

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.230 --> 00:00:01.660

Thank you very much for joining us.

2

00:00:01.660 --> 00:00:04.795

Welcome back to everyone who was with us, uh, yesterday

3

00:00:05.015 --> 00:00:06.235

or the day before, or both.

4

00:00:07.205 --> 00:00:08.905

And if you're joining us for the first time today,

5

00:00:08.965 --> 00:00:10.145

you're also very welcome.

6

00:00:11.265 --> 00:00:12.425

I am Erika Baron.

7

00:00:12.665 --> 00:00:16.305

I have very short, uh, sort of reddish brown hair, uh,

8

00:00:16.305 --> 00:00:18.705

dark glasses, um, light skin.

9

00:00:18.925 --> 00:00:22.625

I'm wearing a maroonish top today,

10

00:00:22.765 --> 00:00:25.105

and I'm sitting in front of a very bright green wall.

11

00:00:26.515 --> 00:00:29.175

So before we dive in, we are going to take a minute

12

00:00:29.195 --> 00:00:31.335

to do a quick check-in in the chat.

13

00:00:32.315 --> 00:00:35.695

Uh, so take a moment to reflect and then type your answer.

14
00:00:35.835 --> 00:00:39.775
The prompt is share one thing you're still thinking about

15
00:00:39.795 --> 00:00:41.935
or chewing on from yesterday's session.

16
00:00:42.755 --> 00:00:44.495
And if you weren't here yesterday,

17
00:00:44.825 --> 00:00:47.335
share something you're hoping to get from our time today.

18
00:00:47.995 --> 00:00:51.015
And also, if you could, uh, introduce yourself with your,

19
00:00:51.885 --> 00:00:54.935
your name, your pronouns, and, um, affiliation.

20
00:00:54.935 --> 00:00:57.015
Meaning like, what congregation do you belong to

21
00:00:57.155 --> 00:01:00.415
or what other space in the EU universe do you inhabit?

22
00:01:01.075 --> 00:01:03.895
Um, so let's take a minute to do that.

23
00:01:05.625 --> 00:01:07.505
I also wanna say, while we are gathering,

24
00:01:07.545 --> 00:01:09.665
I will say this again later, but for you all who are here

25
00:01:09.725 --> 00:01:12.945
so far, um, that we are going

26
00:01:12.945 --> 00:01:14.985
to be in random breakouts today so

27

00:01:14.985 --> 00:01:16.665
that we can hear from each other.

28
00:01:17.325 --> 00:01:20.505
Um, except if you want to be in a quiet space.

29
00:01:20.685 --> 00:01:22.345
So if you don't wanna do breakouts later,

30
00:01:22.925 --> 00:01:24.305
if you could add a cue to the front

31
00:01:24.305 --> 00:01:25.705
of your name, that would be great.

32
00:01:30.225 --> 00:01:34.745
So what are you chewing on or hoping for today?

33
00:01:48.785 --> 00:01:52.895
Today is exciting because we're gonna start with, uh, okay,

34
00:01:52.955 --> 00:01:54.015
how are we gonna respond?

35
00:01:54.305 --> 00:01:56.255
Which I know a lot of you have been really waiting for.

36
00:01:56.475 --> 00:01:59.135
So that's it. You're here. Woo-hoo.

37
00:02:18.265 --> 00:02:19.395
Next step ideas.

38
00:02:19.765 --> 00:02:22.995
Still thinking about balancing accessibility needs of elders

39
00:02:22.995 --> 00:02:24.995
and disabled folks versus families

40
00:02:24.995 --> 00:02:26.635
and how they can sometimes feel at odds,

41
00:02:26.635 --> 00:02:27.995
even if they don't have to be.

42
00:02:27.995 --> 00:02:29.075
Thank you, Emily. That's great.

43
00:02:29.895 --> 00:02:32.755
Um, Holly says, some ideas for meeting the needs

44
00:02:32.755 --> 00:02:34.475
of my church's young families.

45
00:02:34.615 --> 00:02:37.035
Our church needs to learn about neurodiversity. Yes.

46
00:02:37.045 --> 00:02:40.675
Thank you. Uh, Julie says, I'm still thinking about

47
00:02:40.675 --> 00:02:42.635
how we get buy-in from families to be part

48
00:02:42.635 --> 00:02:43.715
of the community they need.

49
00:02:43.825 --> 00:02:45.395
Yeah, we're gonna talk about that today.

50
00:02:45.935 --> 00:02:47.235
Um, that is a challenge.

51
00:02:52.975 --> 00:02:55.075
We haven't talked about this specifically in this wave

52
00:02:55.075 --> 00:02:57.155
cohort, but Emily, I think it's important

53
00:02:57.665 --> 00:03:01.185
what you're getting at, which is that

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00:03:02.955 --> 00:03:07.135

we sort of often think about like bad behavior

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00:03:07.275 --> 00:03:09.255

that's in air quotes, um,

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00:03:09.915 --> 00:03:13.935

as like inherently problematic, which it's not really, um,

57

00:03:14.395 --> 00:03:18.695

but it is true that are folks who are, um,

58

00:03:19.215 --> 00:03:22.615

disabled or, and one of the key like rubs here is folks

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00:03:22.615 --> 00:03:25.695

who are hard of hearing, um, and kids being noisy, right?

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00:03:25.875 --> 00:03:28.455

And so like, how can we solve those as

61

00:03:30.055 --> 00:03:32.725

needs rather than, well, there's a white way to be, right?

62

00:03:32.905 --> 00:03:35.405

So like, how can we juggle the needs of different people?

63

00:03:35.465 --> 00:03:38.445

For sure. Uh, Raya says a sense of hope

64

00:03:38.465 --> 00:03:39.485

for raising resilient.

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00:03:39.485 --> 00:03:41.325

You, you kids. Yeah. Awesome.

66

00:03:42.305 --> 00:03:44.285

Um, all right, so keep these coming

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00:03:44.745 --> 00:03:47.285

and I am gonna turn it over to Lauren.

68
00:03:49.505 --> 00:03:50.885
All right. Thank you Erica.

69
00:03:52.195 --> 00:03:54.565
Good to be back with you all this morning.

70
00:03:54.945 --> 00:03:56.445
My name's Lauren Wyeth,

71
00:03:56.665 --> 00:04:00.685
and I am a white person in my mid fifties with curly

72
00:04:01.195 --> 00:04:02.365
dark blonde hair,

73
00:04:02.825 --> 00:04:07.285
and I'm wearing tortoise shell glasses, a greenish top

74
00:04:07.285 --> 00:04:12.085
that sort of matches my, um, anonymous hotel curtain

75
00:04:12.085 --> 00:04:13.205
that's behind me.

76
00:04:14.185 --> 00:04:18.965
Um, and, uh, I am very happy to be with you this morning.

77
00:04:19.305 --> 00:04:20.845
My pronouns are she or they.

78
00:04:22.375 --> 00:04:26.915
So I will do this first part of our agenda

79
00:04:27.065 --> 00:04:28.115
with us this morning.

80
00:04:28.215 --> 00:04:31.915
It has a similar, um, shape to the agenda

81

00:04:31.945 --> 00:04:34.675

that we've been using for the last couple of days.

82

00:04:34.915 --> 00:04:37.755

I don't think there's an agenda slide today though.

83

00:04:37.855 --> 00:04:40.355

So let me just remind you that we start

84

00:04:40.355 --> 00:04:44.395

by talking about the grounding question for the day, um, in,

85

00:04:44.775 --> 00:04:48.315

um, general as it rep, as it applies

86

00:04:48.335 --> 00:04:51.275

to our whole Unitarian Universalist movement.

87

00:04:51.655 --> 00:04:53.275

And then we hear some

88

00:04:53.275 --> 00:04:57.475

of the participants from our wave cohort that met this, um,

89

00:04:58.295 --> 00:05:01.555

winter talking about it specifically in relationship

90

00:05:01.615 --> 00:05:02.955

to their experience as parents.

91

00:05:03.015 --> 00:05:04.995

And then we talk about it ourselves here.

92

00:05:05.935 --> 00:05:09.835

So as a reminder, we spent time on Thursday diving into the

93

00:05:09.835 --> 00:05:12.475

first grounding question in the Meet the Moment framework,

94

00:05:12.475 --> 00:05:15.035

which was, what is the moment we are in?

95
00:05:15.615 --> 00:05:18.675
And yesterday we asked, what are the most urgent needs

96
00:05:18.815 --> 00:05:21.195
and important opportunities of this moment?

97
00:05:22.055 --> 00:05:25.715
So both days we heard folks share their perspectives, um,

98
00:05:25.715 --> 00:05:28.475
from those different lenses that I mentioned,

99
00:05:29.615 --> 00:05:32.835
and now we've established some common understanding

100
00:05:32.935 --> 00:05:35.315
and analysis about what's happening right now.

101
00:05:35.455 --> 00:05:38.875
So these two questions are hard to stay with sometimes.

102
00:05:39.135 --> 00:05:42.315
We all, um, want, as soon as we start hearing,

103
00:05:42.315 --> 00:05:44.835
thinking about the moment we're in, it's easy to move

104
00:05:44.835 --> 00:05:46.715
to panic, I think for many of us.

105
00:05:46.935 --> 00:05:48.515
And it is urgent.

106
00:05:48.695 --> 00:05:51.275
We are talking about things that are urgent and important,

107
00:05:51.735 --> 00:05:55.275
and it feels like we wanna move right into a response.

108

00:05:55.855 --> 00:05:59.845

Um, but we have stayed faithfully in the curiosity place

109

00:05:59.945 --> 00:06:01.125

for a couple of days,

110

00:06:01.905 --> 00:06:04.405

and we're gonna spend today's session digging into

111

00:06:04.405 --> 00:06:07.005

what our Unitarian Universalist values call us

112

00:06:07.345 --> 00:06:08.645

to do in response.

113

00:06:09.465 --> 00:06:11.285

So let's start with a quick reminder about

114

00:06:11.285 --> 00:06:15.445

what we mean when we say our Unitarian Universalist values.

115

00:06:16.435 --> 00:06:21.125

Many of you may know that in 2024, our UUA general assembly

116

00:06:21.775 --> 00:06:25.365

voted to adopt new language describing our shared values.

117

00:06:26.145 --> 00:06:29.205

And while the way we articulate those shared values is

118

00:06:29.205 --> 00:06:32.445

pretty darn new, the content, the core of

119

00:06:32.445 --> 00:06:34.885

what binds us together as Unitarian Universalists,

120

00:06:35.675 --> 00:06:36.725

that didn't really change.

121

00:06:37.545 --> 00:06:39.765

And it really does transcend time.

122

00:06:39.775 --> 00:06:43.525

These values of interdependence, equity, justice,

123

00:06:44.235 --> 00:06:48.365

pluralism, transformation, generosity, all

124

00:06:48.365 --> 00:06:49.525

with love at the center.

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00:06:50.505 --> 00:06:53.075

They have been at the heart of our faith for centuries,

126

00:06:53.715 --> 00:06:56.475

although we have talked about them differently over time

127

00:06:57.775 --> 00:06:59.155

as a non-real people.

128

00:06:59.415 --> 00:07:02.835

It is our shared values rather than shared dogma

129

00:07:02.855 --> 00:07:06.315

or shared beliefs that unite us and guide our individual

130

00:07:06.455 --> 00:07:07.835

and collective actions.

131

00:07:08.775 --> 00:07:11.915

Of course, these are not our only shared values,

132

00:07:12.575 --> 00:07:13.835

but these are the ones most

133

00:07:13.835 --> 00:07:16.075

of us agree are a very high priority

134

00:07:16.075 --> 00:07:17.635

for Unitarian Universalists.

135

00:07:18.295 --> 00:07:20.395

And we can use these values as a tool

136

00:07:20.415 --> 00:07:22.275

for guiding our choices and our actions.

137

00:07:22.605 --> 00:07:25.195

Which leads us to our third grounding question.

138

00:07:25.815 --> 00:07:30.715

How are our UU values calling us to respond to this moment?

139

00:07:32.055 --> 00:07:33.595

To begin wrestling with that question,

140

00:07:33.645 --> 00:07:36.075

we're gonna hear first from a diverse set

141

00:07:36.075 --> 00:07:38.835

of UU leaders from across the faith, all

142

00:07:38.835 --> 00:07:41.875

of whom were invited to answer this question broadly about

143

00:07:41.875 --> 00:07:43.715

Unitarian Universalism as a whole.

144

00:07:45.255 --> 00:07:48.155

And we have a little assignment for you

145

00:07:48.235 --> 00:07:50.915

during the video today as you watch.

146

00:07:51.105 --> 00:07:52.195

It's an optional assignment,

147

00:07:52.615 --> 00:07:55.035

but as you watch, you're invited to listen

148

00:07:55.135 --> 00:07:57.795

for the specific values, the speaker's name.

149
00:07:58.105 --> 00:08:00.835
They may include the official ones that were on that graphic

150
00:08:01.345 --> 00:08:02.475
that I just said out loud,

151
00:08:02.775 --> 00:08:06.235
but they may also be other things like joy

152
00:08:06.415 --> 00:08:09.115
or liberation or compassion.

