitarian Rochester NY

&

Eric Bliss

Youth Ministry Specialist, Pacific Western Region

## Host

Pat Kahn

Children and Family Programs Director

## . Tech Support

Alicia LeBlanc

Administrative and Editorial Assistant







# Child/Family Worship Template

**Introduction:** A sentence names the thematic angle in everyday language.

**Hymn:** A song captures the theme- we sing our values of being such a people.

**Greeting:** We literally greet the theme as it is alive in our greeting with each other.

**Chalice:** Symbol of our faith as a people.

**Mindfulness Practice:** Spiritual practice/skill education to use in living theme.

**Moment of Inquiry:** Container to challenge cultural messaging or norm concerning theme.

**UU Source:** Interacting with wisdom about the theme.

**Reflection:** What does the Source have to teach or remind UUs of with theme?

**Closing:** Send out to carry into groups/ world.



# Parenting As Spiritual Practice Template



- \*Settling in silence
- \*Celebrations/Mournings on prior month's theme
- \*Theme and how it relates to mindfulness, NVC
- \*Mindfulness exercise
- \*NVC and theme in Unitarian Universalism
- \*NVC exercise in pairs
- \*Gratitudes





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# Technology and Faith

*A UU Laboratory at LREDA*







## Chalice Lighting: [Contact](#)







## Check in

“What do I have faith in?” Think about it. Record your answer on smart technology (cell phone, tablet, or lap top).



## Activity: “Video Days”

- Watch your video. Fun, I know!
- Share the “gist” of your video in one sentence or phrase in the Chat Box.
- Pick one of your colleagues chat’s that resonates.
- Consider the following prompt:
  - Recognizing that revelation continues to unfold for us as UU’s and that we are a Living Tradition that incorporates new ideas into our theological framework, how has this interpretation of faith shaped yours (100 characters or less)?
- Share your reflections using the web, Twitter, or cell phone and your message will broadcast on our screen. As you see someone else’s text that grabs your attention, write it down or remember it.  
(polleverywhere.com)





## Spiritual Practice

- Take the chat that you selected and repeat it softly aloud three times.
- Sit silently for one minute in contemplation.
- Ponder any a-ha's or epiphanies that resulted.







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## Closing

“Enlightened leadership is spiritual if we understand spirituality not as some kind of religious dogma or ideology but as the domain of awareness where we experience values like creativity, insight and focused attention.”  
Deepak Chopra







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# Workshop Template

Opening fun about theme

Introduction

Listening Circle, may tie to theme

Reflection on theme from worship story

Learning activity exploring theme through Source/Room

Recap

Closing



# SoUUI Surfing

*A UU Youth Ministry Approach*



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# Field Trip: The UU Afterlife!



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# Example Field Trip: The Center and Xander's Story



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# Guest Speaker: Slam Nuba



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# Reflection Session



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# Attend a Worship





# Sending It Home



Group Me app <https://groupme.com/>

Monday – blessing

Tuesday – bedtime prayer

Wednesday – Meditation after school/work

Thursday – Teaching story with prompts

Friday – Interfaith or social justice event

Saturday – Sabbath

Sunday – info about the worship service and RE

Started with a pilot group – the RE Committee





# Questions?

## Closing Words



## Resources

**Theme Based Ministry web pages on UUA.org:**

<http://www.uua.org/re/themes>

**Call and Response blog post on TBM:**

<http://callandresponse.blogs.uua.org/deepening-in-faith-together-with-theme-based-ministry/>

**Full Week Faith website:**

<http://fullweekfaith.weebly.com/>

**Call and Response blog post on Full Week Faith:**

<http://callandresponse.blogs.uua.org/31-kinds-of-families/>

**July 2014 webinar on Full Week Faith:**

<http://www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars>





# Upcoming Webinars

## **Money Talk with Children and Families**

Gail Forsyth-Vail, Pat Infante, Elizabeth Terry

Tues. November 17 at 1 pm Eastern  
or, Wed. November 18 at 9 pm Eastern

## **Coming soon!**

Tues. December 15 at 1 pm Eastern  
or, Wed. December 16 at 9 pm Eastern

## **Four Kinds of Fun**

Gail Forsyth-Vail and Pat Kahn

Tues. January 19 at 1 pm Eastern  
or, Wed. January 20 at 9 pm Eastern



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