153
00:08:10.265 --> 00:08:12.725
So I invite you to listen for values

154
00:08:13.025 --> 00:08:17.445
and also for the kinds of concrete actions, people name

155
00:08:17.995 --> 00:08:19.485
what it looks like to embody

156
00:08:19.545 --> 00:08:21.365
and live out our values in the world.

157
00:08:22.395 --> 00:08:25.205
This video is about 12 minutes long,

158
00:08:25.825 --> 00:08:28.405
and Caroline, our faithful tech host,

159
00:08:28.465 --> 00:08:30.485
is gonna press play on that for us right now.

160
00:08:30.655 --> 00:08:31.655
Thank you,

161
00:08:43.875 --> 00:08:44.875
Ologies. I forgot to

162

00:08:44.875 --> 00:08:45.755

share sound.

163

00:08:47.595 --> 00:08:50.255

That's okay. 'cause we're just a whole minute ahead

164

00:08:50.255 --> 00:08:52.575

of schedule, which gives us a little space

165

00:08:52.575 --> 00:08:56.685

to breathe while you do that, while you find that.

166

00:08:56.695 --> 00:08:57.695

Thank you, Caroline.

167

00:09:05.645 --> 00:09:06.585

In 2022,

168

00:09:16.365 --> 00:09:17.585

In 2022,

169

00:09:17.805 --> 00:09:21.465

the Minneapolis Public Teachers Union went on strike.

170

00:09:22.725 --> 00:09:24.905

We were still mid pandemic at that point,

171

00:09:24.965 --> 00:09:28.105

and I remembered viscerally in my body

172

00:09:28.105 --> 00:09:31.505

what it had felt like earlier to try and work full time

173

00:09:31.565 --> 00:09:34.025

and take care of a newborn and a 5-year-old at that point.

174

00:09:36.005 --> 00:09:38.465

So I almost lost it when I heard about the strike

175

00:09:39.115 --> 00:09:41.545

until I got an email from my congregation,

176
00:09:41.795 --> 00:09:43.505
first universal list of Minneapolis.

177
00:09:44.805 --> 00:09:47.825
And they said, well, as long as the strike goes on,

178
00:09:47.965 --> 00:09:49.105
you can send your kids

179
00:09:49.205 --> 00:09:52.025
to strike camp here at church for any kid.

180
00:09:52.285 --> 00:09:55.345
Grades K through eight to join the high schoolers

181
00:09:55.345 --> 00:09:57.785
and the religious education folks will serve

182
00:09:57.785 --> 00:10:00.305
as staff, have 'em come over.

183
00:10:00.475 --> 00:10:02.385
We'll do games, we will do activities.

184
00:10:02.595 --> 00:10:05.065
We'll take snacks to the picket lines to the teachers,

185
00:10:05.285 --> 00:10:07.545
and we will do all of this through the lens

186
00:10:07.605 --> 00:10:09.505
of our Unitarian Universalist values.

187
00:10:11.295 --> 00:10:14.665
Friends, they did this for 18 days.

188
00:10:15.645 --> 00:10:19.025
And in my entire life as a Unitarian Universalist,

189

00:10:19.185 --> 00:10:22.225

I have never felt that church was as relevant

190

00:10:22.805 --> 00:10:27.065

or as clearly meant for that moment as it was

191

00:10:27.065 --> 00:10:28.145

during those periods.

192

00:10:30.215 --> 00:10:31.865

Meeting the moment with responses

193

00:10:31.865 --> 00:10:33.225

that are rooted in our values

194

00:10:33.685 --> 00:10:35.625

and strategically aligned with our skills

195

00:10:35.725 --> 00:10:38.265

and resources in the context

196

00:10:38.375 --> 00:10:40.105

that we are in, that's the work.

197

00:10:41.285 --> 00:10:43.425

So what does it look like to put love at the center

198

00:10:43.425 --> 00:10:44.585

of the annual pledge drive?

199

00:10:46.095 --> 00:10:49.025

What does radical interdependence demand of us when

200

00:10:49.765 --> 00:10:53.345

ice raids local workplaces or arrests, student activists?

201

00:10:54.925 --> 00:10:57.025

How do our shared commitments to generosity

202

00:10:57.245 --> 00:10:59.545

and transformation compel us

203
00:10:59.545 --> 00:11:01.545
to think about shared staffing structures

204
00:11:01.645 --> 00:11:03.745
or mutual aid for trans refugees

205
00:11:04.205 --> 00:11:07.025
and unemployed federal workers and houseless neighbors?

206
00:11:08.325 --> 00:11:13.225
How do our Unitarian Universalist values call us to respond

207
00:11:13.405 --> 00:11:14.545
to this moment?

208
00:11:22.675 --> 00:11:24.905
Where we are in Unitarian Universalism in this

209
00:11:24.905 --> 00:11:26.425
moment is unique.

210
00:11:27.075 --> 00:11:30.465
We've named and claimed a set of shared values

211
00:11:30.615 --> 00:11:31.665
that define us

212
00:11:32.405 --> 00:11:35.305
and that can help us live into

213
00:11:37.065 --> 00:11:40.105
a faithful engagement with

214
00:11:41.005 --> 00:11:42.505
the values themselves.

215
00:11:43.185 --> 00:11:46.785
I believe that Unitarian universalists mean it when we say

216

00:11:46.785 --> 00:11:50.185
our values are justice, equity, transformation,

217
00:11:50.475 --> 00:11:52.385
generosity, and pluralism.

218
00:11:52.595 --> 00:11:55.525
Right? And I think that we mean it when we say

219
00:11:55.525 --> 00:11:56.605
that love is at the center

220
00:11:57.185 --> 00:12:01.005
As a people of faith built on shared values.

221
00:12:02.345 --> 00:12:05.925
We should be bold if we keep love at the center.

222
00:12:06.205 --> 00:12:08.045
I think we're gonna find lots to do

223
00:12:09.265 --> 00:12:12.285
and lots to find joy in in this work.

224
00:12:12.995 --> 00:12:16.045
Whew, our values of love, liberation

225
00:12:16.595 --> 00:12:18.845
justice transformation.

226
00:12:19.785 --> 00:12:23.805
If we are going to truly

227
00:12:24.725 --> 00:12:28.165
transform, we must meet the moment

228
00:12:29.795 --> 00:12:31.365
leaning into discomfort.

229
00:12:32.465 --> 00:12:34.725
And at the same time, we're humans.

230
00:12:34.985 --> 00:12:36.165
And it is often the case

231
00:12:36.395 --> 00:12:38.485
that fear can take over that center.

232
00:12:38.985 --> 00:12:40.765
And I think we have to be really mindful

233
00:12:41.025 --> 00:12:44.485
and intentional about moving fear out of the center

234
00:12:44.505 --> 00:12:47.485
and replacing it with love, maybe over

235
00:12:47.485 --> 00:12:50.285
and over again as often as necessary.

236
00:12:51.075 --> 00:12:53.125
Some days, maybe as often as breathing.

237
00:12:53.505 --> 00:12:55.845
We know that things are changing rapidly

238
00:12:56.585 --> 00:12:59.365
and we don't know exactly how they will end.

239
00:13:01.005 --> 00:13:05.665
But we can lean into our values of generosity, our values

240
00:13:05.765 --> 00:13:10.585
of equity, our values of pluralism, to continue

241
00:13:10.645 --> 00:13:14.385
to build beloved community right where we are.

242
00:13:14.925 --> 00:13:17.505
And we must do this with compassion and patience

243

00:13:17.575 --> 00:13:21.025

because we are creating something based on what we love,

244

00:13:21.135 --> 00:13:25.665

what we believe in, not just reacting to what we don't want.

245

00:13:26.645 --> 00:13:30.425

Our UU values at this moment are calling us quite simply

246

00:13:30.765 --> 00:13:33.545

to become more fully Unitarian universalist

247

00:13:38.995 --> 00:13:39.995

Right now. The

248

00:13:39.995 --> 00:13:43.025

value that our faith calls us to is transformation.

249

00:13:43.685 --> 00:13:47.465

We need to lean into the reality that transformation

250

00:13:48.245 --> 00:13:50.305

begins with us, transforming ourselves,

251

00:13:51.225 --> 00:13:56.065

Becoming more deeply faithful people, requires practice.

252

00:13:57.565 --> 00:14:00.345

If we want to change the world, we'll need

253

00:14:00.345 --> 00:14:01.545

to change ourselves.

254

00:14:02.205 --> 00:14:05.225

If we want to change ourselves, we'll need

255

00:14:05.225 --> 00:14:09.865

to spend more time living our values.

256

00:14:10.665 --> 00:14:13.225

I am so proud of our uuss in North Carolina

257
00:14:13.605 --> 00:14:16.105
who have gotten deeply engaged in the work

258
00:14:16.105 --> 00:14:20.585
of community safety as street medics and protest marshals

259
00:14:20.585 --> 00:14:23.865
and Dees escalators, folks who are in their sixties

260
00:14:24.005 --> 00:14:25.985
and seventies and never would've imagined

261
00:14:26.015 --> 00:14:27.905
that this would be the role that they would play.

262
00:14:28.605 --> 00:14:29.865
But they answered the call

263
00:14:29.895 --> 00:14:32.505
because it's what their community needed them to do.

264
00:14:33.485 --> 00:14:35.265
And in this work, they have been changed.

265
00:14:35.805 --> 00:14:40.265
If we really lean into our shared value

266
00:14:40.885 --> 00:14:44.185
of transformation, we know that this moment

267
00:14:44.915 --> 00:14:45.945
won't last forever.

268
00:14:50.505 --> 00:14:53.165
I think people aren't looking for answers, right?

269
00:14:53.225 --> 00:14:55.165
But they're looking for authentic community,

270

00:14:55.815 --> 00:14:58.165
moral grounding, and a vision, right?

271
00:14:58.265 --> 00:15:00.005
Rooted in hope and action.

272
00:15:00.425 --> 00:15:04.285
So I think right now, our values compel us, all of us,

273
00:15:04.345 --> 00:15:06.125
not just us ministers, but lay leaders

274
00:15:06.225 --> 00:15:09.485
and congregants alike, to speak uncomfortable truths

275
00:15:09.665 --> 00:15:11.925
and to hold space for healing at the same time.

276
00:15:12.675 --> 00:15:16.365
It's more important than ever for our congregations

277
00:15:16.945 --> 00:15:21.565
and our buildings to be a sanctuary of radical welcome.

278
00:15:22.585 --> 00:15:26.525
We need to be asking, what are your access needs?

279
00:15:27.275 --> 00:15:29.885
What do you need to be included here?

280
00:15:31.235 --> 00:15:35.125
Because we need each other. We need everyone

281
00:15:35.665 --> 00:15:37.645
To live into our value of interdependence

282
00:15:37.785 --> 00:15:40.765
and to truly actualize our principle

283
00:15:40.765 --> 00:15:43.565
that all people deserve dignity and love.

284
00:15:44.305 --> 00:15:47.085
We must lean into multi-generational models

285
00:15:47.185 --> 00:15:49.445
of worship and community.

286
00:15:50.865 --> 00:15:54.005
We must invite each other into practicing together,

287
00:15:54.115 --> 00:15:57.325
playing together, visioning together,

288
00:15:57.865 --> 00:16:01.005
and working together to achieve that vision.

289
00:16:01.635 --> 00:16:03.605
This means building gritty coalitions

290
00:16:03.905 --> 00:16:07.365
and remembering that disagreement doesn't equal betrayal.

291
00:16:07.825 --> 00:16:09.805
One of the ways we do that, I think,

292
00:16:09.805 --> 00:16:13.005
in congregations is creating communities of collective care.

293
00:16:13.765 --> 00:16:16.245
Doubling down on our efforts to check in on one another.

294
00:16:16.675 --> 00:16:18.965
Sometimes that's cards and calls and meals,

295
00:16:19.065 --> 00:16:21.245
and sometimes it's much more than that, showing up

296
00:16:21.825 --> 00:16:23.645
for our partners in the community

297

00:16:23.745 --> 00:16:26.365
and those collective circles of care.

298
00:16:27.345 --> 00:16:30.165
And when you fall in love with our justice movements

299
00:16:30.165 --> 00:16:33.645
and the people who power them, I think we find

300
00:16:33.645 --> 00:16:37.605
that together we are stronger, we're larger,

301
00:16:38.495 --> 00:16:41.485
we're more generous, um, and more connected.

302
00:16:48.265 --> 00:16:50.845
And finally, I think we need to live our theology, right?

303
00:16:50.845 --> 00:16:53.205
It's not a, our theology is not abstract,

304
00:16:53.345 --> 00:16:56.605
but it's an embodied injustice and compassion and joy.

305
00:16:56.665 --> 00:17:00.205
And if we're doing that, then the moment demands that us,

306
00:17:00.305 --> 00:17:04.765
you use right faithfully, courageously, and humbly show up.

307
00:17:04.965 --> 00:17:07.485
'cause we're co-creators in this beloved community

308
00:17:07.745 --> 00:17:11.245
At a moment when the world is in denial

309
00:17:11.505 --> 00:17:14.845
of the sacredness of all life, the democratic process,

310
00:17:15.825 --> 00:17:17.445
and of the need to deal with change.

311
00:17:18.075 --> 00:17:20.365
That we have to stand firm as you use,

312
00:17:20.365 --> 00:17:23.805
and stand on our moral ground, stand on what we believe,

313
00:17:24.345 --> 00:17:25.725
and we have to get into the fight.

314
00:17:25.865 --> 00:17:27.925
And we have to lead the fight from that place.

315
00:17:29.035 --> 00:17:30.565
Love demands our boldness

316
00:17:30.865 --> 00:17:32.885
and justice demands that we stay in the room,

317
00:17:32.975 --> 00:17:34.445
especially when it's not easy.

318
00:17:35.305 --> 00:17:38.205
All of it. So that we can bring the fight to

319
00:17:38.245 --> 00:17:40.725
where it belongs on the systems doing the

320
00:17:40.725 --> 00:17:42.805
damage and not to each other.

321
00:17:43.465 --> 00:17:44.845
As Unitarian Universalists.

322
00:17:45.045 --> 00:17:47.285
I do think our voice is really needed now.

323
00:17:47.305 --> 00:17:49.205
Our actions are really needed now

324

00:17:50.035 --> 00:17:53.285
because we have an unwavering commitment

325
00:17:54.065 --> 00:17:55.405
to all beings.

326
00:17:56.685 --> 00:17:59.405
'cause we don't believe in slicing and dicing humanity

327
00:17:59.465 --> 00:18:02.285
and saying, oh, if they call you a gang member, oh,

328
00:18:02.285 --> 00:18:04.645
if they say you're a terrorist, then you're disposable,

329
00:18:05.195 --> 00:18:06.245
then you don't matter.

330
00:18:07.085 --> 00:18:09.245
I believe that one of our most pressing tasks

331
00:18:09.785 --> 00:18:13.685
as Unitarian Universalists is to claim religion

332
00:18:15.025 --> 00:18:19.125
loudly, boldly, unapologetically in public,

333
00:18:19.905 --> 00:18:21.885
and join together with other liberal religions

334
00:18:21.885 --> 00:18:24.565
to tell a different story of faith from the one

335
00:18:24.565 --> 00:18:26.565
that white Christian nationalists are telling,

336
00:18:27.195 --> 00:18:29.005
they have spent decades twisting

337
00:18:29.005 --> 00:18:32.045
and perverting religion poisoning people with a theology

338
00:18:32.105 --> 00:18:34.845
of scarcity and fear, all for the sake

339
00:18:34.865 --> 00:18:36.685
of building political power.

340
00:18:37.585 --> 00:18:40.725
It is essential for us to not seed

341
00:18:41.445 --> 00:18:43.125
religion to the far right.

342
00:18:43.785 --> 00:18:45.685
The story of our movement is not

343
00:18:45.685 --> 00:18:48.725
what we're fighting against, it's what we're fighting for.

344
00:18:50.825 --> 00:18:53.965
It is so easy to slip into despair in the midst

345
00:18:54.065 --> 00:18:56.605
of this endless onslaught of threats

346
00:18:56.745 --> 00:18:58.365
and of harm to our people.

347
00:18:59.705 --> 00:19:02.325
But what we need to remember is that the people causing

348
00:19:02.635 --> 00:19:07.085
that harm, they are trying to rob us of our imagination.

349
00:19:07.435 --> 00:19:10.165
They are trying to rob us of our sense of power.

350
00:19:10.635 --> 00:19:12.605
They want us to feel alone.

351

00:19:14.585 --> 00:19:18.325

And that is why we must remain rooted in a deep

352

00:19:18.465 --> 00:19:21.765

and unwavering sense of who we are

353

00:19:22.585 --> 00:19:26.365

and who we belong to, and what we are building together,

354

00:19:33.445 --> 00:19:36.205

A world community with peace, liberty,

355

00:19:36.385 --> 00:19:37.405

and justice for all.

356

00:19:37.435 --> 00:19:40.765

Well, that's our hope as it's always been.

357

00:19:41.255 --> 00:19:44.085

Maybe it feels further off today than it used to be,

358

00:19:44.905 --> 00:19:47.005

but I think we need to hold onto that hope

359

00:19:47.465 --> 00:19:49.325

and let that hope guide us in the future.

360

00:19:49.785 --> 00:19:54.445

So I keep this picture, this cran colored picture

361

00:19:54.985 --> 00:19:59.045

in my office, drawn by one of my children of jet pig.

362

00:19:59.515 --> 00:20:02.885

It's our values with a tiny little jet strap.

363

00:20:03.385 --> 00:20:05.125

And the pig's name is love.

364

00:20:06.385 --> 00:20:09.725

And it reminds me that we have to add color and joy

365
00:20:09.905 --> 00:20:13.325
and vibrancy to these values in the world

366
00:20:14.025 --> 00:20:15.925
In big and small ways.

367
00:20:16.465 --> 00:20:19.125
We need to be continually asking ourselves,

368
00:20:19.875 --> 00:20:23.165
what is love calling me to do in this moment?

369
00:20:23.955 --> 00:20:26.325
What is love calling my congregation to do?

370
00:20:27.225 --> 00:20:31.285
And I really do believe that it's our universalist core

371
00:20:31.315 --> 00:20:34.725
that says there's no one outside of the circle of love.

372
00:20:35.305 --> 00:20:37.925
And we're gonna fight for every single one of us.

373
00:20:39.045 --> 00:20:41.845
'cause collective liberation is the vision

374
00:20:42.235 --> 00:20:45.245
that flows from the belief that love is at the center,

375
00:20:45.985 --> 00:20:50.765
The Power of radical love, the power of hope, the power

376
00:20:50.785 --> 00:20:53.005
of brave and organized imagination.

377
00:20:53.625 --> 00:20:57.285
It is rising within us, among us, all around us,

378

00:20:57.835 --> 00:20:59.285

this collective power.

379

00:20:59.865 --> 00:21:03.085

And with it we shape the next moment.

380

00:21:16.505 --> 00:21:19.605

Thank you, Caroline. Uh, this is Melissa James.

381

00:21:20.085 --> 00:21:21.205

I use she her pronouns.

382

00:21:21.885 --> 00:21:25.085

I am a white woman with shoulder length, curly brown hair.

383

00:21:25.375 --> 00:21:29.005

Today I am wearing a, um, a light blue jacket with a blue

384

00:21:29.005 --> 00:21:30.485

and white top underneath it,

385

00:21:30.805 --> 00:21:32.725

I serve on the congregational life staff

386

00:21:32.785 --> 00:21:34.245

of the Pacific Western region.

387

00:21:34.945 --> 00:21:37.085

I'm coming to you from the Baltimore Convention Center

388

00:21:37.095 --> 00:21:38.685

where ga is currently happening,

389

00:21:38.685 --> 00:21:41.325

though my home base is in San Diego, California.

390

00:21:42.625 --> 00:21:46.085

So we just heard a whole lot of, uh, from our video.

391

00:21:46.425 --> 00:21:49.685

And so we have just a couple of minutes to process some of

392
00:21:49.685 --> 00:21:52.205
that and see what's what's resonating with us.

393
00:21:52.665 --> 00:21:54.485
So I'm gonna invite you first to think about

394
00:21:54.515 --> 00:21:57.245
what the values are, um, that you heard.

395
00:21:57.385 --> 00:22:00.005
So what, what values did you hear the speaker's name, uh,

396
00:22:00.005 --> 00:22:01.245
invite you to put them in the chat.

397
00:22:01.505 --> 00:22:03.085
And I will read some aloud.

398
00:22:03.995 --> 00:22:05.725
What values stuck out to you all?

399
00:22:11.075 --> 00:22:12.745
Compassion, transformation.

400
00:22:14.295 --> 00:22:17.045
Love liberation.

401
00:22:21.685 --> 00:22:23.775
Showing up. Yeah.

402
00:22:24.895 --> 00:22:29.195
Interdependence, generosity, justice, equity, community.

403
00:22:32.895 --> 00:22:34.535
Excellent. Courage.

404
00:22:42.075 --> 00:22:44.295
One of the things that this video does, uh,

405

00:22:44.295 --> 00:22:45.815
we've got a couple more accountability.

406
00:22:46.035 --> 00:22:47.735
Yes. Thank you, Julie. One

407
00:22:47.735 --> 00:22:50.175
of the things this video does is it gives us some concrete

408
00:22:50.175 --> 00:22:54.375
examples of what living these values look out looks like.

409
00:22:54.795 --> 00:22:59.455
Um, one of which I will, um, uh, give a shout out to,

410
00:22:59.515 --> 00:23:01.575
to Lauren Wyeth, one of our facilitators.

411
00:23:01.685 --> 00:23:04.415
That very first example of the strike camp

412
00:23:04.995 --> 00:23:06.895
was actually at the congregation where she was serving

413
00:23:06.955 --> 00:23:08.015
as religious educator.

414
00:23:08.275 --> 00:23:10.935
So props to the good ministry that, that Lauren,

415
00:23:10.935 --> 00:23:12.015
that you were doing at the time.

416
00:23:13.075 --> 00:23:14.095
Um, yeah.

417
00:23:14.095 --> 00:23:17.415
So Julia, you can talk to, to Lauren more about strike camp.

418
00:23:17.925 --> 00:23:20.615
What were some of the other concrete examples that,

419

00:23:20.645 --> 00:23:22.815

that you heard or that resonated or,

420

00:23:23.035 --> 00:23:24.295

or peaked your curiosity?

421

00:23:25.665 --> 00:23:27.695

Again, you are welcome to put them in the chat

422

00:23:27.695 --> 00:23:28.615

and I'll read out a few

423

00:23:39.535 --> 00:23:40.695

claiming religion proudly.

424

00:23:41.035 --> 00:23:41.455

Mm-hmm.

425

00:23:49.905 --> 00:23:52.695

Other examples of of concrete ways these,

426

00:23:52.835 --> 00:23:54.175

our values were lived out.

427

00:23:54.855 --> 00:23:56.535

Examples of what people were doing

428

00:23:58.435 --> 00:24:00.535

or how people were living protecting safety.

429

00:24:00.995 --> 00:24:01.895

Thanks, Raya.

430

00:24:20.155 --> 00:24:23.375

Yes, Emily. The need for, for straight campuses

431

00:24:23.555 --> 00:24:25.855

as our educators like yourself, continue

432

00:24:25.855 --> 00:24:28.535

to, to fight the good fight.

433

00:24:33.165 --> 00:24:37.835

Uh, Julie raises up speaking uncomfortable truths

434

00:24:37.855 --> 00:24:38.995

to leave room for healing.

435

00:24:40.765 --> 00:24:42.705

Cassie list of inter interdependence.

436

00:24:43.605 --> 00:24:46.785

Um, like one issue we face is aloneness and,

437

00:24:46.845 --> 00:24:49.745

and feeling siloed and needing to build connections.

438

00:24:50.215 --> 00:24:54.345

Yeah, lovely.

439

00:24:55.485 --> 00:24:56.585

But we're gonna have a chance

440

00:24:56.605 --> 00:24:58.505

to talk more about more concrete things.

441

00:24:58.505 --> 00:25:00.705

And one of the things I love about the examples y'all are

442

00:25:00.825 --> 00:25:03.105

bringing up is that it's not simply, here's a program

443

00:25:03.255 --> 00:25:04.425

that will answer everything,

444

00:25:04.485 --> 00:25:07.225

but really thinking about that, living out that value,

445

00:25:07.745 --> 00:25:10.025

aligning our individual actions with our values.

446

00:25:10.605 --> 00:25:12.945

As, as Reverend Matt says, thank you.

447

00:25:13.925 --> 00:25:17.065

I'm gonna turn it over to Erica to, to bring us forward.

448

00:25:18.605 --> 00:25:20.265

Hi everyone, this is Erica again.

449

00:25:20.765 --> 00:25:22.225

Um, and

450

00:25:22.325 --> 00:25:26.025

before I launch into my thing, uh, let me just say again,

451

00:25:26.725 --> 00:25:28.945

our breakout rooms today are going to be random,

452

00:25:29.485 --> 00:25:32.065

but if you don't want to be in a breakout room, uh,

453

00:25:32.065 --> 00:25:34.025

please put a cue at the beginning of your name

454

00:25:34.025 --> 00:25:35.905

and that will tell us you want to be in the quiet room.

455

00:25:36.815 --> 00:25:39.505

Okay. So, brief week recap of our wave cohort.

456

00:25:39.725 --> 00:25:43.265

Our facilitators are still me, Melissa, and Lauren.

457

00:25:43.645 --> 00:25:47.745

You keep hearing about, um, our topic and participants.

458

00:25:48.045 --> 00:25:52.305

So we had, uh, our goal was to hear from you,

459

00:25:52.305 --> 00:25:53.865

you parents currently raising children.

460

00:25:54.365 --> 00:25:58.145

We had a total of 12 participants who attended at least one

461

00:25:58.145 --> 00:25:59.465

of four online conversations.

462

00:26:00.565 --> 00:26:02.905

Our, uh, common themes in

463

00:26:02.905 --> 00:26:04.945

how our participants describe this moment.

464

00:26:05.565 --> 00:26:08.545

Um, economic precarity, uh, time crunch

465

00:26:09.165 --> 00:26:12.065

and the, um, abundance of neurodiversity

466

00:26:12.315 --> 00:26:17.185

among families in our congregations, um, in a world

467

00:26:17.185 --> 00:26:18.665

that built for neurotypicals.

468

00:26:18.885 --> 00:26:20.665

And the most urgent needs lifted up

469

00:26:20.665 --> 00:26:24.425

by our participants were practical support money, time,

470

00:26:24.475 --> 00:26:26.185

which can be offered in a variety of ways,

471

00:26:26.295 --> 00:26:29.585

like providing direct financial support or serving breakfast

472

00:26:29.585 --> 00:26:30.945

and lunch on Sundays, et cetera.

473

00:26:31.645 --> 00:26:34.305

And understanding this is really hard and they need help.

474

00:26:35.675 --> 00:26:38.865

Which brings us to our third grounding question.

475

00:26:39.605 --> 00:26:43.245

How do our UU values call us to respond to the urgent needs

476

00:26:43.245 --> 00:26:45.925

of parent, parents and families in this moment?

477

00:26:47.025 --> 00:26:48.485

So we've mentioned a couple of times

478

00:26:48.875 --> 00:26:50.845

that Surgeon General's report in

479

00:26:50.945 --> 00:26:53.525

of 2024 called Parents Under Pressure.

480

00:26:54.505 --> 00:26:55.645

And at the end of that report,

481

00:26:55.735 --> 00:26:57.325

there are a bunch of recommendations.

482

00:26:57.825 --> 00:27:00.365

Um, and one category was, is

483

00:27:00.365 --> 00:27:02.285

for like community organizations.

484

00:27:02.945 --> 00:27:07.445

Um, and we are actually well positioned for, I think,

485

00:27:07.535 --> 00:27:08.565

especially three

486

00:27:08.565 --> 00:27:10.765
of those recommendations in our congregations.

487
00:27:11.665 --> 00:27:15.445
So the first one is, quote, elevate the voices of parents

488
00:27:15.505 --> 00:27:18.925
and caregivers to shape community programs and investments,

489
00:27:19.665 --> 00:27:21.085
or to say that much more.

490
00:27:21.085 --> 00:27:24.365
Simply ask them, ask them what they need.

491
00:27:25.805 --> 00:27:28.545
So we've talked a bit, uh, for the last couple of days,

492
00:27:28.565 --> 00:27:30.105
but I think it bears repeating over

493
00:27:30.105 --> 00:27:33.265
and over again, um, that the first part of this is

494
00:27:33.265 --> 00:27:37.865
to rethink who parents are to your community, from people

495
00:27:37.885 --> 00:27:40.545
who have time and money to spare and are coming to save us.

496
00:27:41.205 --> 00:27:43.705
Two people who really need support, uh,

497
00:27:43.705 --> 00:27:45.545
practical assistance, um,

498
00:27:46.165 --> 00:27:49.875
and community like ministry as a community.

499
00:27:51.885 --> 00:27:54.985
So part of this is don't assume what your parents need.

500
00:27:55.365 --> 00:27:58.185
Ask them. This is like, it sounds so simple,

501
00:27:58.885 --> 00:28:00.865
but um, is remarkably rare.

502
00:28:01.485 --> 00:28:04.385
Um, so we did that.

503
00:28:04.385 --> 00:28:05.865
That's why we had this cohort

504
00:28:06.645 --> 00:28:09.785
and our process, um, gathered lots of ideas

505
00:28:09.845 --> 00:28:11.785
and suggestions, which we're gonna talk about in a minute,

506
00:28:12.005 --> 00:28:13.705
and you all are gonna talk about later today.

507
00:28:14.325 --> 00:28:16.745
Um, and that's all great

508
00:28:16.765 --> 00:28:18.705
to like prime the pump, if you will.

509
00:28:19.165 --> 00:28:20.625
Um, but don't forget

510
00:28:20.625 --> 00:28:24.705
to ask your own families about their specific needs on a

511
00:28:24.705 --> 00:28:25.865
regular basis, right?

512
00:28:25.975 --> 00:28:27.505
Because every family is different,

513

00:28:27.505 --> 00:28:28.545
every community is different.

514
00:28:29.085 --> 00:28:30.825
Um, you know, the needs of a community

515
00:28:30.825 --> 00:28:32.425
where teachers are not allowed to strike

516
00:28:32.485 --> 00:28:35.225
and we need to support them in

517
00:28:35.225 --> 00:28:37.065
that way are different from the community

518
00:28:37.065 --> 00:28:38.385
where the teachers are on strike

519
00:28:38.565 --> 00:28:40.505
and we need place for the kids to go, right?

520
00:28:42.255 --> 00:28:44.075
So part of this is listening to

521
00:28:44.095 --> 00:28:45.955
and believing parents when they tell you

522
00:28:45.985 --> 00:28:47.755
what it's life like for them.

523
00:28:48.375 --> 00:28:52.635
And it's, uh, we have this image in our culture, oh, sorry,

524
00:28:53.415 --> 00:28:56.315
uh, image in our culture that if

525
00:28:57.265 --> 00:28:58.955
parents are just working hard enough

526
00:28:59.095 --> 00:29:00.475
and parenting the right way

527

00:29:00.495 --> 00:29:03.275

and in the right kind of family, it will all work out.

528

00:29:03.855 --> 00:29:07.355

Um, so parents admitting that they need help, um,

529

00:29:08.085 --> 00:29:10.395

means saying, I don't have it all together the way

530

00:29:10.395 --> 00:29:11.795

that the culture tells me that I should.

531

00:29:12.415 --> 00:29:13.715

Um, so that can be difficult.

532

00:29:13.815 --> 00:29:16.315

So if parents are admitting that they need help,

533

00:29:17.015 --> 00:29:18.635

um, that is great.

534

00:29:18.635 --> 00:29:19.675

That means they trust you.

535

00:29:19.775 --> 00:29:23.115

So normalize that, reassure them that they're not alone.

536

00:29:23.205 --> 00:29:25.035

Thank them for their courage and honesty.

537

00:29:27.035 --> 00:29:30.175

And then we, a couple of you have asked in the chat today

538

00:29:30.315 --> 00:29:32.375

and yesterday, okay?

539

00:29:32.515 --> 00:29:34.295

But we ask our parents what they want

540

00:29:34.435 --> 00:29:36.095
and then we do it and they don't come.

541
00:29:37.155 --> 00:29:39.535
So I wanna talk about that directly.

542
00:29:41.025 --> 00:29:43.085
So first of all, uh, I wanna tell you

543
00:29:43.085 --> 00:29:44.365
how I understand this phenomenon.

544
00:29:44.465 --> 00:29:47.485
So we know that there are things

545
00:29:47.675 --> 00:29:50.205
that people can accurately self-report.

546
00:29:50.515 --> 00:29:52.965
Like what is your address? What is your job?

547
00:29:53.145 --> 00:29:55.645
Who is in your family? And even if the answer is it's

548
00:29:55.645 --> 00:29:58.325
complicated, we can still, like, we know

549
00:29:58.665 --> 00:30:01.285
and we can tell you if we are willing to the answers

550
00:30:01.285 --> 00:30:02.325
to those kinds of questions.

551
00:30:03.145 --> 00:30:04.925
We know there are other kinds of questions

552
00:30:04.925 --> 00:30:08.765
that people cannot accurately self-report, such as,

553
00:30:08.995 --> 00:30:10.245
what did you eat yesterday?

554

00:30:10.665 --> 00:30:12.405

How much time do you spend on social media?

555

00:30:12.675 --> 00:30:13.845

Like, people are not able

556

00:30:13.845 --> 00:30:16.565

to actually give us accurate answers to those questions.

557

00:30:17.445 --> 00:30:20.985

And I think one of the challenges of this time is that

558

00:30:21.885 --> 00:30:22.905

our availability

559

00:30:23.365 --> 00:30:26.225

and our capacity for various kinds of activities

560

00:30:26.805 --> 00:30:28.545

has shifted from something

561

00:30:28.545 --> 00:30:31.545

that we can accurately self-report to something

562

00:30:31.545 --> 00:30:33.545

that we cannot accurately self-report.

563

00:30:34.005 --> 00:30:35.465

Um, there's all kinds of reasons for that,

564

00:30:35.465 --> 00:30:36.705

which I won't go into,

565

00:30:36.765 --> 00:30:38.425

but has a lot to do with the sort

566

00:30:38.425 --> 00:30:40.065

of overwhelm of our culture at the moment.

567

00:30:41.515 --> 00:30:44.975

And so we can't just ask people what they're going

568

00:30:44.975 --> 00:30:47.415

to show up for in the way we used to be able to

569

00:30:47.645 --> 00:30:48.895

because they can't tell us.

570

00:30:49.555 --> 00:30:54.055

So we need different ways to find out what people can come

571

00:30:54.055 --> 00:30:57.015

to and what they're actually going to arrive to.

572

00:30:58.305 --> 00:31:00.165

Now, I can't tell exactly how to do that

573

00:31:00.165 --> 00:31:02.685

because this is shifting like in the moment,

574

00:31:03.305 --> 00:31:05.685

but a couple of things that I wanna lift up.

575

00:31:06.745 --> 00:31:08.565

One is, there is a difference

576

00:31:08.565 --> 00:31:11.565

between would you be interested in this activity in general

577

00:31:12.145 --> 00:31:14.445

and can you come next Saturday at 3:00 PM?

578

00:31:15.425 --> 00:31:19.525

Um, so I'm interested in this activity in general is like

579

00:31:19.545 --> 00:31:22.245

the first question, but then we have

580

00:31:22.245 --> 00:31:24.325

to ask a lot more questions as we get more

581
00:31:24.325 --> 00:31:26.485
and more specific about when we want people to show up.

582
00:31:28.095 --> 00:31:30.195
And the second thing is, there is a difference between

583
00:31:30.945 --> 00:31:34.395
what would you like, what would you be interested in

584
00:31:34.895 --> 00:31:36.155
and what do you need?

585
00:31:37.255 --> 00:31:39.395
And I think this is really the question we need

586
00:31:39.395 --> 00:31:43.275
to be asking our families right now is what do you need

587
00:31:44.175 --> 00:31:47.755
and or what could we do that would make your life easier?

588
00:31:48.185 --> 00:31:50.155
That is a really different question from what do you want,

589
00:31:50.505 --> 00:31:52.875
what might be abstractly interesting, right?

590
00:31:53.095 --> 00:31:55.275
And a very different question from what would get you

591
00:31:55.275 --> 00:31:56.955
to show up with your kids on Sunday morning.

592
00:31:57.695 --> 00:31:59.675
Um, but I think it's really the heart of the question,

593
00:32:00.185 --> 00:32:03.195
what can we do as a community to make your life easier?

594

00:32:03.935 --> 00:32:06.115

Um, and that means a couple of things.

595

00:32:06.495 --> 00:32:07.515

Um, we've talked

596

00:32:08.015 --> 00:32:09.675

and we will talk more about the

597

00:32:09.675 --> 00:32:11.315

like specific practical needs.

598

00:32:12.015 --> 00:32:14.515

It also means that if you are asking families

599

00:32:14.575 --> 00:32:17.195

for their time, which is for a lot of families,

600

00:32:17.435 --> 00:32:20.275

actually their scarcest resource right now, it helps

601

00:32:20.375 --> 00:32:21.555

to pair it with a thing

602

00:32:21.555 --> 00:32:23.675

that like gives them back time at the

603

00:32:24.295 --> 00:32:25.515

in as part of the picture, right?

604

00:32:25.815 --> 00:32:29.475

So the example that we got from April yesterday was,

605

00:32:29.735 --> 00:32:32.795

um, no, not April.

606

00:32:33.035 --> 00:32:36.555

Edina yesterday, was if we're gonna ask families to show up

607

00:32:36.615 --> 00:32:40.965

for an evening at church every week, we have to like,

608
00:32:40.995 --> 00:32:42.925
make up for that by providing dinner

609
00:32:42.925 --> 00:32:44.205
that they don't have to cook, right?

610
00:32:44.825 --> 00:32:48.365
So if you can think about we want parents to come to

611
00:32:49.035 --> 00:32:52.245
this gathering, what do we need to provide in

612
00:32:52.955 --> 00:32:55.285
that makes their life easier in order to

613
00:32:55.995 --> 00:32:58.405
free up the capacity for them to do that, right?

614
00:32:59.645 --> 00:33:01.785
And all of that is gonna be a bit trial and error

615
00:33:01.925 --> 00:33:04.985
and experimentation and being willing to do the thing

616
00:33:04.985 --> 00:33:07.985
for the two people who show up, um, even if you were hoping

617
00:33:07.985 --> 00:33:09.185
for 50, et cetera.

618
00:33:11.425 --> 00:33:13.675
Okay? So ask them.

619
00:33:14.295 --> 00:33:17.835
Um, the second recommendation from the surgeon general

620
00:33:17.905 --> 00:33:21.435
that I wanna talk about is, quote, create opportunities

621

00:33:21.695 --> 00:33:23.995
to cultivate supportive social connections

622
00:33:24.525 --> 00:33:26.115
among parents and caregivers.

623
00:33:26.335 --> 00:33:28.435
In other words, they need to be together.

624
00:33:28.795 --> 00:33:30.435
They need to be able to have community together.

625
00:33:32.495 --> 00:33:36.235
So this includes both in real time,

626
00:33:36.935 --> 00:33:39.555
but also asynchronous ways to do this.

627
00:33:40.215 --> 00:33:45.195
So, um, one of the best Facebook groups

628
00:33:45.265 --> 00:33:47.315
that I belonged to when I was on Facebook,

629
00:33:47.315 --> 00:33:49.315
which is not true anymore, um,

630
00:33:49.655 --> 00:33:51.955
was the yuu pastor parents Facebook group.

631
00:33:52.015 --> 00:33:53.435
So this is a Facebook group of

632
00:33:54.255 --> 00:33:56.435
yuu ordained ministers who have kids.

633
00:33:57.175 --> 00:33:59.075
And the reason it was so amazing is

634
00:33:59.075 --> 00:34:02.835
that we were values aligned enough that I could go to them

635
00:34:02.835 --> 00:34:03.915
and say things like,

636
00:34:04.185 --> 00:34:06.155
what do you think about this particular TV show?

637
00:34:06.655 --> 00:34:08.835
And know that like they were gonna answer that question

638
00:34:08.835 --> 00:34:10.155
with the same values that I did.

639
00:34:10.695 --> 00:34:13.835
Or how do you deal with x, y, z behavior issue

640
00:34:13.835 --> 00:34:15.275
that has suddenly showed up in our family?

641
00:34:15.815 --> 00:34:17.795
Um, again, because we're coming from a

642
00:34:17.795 --> 00:34:18.955
similar set of values, right?

643
00:34:19.655 --> 00:34:22.635
So giving the families, it, it,

644
00:34:22.785 --> 00:34:25.355
this only works at a certain scale, right?

645
00:34:25.535 --> 00:34:27.635
If you get too big, it just gets completely messy.

646
00:34:28.055 --> 00:34:31.315
But if you, uh, maybe you in a neighboring congregation

647
00:34:31.315 --> 00:34:35.115
or maybe just in your congregation, um, created a sort of,

648

00:34:35.495 --> 00:34:36.995

uh, asynchronous place, right?

649

00:34:37.055 --> 00:34:39.755

An online space, a chat room, whatever, um,

650

00:34:40.985 --> 00:34:44.115

that parents can go to, to have those kinds of conversations

651

00:34:44.115 --> 00:34:46.675

with each other in their like, you know,

652

00:34:46.675 --> 00:34:48.435

two minutes while we're waiting for the bus or whatever.

653

00:34:49.975 --> 00:34:51.355

And also in real time.

654

00:34:51.575 --> 00:34:55.275

So, um, this doesn't need

655

00:34:55.275 --> 00:34:56.755

to be super programmed, right?

656

00:34:56.985 --> 00:34:59.755

Like, just how can we carve out time

657

00:35:00.145 --> 00:35:01.755

that parents can come and be together?

658

00:35:01.855 --> 00:35:05.675

So like, we will do something fun with your kids, like,

659

00:35:05.705 --> 00:35:07.555

come at this time, just hang out.

660

00:35:08.055 --> 00:35:10.875

Um, there are more programmatic ways of doing this,

661

00:35:10.875 --> 00:35:12.115

like small group ministry.

662

00:35:12.615 --> 00:35:16.385

Um, but it doesn't necessarily need to be that big.

663

00:35:16.575 --> 00:35:19.405

Just here's a space, here's a time

664

00:35:19.825 --> 00:35:21.005

and your kids are safe, right?

665

00:35:22.925 --> 00:35:25.975

Okay. And then finally, uh, from the surgeon general quote,

666

00:35:27.135 --> 00:35:29.925

equip parents and caregivers with resources

667

00:35:29.945 --> 00:35:31.565

to address parental stressors

668

00:35:31.585 --> 00:35:33.565

and connect to crucial support services.

669

00:35:34.305 --> 00:35:36.545

Or in other words, get them help

670

00:35:36.965 --> 00:35:38.565

with the actual practical things.

671

00:35:40.185 --> 00:35:41.525

So in our congregations,

672

00:35:41.595 --> 00:35:43.205

this is I think two different things.

673

00:35:43.465 --> 00:35:47.045

One is, um, help the parents find the resources

674

00:35:47.045 --> 00:35:48.405

that already exist in your community.

675

00:35:48.545 --> 00:35:52.005

So like, does your, in my family's congregation,

676

00:35:52.005 --> 00:35:55.205

which is in Malden, Massachusetts, um, right

677

00:35:55.205 --> 00:35:58.565

outside the bathroom where parents sit a lot waiting

678

00:35:58.665 --> 00:36:02.245

for our kids, um, there is a big poster that says like,

679

00:36:02.345 --> 00:36:03.805

if you are struggling as a parent,

680

00:36:04.195 --> 00:36:06.245

like here's the number you can call for the,

681

00:36:06.245 --> 00:36:07.885

like, I am overwhelmed.

682

00:36:08.485 --> 00:36:11.765

I need like, some sort of support right now. Right?

683

00:36:11.765 --> 00:36:14.885

Here's the hotline number. Um, which is amazing.

684

00:36:14.915 --> 00:36:16.925

Like it tell, it tells me everything about

685

00:36:17.875 --> 00:36:19.645

that they're seeing me as a parent, right?

686

00:36:19.645 --> 00:36:22.205

Because it's right there, it's there all the time, um,

687

00:36:22.305 --> 00:36:24.085

as I'm sitting there waiting for my kid.

688

00:36:25.295 --> 00:36:28.155

So connections to existing resources out in the community,

689
00:36:28.155 --> 00:36:29.955
which means you have to know what they are.

690
00:36:29.955 --> 00:36:33.995
So that's the first step. Um, also then

691
00:36:34.715 --> 00:36:37.235
creating resources yourself that don't exist yet.

692
00:36:38.465 --> 00:36:42.805
So, um, our, one of the big needs

693
00:36:42.945 --> 00:36:45.405
for our families is financial resources.

694
00:36:45.705 --> 00:36:48.765
And, um, we may actually hear this today,

695
00:36:48.765 --> 00:36:50.805
I can't remember if it's if it's in our clips,

696
00:36:50.805 --> 00:36:53.125
but one of them talked about how,

697
00:36:53.125 --> 00:36:55.165
like we do the half plate offerings in a lot

698
00:36:55.165 --> 00:36:57.125
of congregations for organizations out there,

699
00:36:57.595 --> 00:36:59.085
like people out there who need stuff.

700
00:36:59.625 --> 00:37:02.925
But what if we had a fund in the congregation through

701
00:37:02.925 --> 00:37:03.925
that same system, right?

702

00:37:03.925 --> 00:37:05.285

We do half the plate for it

703

00:37:05.345 --> 00:37:08.405

or whatever, um, to help, uh, parents

704

00:37:08.585 --> 00:37:10.965

of neurodivergent kids get the testing

705

00:37:11.065 --> 00:37:12.885

and supports that their kids need, for example.

706

00:37:13.625 --> 00:37:18.285

Or just a fund for families for whatever, rent, mortgage,

707

00:37:18.615 --> 00:37:19.885

healthcare, et cetera.

708

00:37:21.725 --> 00:37:23.825

Um, lots

709

00:37:23.825 --> 00:37:26.745

of congregations have a pastoral support

710

00:37:26.745 --> 00:37:27.825

program of some kind.

711

00:37:27.925 --> 00:37:30.865

So like, if you're sick, uh, we'll bring you meals,

712

00:37:30.995 --> 00:37:33.065

we'll take you to medical appointments, et cetera.

713

00:37:33.845 --> 00:37:38.265

Um, consider expanding that to include your families.

714

00:37:38.415 --> 00:37:43.155

Like maybe you all need a meal once a week, et cetera.

715

00:37:44.445 --> 00:37:48.225

Um, I, I am a firm believer that,

716
00:37:49.515 --> 00:37:52.335
um, in this moment in particular,

717
00:37:52.395 --> 00:37:54.655
but always, the more

718
00:37:54.655 --> 00:37:56.935
that we feed people at church, the better.

719
00:37:57.395 --> 00:38:01.225
Um, so like feed them at coffee hour,

720
00:38:01.295 --> 00:38:04.185
feed them in the service, feed them at like, whatever,

721
00:38:04.905 --> 00:38:07.145
whatever evening thing you want families to show up for,

722
00:38:07.215 --> 00:38:09.825
like attach it to a, a meal.

723
00:38:10.405 --> 00:38:13.995
Um, that of course requires some effort, right?

724
00:38:14.175 --> 00:38:17.875
Um, because one thing I really would say don't do

725
00:38:18.455 --> 00:38:20.435
is expect parents to contribute to a potluck

726
00:38:20.435 --> 00:38:22.315
because that's, no, that's actually harder than

727
00:38:22.535 --> 00:38:23.715
making dinner for my family.

728
00:38:23.955 --> 00:38:26.015
'cause now I have to figure out how much to make

729

00:38:26.015 --> 00:38:27.015
and all of that, right?

730
00:38:27.395 --> 00:38:32.135
So, um, have other people than parents provide food

731
00:38:32.515 --> 00:38:35.245
to parents and kids whenever you want them to be there.

732
00:38:35.425 --> 00:38:38.365
Mm-hmm. Um, okay.

733
00:38:39.065 --> 00:38:42.405
So those are the surgeon general's suggestions

734
00:38:42.545 --> 00:38:44.205
for community organizations.

735
00:38:45.065 --> 00:38:47.165
And now I just wanna step back for a second

736
00:38:47.345 --> 00:38:48.685
and look at the bigger picture.

737
00:38:49.995 --> 00:38:54.935
So, um, we are having this conversation, right,

738
00:38:54.935 --> 00:38:56.335
this specific conversation

739
00:38:56.765 --> 00:39:00.575
because it is remarkably difficult to

740
00:39:01.595 --> 00:39:04.375
be, uh, a family right now,

741
00:39:04.375 --> 00:39:06.295
but actually just to live right

742
00:39:06.675 --> 00:39:08.735
for people raising, uh, children.

743

00:39:09.435 --> 00:39:12.495

Uh, it's, there are structural systems

744

00:39:12.605 --> 00:39:14.255

that are set up to make that really hard.

745

00:39:14.875 --> 00:39:18.695

Um, so for example, the economic structures that mean that,

746

00:39:19.115 --> 00:39:22.575

uh, the cost of housing is like prohibitive in most places

747

00:39:22.995 --> 00:39:25.375

in the country, um, for most people.

748

00:39:26.035 --> 00:39:29.735

Um, and the sort of

749

00:39:30.615 --> 00:39:35.215

economic policies that mean that the top whatever, 1%, 1%

750

00:39:35.215 --> 00:39:36.615

of 1%, um,

751

00:39:36.845 --> 00:39:39.215

have seen their wealth like explode since

752

00:39:39.215 --> 00:39:40.255

the start of the pandemic.

753

00:39:40.635 --> 00:39:41.735

Uh, and if you go

754

00:39:41.755 --> 00:39:45.055

and even further back than that, whereas everybody else

755

00:39:45.795 --> 00:39:48.325

is dealing with flat

756

00:39:48.325 --> 00:39:51.165

or reducing wages with increased cost of living, right?

757

00:39:52.065 --> 00:39:56.925

So, um, that's what makes it necessary for a family with two

758

00:39:57.685 --> 00:40:00.925

grownups to have four jobs just to pay for rent, right?

759

00:40:02.445 --> 00:40:06.465

So in the really big picture, if you want families

760

00:40:06.605 --> 00:40:10.025

and parents to be active in your congregation in the way

761

00:40:10.025 --> 00:40:13.985

that parents and families were 40 years ago, we have

762

00:40:13.985 --> 00:40:16.145

to change the conditions, right?

763

00:40:16.375 --> 00:40:19.305

That requires like being in the streets

764

00:40:19.765 --> 00:40:21.985

to change the conditions that families live with.

765

00:40:22.525 --> 00:40:24.425

And we know this

766

00:40:24.425 --> 00:40:25.905

because this is getting like,

767

00:40:26.265 --> 00:40:27.945

actively worse on a daily basis right now.

768

00:40:28.365 --> 00:40:29.865

Um, there are like many things

769

00:40:29.975 --> 00:40:33.025

that need our attention out there in the political world,

770
00:40:33.525 --> 00:40:37.225
um, but this is one of them that, um, it's going

771
00:40:37.225 --> 00:40:42.025
to require a shift, uh, a deep shift in our priorities

772
00:40:42.085 --> 00:40:46.585
as a culture in order for families to have the resources

773
00:40:46.585 --> 00:40:50.185
of time and money that previous generations have.

774
00:40:52.175 --> 00:40:53.915
Um, so that is my overview,

775
00:40:54.255 --> 00:40:57.475
and now we are going to listen to our participants say all

776
00:40:57.475 --> 00:40:59.115
of that in their own words.

777
00:41:22.695 --> 00:41:23.115
Please,

778
00:41:32.115 --> 00:41:33.865
Thank you all for the, the comments in the chat.

779
00:41:34.385 --> 00:41:35.865
I invite you to read while we're getting

780
00:41:35.865 --> 00:41:36.905
this video queued up.

781
00:41:48.205 --> 00:41:51.905
An anonymous participant says, I'd like to speak to the idea

782
00:41:52.005 --> 00:41:54.945
of how many of us feel so unmoored in the world

783

00:41:55.415 --> 00:41:58.185
that the world changed so quickly in one generation.

784
00:41:58.815 --> 00:42:00.785
This isn't the life our parents grew up in.

785
00:42:00.975 --> 00:42:02.545
What kind of support can we expect?

786
00:42:03.055 --> 00:42:06.105
Perhaps other generations have had an easier time being able

787
00:42:06.105 --> 00:42:07.905
to draw on that wisdom because the

788
00:42:07.905 --> 00:42:09.225
world hadn't changed that much.

789
00:42:09.965 --> 00:42:11.465
Now I feel like I don't even know

790
00:42:11.465 --> 00:42:14.265
what I could offer my child by the time they're parenting

791
00:42:14.375 --> 00:42:16.385
because the world is changing even faster.

792
00:42:16.925 --> 00:42:19.065
And that really lends itself to this feeling

793
00:42:19.085 --> 00:42:20.945
of being psychologically unworked.

794
00:42:21.215 --> 00:42:23.185
What can I draw on? What do we have in common?

795
00:42:24.165 --> 00:42:26.145
And also speaking for myself, my parents

796
00:42:26.145 --> 00:42:28.185
and I are not seeing the world in the same way.

797

00:42:28.655 --> 00:42:30.865

They don't understand how difficult things are.

798

00:42:31.255 --> 00:42:34.225

They're still telling us to put \$5 a day in a jar instead

799

00:42:34.225 --> 00:42:35.505

of buying our Starbucks latte.

800

00:42:36.185 --> 00:42:38.345

I mean, previous generations really can't

801

00:42:38.345 --> 00:42:39.745

empathize with where we're at.

802

00:42:42.215 --> 00:42:46.685

Sure. Um, so my name is Adina Dan, uh, i, she

803

00:42:46.705 --> 00:42:50.585

or they pronouns, and I live in Richmond, Virginia.

804

00:42:50.935 --> 00:42:53.985

Once I found these spaces in Unitarian Universals,

805

00:42:53.985 --> 00:42:56.865

and once I found drum and there's a group for yuu,

806

00:42:57.065 --> 00:43:00.625

religious professionals of color, like I love the church

807

00:43:00.625 --> 00:43:03.705

that I'm in, and I, they hold a piece of my heart.

808

00:43:03.965 --> 00:43:08.505

And being with other non-white yuu is like

809

00:43:08.595 --> 00:43:10.025

where my faith is.

810

00:43:10.565 --> 00:43:12.225

You know, that's the place where my cup

811

00:43:12.225 --> 00:43:13.505

gets completely filled.

812

00:43:14.245 --> 00:43:17.145

Um, not that I don't in the space that I'm in, you know,

813

00:43:17.145 --> 00:43:18.945

but it's, it's, it's a different kind of understanding.

814

00:43:19.015 --> 00:43:20.985

It's a different kind of being seen, uh,

815

00:43:20.985 --> 00:43:22.745

which I hear, uh, you saying.

816

00:43:22.745 --> 00:43:23.985

And there are times where, you know,

817

00:43:24.645 --> 00:43:26.935

because I work, I feel like I have a,

818

00:43:26.965 --> 00:43:28.415

have a hyper visibility.

819

00:43:29.075 --> 00:43:31.015

Um, but then there are other times where some

820

00:43:31.015 --> 00:43:33.375

of my identities come up, like when we have queer Sundays

821

00:43:33.375 --> 00:43:37.615

or like, you know, people of color topics come forward.

822

00:43:37.635 --> 00:43:41.215

And I feel like all the eyes are just like, oh, look at the,

823

00:43:41.215 --> 00:43:43.975

you know, what's the non-white person have to see something.

824

00:43:45.675 --> 00:43:48.375

Um, and I don't know if that resonates with you,

825

00:43:48.435 --> 00:43:50.015

but that's definitely an experience

826

00:43:50.015 --> 00:43:51.215

where I feel like there are moments

827

00:43:51.345 --> 00:43:53.975

where when certain topics come up, everybody kind

828

00:43:53.975 --> 00:43:56.815

of holds their breath and just looks to see what,

829

00:43:57.005 --> 00:43:58.815

what I'm gonna say or what you're gonna say

830

00:43:58.815 --> 00:44:01.535

before they can move forward in the conversation.

831

00:44:01.535 --> 00:44:04.825

Because there's a, a layer of like,

832

00:44:05.045 --> 00:44:07.755

not a pause, right?

833

00:44:07.775 --> 00:44:11.415

Of not wanting to express, uh, something wrong

834

00:44:12.495 --> 00:44:15.475

or, you know, it's just an interesting space, I think

835

00:44:15.495 --> 00:44:16.595

to, to Lynn in.

836

00:44:17.455 --> 00:44:21.275

So I'm Bonneville Buena, my pronouns are she, her

837

00:44:22.055 --> 00:44:24.475
and I live in Winter Park, Florida.

838
00:44:25.375 --> 00:44:28.715
I'd be fascinated to talk to an elder that

839
00:44:29.895 --> 00:44:34.445
had parenting values rooted in like, autonomy and trust.

840
00:44:35.225 --> 00:44:37.925
Um, instead of what the version I got was the old school

841
00:44:38.435 --> 00:44:40.045
respect and discipline.

842
00:44:40.355 --> 00:44:44.855
Yeah. Which didn't take into the account of my voice

843
00:44:44.995 --> 00:44:46.895
or, you know, my being.

844
00:44:47.675 --> 00:44:51.455
So, um, it would be cool to like to be amongst,

845
00:44:52.565 --> 00:44:55.425
you know, to break my own biases of like, oh,

846
00:44:55.445 --> 00:44:56.785
all old people think this way.

847
00:44:57.885 --> 00:45:02.265
You know, like, and just to be embraced by the love of, um,

848
00:45:03.095 --> 00:45:07.775
generations that have been able to find that for themselves

849
00:45:07.875 --> 00:45:09.735
and for people around them.

850
00:45:10.495 --> 00:45:13.575
I, I think there's some kind of untapped power

851
00:45:14.205 --> 00:45:16.095
that we haven't gotten between, like,

852
00:45:16.135 --> 00:45:17.615
I think about my homeschool kids

853
00:45:18.115 --> 00:45:20.535
and like this, uh, retired generation

854
00:45:21.195 --> 00:45:23.415
and with an incredible amount of skills and resources

855
00:45:23.995 --> 00:45:26.575
and like, you know, like if my kid wants

856
00:45:26.575 --> 00:45:27.655
to learn woodworking

857
00:45:27.755 --> 00:45:31.085
or fishing, you know, like, ooh, here,

858
00:45:31.585 --> 00:45:33.165
how do we bridge the thing, right?

859
00:45:33.515 --> 00:45:35.965
Yeah. Like, who would be so psyched

860
00:45:35.965 --> 00:45:37.245
to take their retired time

861
00:45:37.785 --> 00:45:40.445
to teach their some 8-year-old how to fish?

862
00:45:40.475 --> 00:45:43.805
Like, you know, how do we link the resources

863
00:45:43.805 --> 00:45:48.045
and knowledge with, uh, curiosity, um, even with myself,

864

00:45:48.115 --> 00:45:49.965

like, Hey, teach me how to make bread.

865

00:45:49.965 --> 00:45:52.605

Like, or teach me how to garden, or whatever it is.

866

00:45:52.665 --> 00:45:55.845

You know, like, I wanna learn a lot of skills that a lot

867

00:45:55.845 --> 00:45:59.205

of these, um, older people have, uh,

868

00:46:00.225 --> 00:46:01.635

that have time and knowledge.

869

00:46:03.155 --> 00:46:05.835

I feel like that's, that's an asset that UU has.

870

00:46:06.055 --> 00:46:07.795

You know, when I see look around, I'm like, oh,

871

00:46:09.015 --> 00:46:10.435

And this is Adina again.

872

00:46:11.735 --> 00:46:15.195

And if our values are gonna name love as our,

873

00:46:15.195 --> 00:46:19.635

like most central value, you know, we might not,

874

00:46:19.645 --> 00:46:22.235

we're not asking for like a how-to parenting manual,

875

00:46:22.555 --> 00:46:24.675

although that would be perfect.

876

00:46:25.615 --> 00:46:29.595

Um, but, but ways support in, in making sure that

877

00:46:29.595 --> 00:46:31.615

that is present, right?

878
00:46:31.685 --> 00:46:35.095
Like in, in our communities, which then will

879
00:46:36.725 --> 00:46:37.895
seep into our families,

880
00:46:38.025 --> 00:46:41.495
which will then directly go from us as a parent.

881
00:46:41.955 --> 00:46:44.335
You know, the internal work we kind of started talking about

882
00:46:44.875 --> 00:46:47.095
and then how we are connecting to our kids

883
00:46:48.965 --> 00:46:52.785
and our kids feeling loved by the community, right?

884
00:46:53.265 --> 00:46:54.745
I think is an extra step there.

885
00:46:56.345 --> 00:46:58.955
Next we will be hearing from April Rosario,

886
00:46:59.105 --> 00:47:01.955
then briefly Erica Baron, and then back to April.

887
00:47:02.895 --> 00:47:06.235
And wouldn't it be great on a Sunday morning if

888
00:47:07.105 --> 00:47:08.175
there was breakfast

889
00:47:08.395 --> 00:47:12.375
or like a, a a pre church coffee hour where, um,

890
00:47:12.445 --> 00:47:15.415
sometimes you just have to get out the door

891

00:47:16.155 --> 00:47:17.175
and then you get there and you go,

892
00:47:17.335 --> 00:47:19.335
I haven't fed you anything yet.

893
00:47:20.355 --> 00:47:24.275
Yes. And then lunch so that you don't have to

894
00:47:25.195 --> 00:47:27.645
deal with hungry kids or buy lunch or

895
00:47:28.445 --> 00:47:29.445
Whatever. Building on

896
00:47:29.445 --> 00:47:32.285
that, wouldn't it be great if it was either

897
00:47:32.295 --> 00:47:33.445
built into budgets

898
00:47:33.545 --> 00:47:37.655
or another, like pool was created

899
00:47:37.745 --> 00:47:39.255
where all of the things,

900
00:47:39.405 --> 00:47:43.135
like nothing church related cost money for kids

901
00:47:43.135 --> 00:47:45.135
to participate and attempt so

902
00:47:45.135 --> 00:47:48.215
that it was just blanket statement, we're going bowling,

903
00:47:48.315 --> 00:47:51.375
of course church is covering it, we're doing blah, blah,

904
00:47:51.375 --> 00:47:53.095
blah of church courses, covering it.

905
00:47:53.555 --> 00:47:54.975
But if you wanna donate, you can.

906
00:47:55.035 --> 00:47:58.575
But so that there was never the assumption of maybe we can

907
00:47:58.595 --> 00:47:59.735
or can't participate.

908
00:48:07.195 --> 00:48:09.685
This is Melissa again, thank you so much

909
00:48:09.685 --> 00:48:11.845
to all the amazing folks, but the facilitators

910
00:48:11.945 --> 00:48:15.565
and the participants that were a part of our UU Parents

911
00:48:15.665 --> 00:48:17.125
and Families wave this spring.

912
00:48:17.865 --> 00:48:20.285
Uh, and for all the powerful sharing that happened,

913
00:48:21.425 --> 00:48:22.885
now we're gonna give you all a chance

914
00:48:22.905 --> 00:48:23.965
to have some conversation.

915
00:48:25.045 --> 00:48:27.715
We're gonna break up into random, small groups for you all

916
00:48:27.715 --> 00:48:31.275
to engage in the question of how do our UU values call us

917
00:48:31.435 --> 00:48:33.715
to respond to this moment for you,

918

00:48:33.715 --> 00:48:34.995

your parents and families.

919

00:48:36.015 --> 00:48:38.355

Um, if you prefer to be in a quiet room, again,

920

00:48:38.355 --> 00:48:40.355

please just put a queue in front of your name.

921

00:48:42.545 --> 00:48:44.275

Just remember, um, as we go into this,

922

00:48:44.275 --> 00:48:46.355

that our discussion should be held by the agreements

923

00:48:46.355 --> 00:48:48.835

that we made as a part of the GA covenant.

924

00:48:49.495 --> 00:48:52.475

You can access that by the QR code up on the screen

925

00:48:52.695 --> 00:48:54.555

or in the hova GA app.

926

00:48:55.775 --> 00:48:57.915

So what are you gonna do there? Once you are in your

927

00:48:58.155 --> 00:49:00.315

breakouts, what I'm going to invite you to do is

928

00:49:00.315 --> 00:49:03.515

to take turns sharing your name, pronouns, congregation

929

00:49:03.515 --> 00:49:04.675

and community affiliations.

930

00:49:04.675 --> 00:49:05.995

So some general introductions

931

00:49:07.015 --> 00:49:10.875

and then having a, a, uh, some collective time asking

932

00:49:10.945 --> 00:49:12.995

that question of what is the moment we're, well,

933

00:49:13.065 --> 00:49:15.035

what is the moment we're in?

934

00:49:15.055 --> 00:49:16.835

But primarily what, let me actually

935

00:49:17.775 --> 00:49:19.155

that's, we talked about that already.

936

00:49:19.155 --> 00:49:21.035

What we're talking about is how are we going to respond?

937

00:49:21.695 --> 00:49:25.275

Um, what is, how do our values call us to respond the time?

938

00:49:25.335 --> 00:49:29.715

Now we have a nice chunk of time

939

00:49:29.935 --> 00:49:32.155

for you all to, to have in there.

940

00:49:32.375 --> 00:49:36.235

So we will call you back in about 20 minutes.

941

00:49:37.335 --> 00:49:39.875

Um, and so, um, Caroline,

942

00:49:39.895 --> 00:49:42.875

our amazing tech host is gonna invite you into, um,

943

00:49:42.945 --> 00:49:44.515

some small group breakout rooms.

944

00:49:45.175 --> 00:49:48.355

We will give you a time warning about two minutes out

945

00:49:48.375 --> 00:49:51.555

before we call you back to this space for some sharing.

946

00:49:53.095 --> 00:49:56.355

Oh, so the Annie, thank you for the question.

947

00:49:56.415 --> 00:49:58.795

So we, the only specialized breakout

948

00:49:58.795 --> 00:49:59.955

room we're doing is the quiet room.

949

00:49:59.955 --> 00:50:03.355

Everything else is going to be random breakout rooms today.

950

00:50:04.905 --> 00:50:06.395

Yeah. Thank you Melissa.

951

00:50:06.755 --> 00:50:08.915

I got a little bit, um, distracted.

952

00:50:09.255 --> 00:50:12.995

Uh, did you mention that we're asking for somebody to take?

953

00:50:13.955 --> 00:50:16.155

I did not. Okay. I did not.

954

00:50:16.365 --> 00:50:19.915

Lemme drop into the, um, let me drop into the chat.

955

00:50:20.935 --> 00:50:24.395

The, um, link to the note taking form

956

00:50:24.575 --> 00:50:28.125

and not to give you extra work

957

00:50:29.185 --> 00:50:32.845

and, uh, wanting to make sure we do this

958

00:50:32.845 --> 00:50:35.485

because as we keep saying, we're hoping to amplify

959

00:50:36.075 --> 00:50:37.885

what you are talking about

960

00:50:38.105 --> 00:50:41.885

and the insights that you have back out to the you, you

961

00:50:42.485 --> 00:50:45.085

universe and, um, make some change in it.

962

00:50:45.465 --> 00:50:49.565

So definitely wanna capture, uh, your wisdom today.

963

00:50:50.055 --> 00:50:55.035

Great. Thank you Lauren. And with that,

964

00:50:55.395 --> 00:50:56.675

whenever the groups are are ready,

965

00:50:56.815 --> 00:50:59.475

we will give you about 20 minutes together, um,

966

00:50:59.535 --> 00:51:02.035

to talk about this question of how do we live out our values

967

00:51:03.695 --> 00:51:05.235

for you, you parents and families,

968

00:52:04.565 --> 00:52:05.565

Right?

969

00:52:42.245 --> 00:52:44.705

Always a good sign when people stay in the breakout rooms.

970

00:52:52.555 --> 00:52:53.485

Welcome back.

971

00:53:08.755 --> 00:53:13.035

All right. Here we all come. Oh, we come back.

972

00:53:13.315 --> 00:53:17.495

Everyone, if you feel so moved, if you did have your

973

00:53:18.185 --> 00:53:21.135

video playing and you feel willing to leave it on,

974

00:53:21.135 --> 00:53:24.335

knowing this is being recorded, go ahead and do that.

975

00:53:25.525 --> 00:53:29.225

Um, gosh, we've been together, many of us for three days

976

00:53:29.285 --> 00:53:32.425

and haven't really had an opportunity to be

977

00:53:33.145 --> 00:53:35.945

a whole group having a whole conversation very many times.

978

00:53:36.845 --> 00:53:39.825

So we carved out a little bit of time here

979

00:53:40.565 --> 00:53:43.265

as we're just coming up to our last 15 minutes

980

00:53:43.605 --> 00:53:47.225

of this experience together at General Assembly, uh,

981

00:53:47.365 --> 00:53:49.225

to capture some of the collective wisdom

982

00:53:49.485 --> 00:53:53.425

and just to share into this larger group, um,

983

00:53:53.965 --> 00:53:56.705

our responses to the question we engaged today.

984

00:53:57.085 --> 00:54:00.065

How do our UU values call us to respond to this moment

985

00:54:00.065 --> 00:54:02.545

for UU parents and families?

986
00:54:03.565 --> 00:54:07.425

So, um, feel free to put

987
00:54:07.775 --> 00:54:11.305

what came up for you into the chat if you'd like,

988
00:54:11.405 --> 00:54:14.145

or to raise your hand, a virtual one if you can find

989
00:54:14.145 --> 00:54:17.425

that button or a real one if that works better for you.

990
00:54:18.245 --> 00:54:23.225

And, um, share what your thoughts are as we're coming

991
00:54:23.325 --> 00:54:26.745

to a close as you had that opportunity,

992
00:54:26.745 --> 00:54:27.985

talking with one another.

993
00:54:28.575 --> 00:54:31.225

What kinds of things did you notice

994
00:54:31.365 --> 00:54:35.265

or needed that we might do that we might be called

995
00:54:35.265 --> 00:54:36.705

to do in our congregations?

996
00:54:37.505 --> 00:54:42.385

I see triage from Tiffany Triage. Indeed.

997
00:54:42.735 --> 00:54:45.665

Yeah, Julia, yeah. Taking

998
00:54:45.665 --> 00:54:46.665

Notes for our group. So I'm

999

00:54:46.665 --> 00:54:48.425
hoping I can kind of summarize.

1000
00:54:48.605 --> 00:54:51.185
Um, we did start by talking a lot about food

1001
00:54:51.445 --> 00:54:53.225
and also some of the barriers that we might have,

1002
00:54:53.225 --> 00:54:55.945
especially budget wise and some solutions to that.

1003
00:54:56.125 --> 00:54:59.465
So, um, like some fun ideas are like, work with other teams,

1004
00:54:59.695 --> 00:55:02.385
like, you know, if you have a caring network is

1005
00:55:02.385 --> 00:55:04.025
what ours is called, or fellowship

1006
00:55:04.045 --> 00:55:06.225
or welcoming team, like, can they help

1007
00:55:06.335 --> 00:55:07.825
with like, some of those costs?

1008
00:55:08.245 --> 00:55:11.385
And also maybe even working with like a local restaurant

1009
00:55:11.485 --> 00:55:12.945
or getting seconds and stuff like that.

1010
00:55:13.085 --> 00:55:14.665
So we did talk a lot about food

1011
00:55:15.125 --> 00:55:17.505
and then, um, we talked about a lot of things,

1012
00:55:17.565 --> 00:55:20.905
but I think it was a lot centered on just like making

1013
00:55:21.345 --> 00:55:24.545
families feel welcome and leaning into the,

1014
00:55:24.705 --> 00:55:25.745
I wrote down joy, love,

1015
00:55:25.745 --> 00:55:27.945
and belonging, um, like leaning into that.

1016
00:55:28.045 --> 00:55:31.305
So like when we see them there welcoming them, say, I'm

1017
00:55:31.305 --> 00:55:32.465
so glad you're here.

1018
00:55:33.125 --> 00:55:34.305
And just like that really

1019
00:55:34.335 --> 00:55:36.345
inclusive, creating the inclusive space.

1020
00:55:36.405 --> 00:55:38.425
We are so glad to hear that baby.

1021
00:55:38.485 --> 00:55:40.785
We are so glad to hear and see that three-year-old.

1022
00:55:41.155 --> 00:55:42.705
Let's like, make sure that they can

1023
00:55:42.705 --> 00:55:43.985
be involved in all the rituals.

1024
00:55:43.985 --> 00:55:47.105
Let's make sure that they can, oh, there's a 3-year-old,

1025
00:55:47.405 --> 00:55:49.425
and then let's make sure that they can, you know,

1026

00:55:49.535 --> 00:55:50.945

explore the chancel.

1027

00:55:50.945 --> 00:55:52.945

Like, it's okay if you're late, it's okay.

1028

00:55:53.415 --> 00:55:56.545

Like however you are, we see you

1029

00:55:56.605 --> 00:55:58.385

and we welcome you and we're excited you're here.

1030

00:55:58.405 --> 00:56:00.345

So that was kind of what we ended with

1031

00:56:00.345 --> 00:56:02.865

and I feel like that was a really positive note.

1032

00:56:03.285 --> 00:56:05.945

That's beautiful, that's beautiful Julia, in your group.

1033

00:56:06.005 --> 00:56:08.665

And that those are things that can't be said too many times.

1034

00:56:09.005 --> 00:56:11.425

Saying those kinds of things from the pulpit

1035

00:56:11.805 --> 00:56:13.465

or from, you know, when you're the one

1036

00:56:13.465 --> 00:56:16.265

with the mic in your hand when you're the one who's employed

1037

00:56:16.325 --> 00:56:18.905

by or leading a activity for your congregation.

1038

00:56:18.905 --> 00:56:20.985

When you say things like, we are so glad

1039

00:56:21.175 --> 00:56:22.465

that the families are here with us.

1040
00:56:22.575 --> 00:56:24.205
It's so, so lovely to hear the voices

1041
00:56:24.305 --> 00:56:26.245
of the younger generation in our midst.

1042
00:56:26.755 --> 00:56:29.805
That is a ministry to everybody in that realm,

1043
00:56:30.265 --> 00:56:32.125
and especially to those parents

1044
00:56:32.225 --> 00:56:35.285
and families who really need to hear it, who really need

1045
00:56:35.285 --> 00:56:36.805
to know there's a place where they can show up

1046
00:56:36.805 --> 00:56:38.205
as their full selves.

1047
00:56:38.795 --> 00:56:41.365
Yeah, absolutely.

1048
00:56:42.185 --> 00:56:46.945
Um, I love that you are getting creative about, um, about

1049
00:56:47.085 --> 00:56:51.145
how you might gather food to provide, uh, to your,

1050
00:56:51.485 --> 00:56:53.705
to your families and folks in your congregation.

1051
00:56:54.205 --> 00:56:55.865
Uh, a thing that came up for me as I was,

1052
00:56:55.925 --> 00:56:57.665
was hearing you say that too, juliete, is

1053

00:56:57.665 --> 00:57:00.945

that oftentimes our congregations are so, um,

1054

00:57:01.345 --> 00:57:03.745

generous when they're asked to bring food for a food bank

1055

00:57:03.805 --> 00:57:06.345

or donate money to support folks

1056

00:57:06.415 --> 00:57:08.185

that are hungry in our communities.

1057

00:57:08.605 --> 00:57:12.545

And so somehow making the, the connection for folks

1058

00:57:12.545 --> 00:57:15.585

that there are people in our community who need to be fed

1059

00:57:15.885 --> 00:57:18.025

and that, um, providing food

1060

00:57:18.085 --> 00:57:20.545

for those folks is ministry too.

1061

00:57:20.885 --> 00:57:23.305

Is is community care as well.

1062

00:57:23.905 --> 00:57:26.945

I see Holly's question, are you getting the answer, Erica,

1063

00:57:27.235 --> 00:57:29.945

about, um, Holly's question about the resources Yeah.

1064

00:57:29.945 --> 00:57:32.465

That we looked for coming into the chat. Holly,

1065

00:57:32.605 --> 00:57:34.745

Can you just say, I, I'm not exactly sure what,

1066

00:57:35.455 --> 00:57:36.905

what we gave you yesterday.

1067
00:57:37.685 --> 00:57:39.225
Oh, oh, the ED center toolbox? Yes.

1068
00:57:39.295 --> 00:57:40.305
Cool. Yes, I can do that.

1069
00:57:41.115 --> 00:57:45.145
Thank you. Um, Julia, I see, see you saying

1070
00:57:45.145 --> 00:57:49.345
that a big takeaway for you from the, uh, video was the need

1071
00:57:49.345 --> 00:57:51.345
to take care of the people in our congregation as well.

1072
00:57:51.695 --> 00:57:54.905
Yeah. Couple of several hearts to that one.

1073
00:57:55.535 --> 00:57:57.145
What else did you talk about in your,

1074
00:57:57.525 --> 00:57:58.705
in your groups just now?

1075
00:58:07.905 --> 00:58:11.835
Raya making youu identity salient throughout the whole week

1076
00:58:11.935 --> 00:58:13.075
at church and at home.

1077
00:58:13.935 --> 00:58:16.915
One of the religious educators in our group sends home an

1078
00:58:16.915 --> 00:58:19.715
email for the religious education kids in the group with

1079
00:58:19.715 --> 00:58:21.795
what they learned and ideas

1080

00:58:21.975 --> 00:58:24.635

to continue on the theme at home, which would be great

1081

00:58:24.655 --> 00:58:26.275

for me as a parent, right?

1082

00:58:26.345 --> 00:58:28.675

Like how many parents are feeling like, yes,

1083

00:58:28.795 --> 00:58:31.155

I really wanna imbue UU values

1084

00:58:31.335 --> 00:58:34.155

and religious education into what we do at home.

1085

00:58:34.465 --> 00:58:36.755

Like so many people raise their hand for that.

1086

00:58:37.255 --> 00:58:38.995

But, um, how do we do it?

1087

00:58:39.625 --> 00:58:41.875

When do I have time to go find some curriculum

1088

00:58:41.875 --> 00:58:44.635

or some resources to like, never, never,

1089

00:58:45.215 --> 00:58:48.235

but an email that goes home or a flyer that goes home.

1090

00:58:48.575 --> 00:58:50.275

Flyers usually end up left on the,

1091

00:58:50.655 --> 00:58:52.435

on the floor in the, in the hall.

1092

00:58:52.455 --> 00:58:54.955

But, uh, you know, like an email that goes home that says,

1093

00:58:55.105 --> 00:58:57.755

have this que have this discussion over dinner tonight.

1094
00:58:57.975 --> 00:59:00.835
Or, um, here's a great book to check out of the library.

1095
00:59:01.055 --> 00:59:02.835
Or here's an activity that you can do.

1096
00:59:04.575 --> 00:59:07.875
Uh, Tiffany wrote, um, creating a space

1097
00:59:07.875 --> 00:59:09.555
where they can share true needs.

1098
00:59:09.745 --> 00:59:13.395
Yeah. So that space often feels like, um,

1099
00:59:14.315 --> 00:59:16.195
a pastoral care space, right?

1100
00:59:16.225 --> 00:59:20.795
That people sharing true needs need, all of those, all

1101
00:59:20.795 --> 00:59:24.245
of those, that kind of container that makes it possible

1102
00:59:24.305 --> 00:59:25.885
for people to get vulnerable.

1103
00:59:26.385 --> 00:59:27.925
Do you, do your group have any ideas

1104
00:59:27.925 --> 00:59:31.605
that you wanna share about that Tiffany, beyond just, um,

1105
00:59:31.605 --> 00:59:34.665
what you put in the chat, which is helpful.

1106
00:59:40.115 --> 00:59:42.125
Okay. I just wanna, I don't Sure.

1107

00:59:42.125 --> 00:59:43.485
You saw that Holly had her hand

1108
00:59:43.485 --> 00:59:44.485
Up. Yeah, it

1109
00:59:44.485 --> 00:59:47.005
did. Um, that's great. Thank you.

1110
00:59:47.025 --> 00:59:49.645
And I also wanna, before we move on, I wanna lift up

1111
00:59:49.645 --> 00:59:51.045
what Melissa put in the chat.

1112
00:59:51.365 --> 00:59:53.205
Anything I can take a photo of with my phone

1113
00:59:53.305 --> 00:59:56.405
before I leave church has a fighting chance of fighting you,

1114
00:59:56.545 --> 00:59:58.005
of me finding it later in the week.

1115
00:59:58.115 --> 00:59:59.885
Yeah. Um, yes.

1116
01:00:00.105 --> 01:00:03.765
So please unmute, uh, and and share the next idea there.

1117
01:00:10.685 --> 01:00:11.685
I think that was to you Holly,

1118
01:00:14.105 --> 01:00:15.625
I was busy typing it in there.

1119
01:00:15.885 --> 01:00:20.785
Um, I'm, I am thinking, I want my congregation

1120
01:00:20.805 --> 01:00:23.305
to learn more about the challenges that parents

1121
01:00:23.365 --> 01:00:25.065
and families are dealing with today.

1122
01:00:25.665 --> 01:00:29.385
'cause I think it's as an, you know, the sort

1123
01:00:29.385 --> 01:00:31.505
of the visible people in the church are older

1124
01:00:31.615 --> 01:00:34.065
established com very comfortable.

1125
01:00:34.255 --> 01:00:38.225
They raised kids in, you know, 30, 40 years ago

1126
01:00:38.565 --> 01:00:40.385
and very different.

1127
01:00:40.645 --> 01:00:43.825
And I, I think it would really be helpful to have some

1128
01:00:44.735 --> 01:00:49.625
sermons, you know, some just a aware awareness raising, um,

1129
01:00:51.135 --> 01:00:53.345
from the pulpit, because I don't think they're necessarily

1130
01:00:53.345 --> 01:00:54.665
gonna come to a workshop

1131
01:00:54.665 --> 01:00:57.625
or a book, church book read or something like that.

1132
01:00:57.975 --> 01:01:01.065
Yeah. Um, and then the other, so the, then the other area

1133
01:01:01.065 --> 01:01:02.305
that I think we really need

1134

01:01:02.305 --> 01:01:03.985
to learn about is neurodiversity.

1135
01:01:04.765 --> 01:01:08.985
Um, not just in our children, which I think more

1136
01:01:08.985 --> 01:01:12.225
and more people recognize that, oh, that kid

1137
01:01:12.225 --> 01:01:14.425
that's completely melting down

1138
01:01:14.425 --> 01:01:17.505
and outta control, that's not just a bad kid, that kid,

1139
01:01:17.565 --> 01:01:18.785
you know, I mean, I think we have a

1140
01:01:19.355 --> 01:01:21.105
older folks have a better understanding of that,

1141
01:01:21.485 --> 01:01:25.225
but neurodiversity, neuro spiciness,

1142
01:01:25.245 --> 01:01:28.865
as people say in adults who have never been diagnosed.

1143
01:01:29.185 --> 01:01:31.865
I mean, we, we've, my board has been dealing

1144
01:01:31.895 --> 01:01:35.225
with interpersonal conflicts all year

1145
01:01:35.815 --> 01:01:39.635
from people just, you know, letting it fly.

1146
01:01:40.095 --> 01:01:43.995
And we all know that these people are, you know, oh,

1147
01:01:43.995 --> 01:01:45.595
that's just so and so well,

1148
01:01:47.195 --> 01:01:48.195
Right. You know, so how

1149
01:01:48.195 --> 01:01:49.785
do you, how do you create structures

1150
01:01:49.785 --> 01:01:53.145
and norms and explicit, um, plans for

1151
01:01:53.165 --> 01:01:55.025
how you communicate with one another?

1152
01:01:55.165 --> 01:01:57.625
How mm-hmm, mm-hmm. Self-regulate.

1153
01:01:57.625 --> 01:01:58.985
What are self-regulation skills?

1154
01:01:58.985 --> 01:02:01.545
What are co-regulation skills? Right?

1155
01:02:01.645 --> 01:02:04.505
And these are adults that have no, you know,

1156
01:02:05.445 --> 01:02:08.785
nobody ever said, oh, you're, you're neuro neurotypical

1157
01:02:08.925 --> 01:02:11.225
or neuro atypical, you know, like, they would just think,

1158
01:02:11.925 --> 01:02:12.945
you know, I'm just me.

1159
01:02:13.605 --> 01:02:16.265
And, and yet they don't understand when they, it's like,

1160
01:02:16.265 --> 01:02:17.945
you know what, you've just really said something

1161

01:02:17.945 --> 01:02:21.525
that hurt someone, you know, whatever.

1162
01:02:21.625 --> 01:02:25.245
So it's, I think some of it is learning about neurodiversity

1163
01:02:25.585 --> 01:02:29.955
and, and just becoming more informed about

1164
01:02:30.625 --> 01:02:34.075
some of the issues and more understanding of each other.

1165
01:02:34.375 --> 01:02:35.375
And yeah.

1166
01:02:36.175 --> 01:02:38.555
And to expand on what you're saying, Holly, sometimes

1167
01:02:38.555 --> 01:02:42.795
that comes up as like, uh, behavior that is misunderstood

1168
01:02:42.895 --> 01:02:45.835
and is, and can be problematic if it's not understood.

1169
01:02:45.855 --> 01:02:47.595
And, uh, uh,

1170
01:02:47.975 --> 01:02:52.115
and also sometimes people's neuro spiciness shows up as, uh,

1171
01:02:52.315 --> 01:02:53.315
a unique perspective

1172
01:02:53.495 --> 01:02:54.875
or a voice that needs

1173
01:02:54.875 --> 01:02:58.675
to come from the adults in the congregation who can, uh,

1174
01:02:58.895 --> 01:03:01.275
who can sort of expand the conversation

1175
01:03:01.535 --> 01:03:04.195
and make, uh, our understanding

1176
01:03:04.195 --> 01:03:07.075
of whatever topics we're addressing together

1177
01:03:07.935 --> 01:03:09.875
be be more pluralistic.

1178
01:03:09.965 --> 01:03:13.235
Right. There be more perspectives in that conversation.

1179
01:03:13.455 --> 01:03:18.075
So, um, yes, yes to all the ways in which, um,

1180
01:03:18.615 --> 01:03:20.475
things that we're doing for the children

1181
01:03:21.315 --> 01:03:22.835
actually help all of us.

1182
01:03:22.835 --> 01:03:26.115
Because every kind of, uh, difference

1183
01:03:26.115 --> 01:03:28.475
that we might see in our kids, we also see in ourselves

1184
01:03:28.495 --> 01:03:29.715
as the adults in the space.

1185
01:03:30.295 --> 01:03:34.265
Um, I'm gonna go back to the chat for a second

1186
01:03:34.645 --> 01:03:39.425
and see, um, Raya saying also creating inclusive rituals

1187
01:03:39.425 --> 01:03:41.545
for kids, starting with nursery

1188

01:03:41.685 --> 01:03:43.465
and having events for families at church

1189
01:03:43.525 --> 01:03:44.585
on other days of the week.

1190
01:03:45.005 --> 01:03:49.585
So you, you actions are part of families routines beautiful.

1191
01:03:49.805 --> 01:03:54.495
Yes. Yes. One-on-one parent dinners.

1192
01:03:54.595 --> 01:03:57.095
Oh, so connecting parents with other parents,

1193
01:03:57.975 --> 01:03:59.055
families with other families.

1194
01:03:59.155 --> 01:04:01.055
Is that what that is suggesting, Tiffany?

1195
01:04:08.285 --> 01:04:10.625
Oh, lots of love for Lincoln in the chat.

1196
01:04:12.405 --> 01:04:13.425
Uh, the majority

1197
01:04:13.565 --> 01:04:16.425
of my church can't recognize me if my daughter isn't there.

1198
01:04:18.235 --> 01:04:20.535
So recognizing parents as whole beings.

1199
01:04:20.565 --> 01:04:21.855
Wait, caring for parents

1200
01:04:21.915 --> 01:04:23.615
as whole beings that has a ring to it.

1201
01:04:23.695 --> 01:04:25.535
I think that's the title of this space.

1202
01:04:25.595 --> 01:04:27.975
So recognizing parents as people outside

1203
01:04:28.315 --> 01:04:29.615
of our families too.

1204
01:04:29.995 --> 01:04:32.375
Yes. Sometimes this means, right?

1205
01:04:32.395 --> 01:04:34.815
So this means that sometimes we are gathering our

1206
01:04:35.935 --> 01:04:38.535
families together in multi-generational community

1207
01:04:38.535 --> 01:04:39.655
with the whole congregation.

1208
01:04:39.715 --> 01:04:41.975
And sometimes it means supporting parents means

1209
01:04:41.975 --> 01:04:43.215
we're providing childcare.

1210
01:04:43.715 --> 01:04:47.335
So I can show up as a person who's not actively caring

1211
01:04:47.435 --> 01:04:49.655
for my, or not actively parenting this moment,

1212
01:04:49.755 --> 01:04:51.575
but I'm participating in the Ministry

1213
01:04:51.575 --> 01:04:53.575
of the congregation in other ways.

1214
01:04:54.995 --> 01:04:59.175
So many good, uh, more comments in the chat

1215

01:04:59.235 --> 01:05:01.615
and hellos to little people.

1216
01:05:02.595 --> 01:05:05.775
Um, uh, I wanna ask Erica

1217
01:05:06.195 --> 01:05:08.455
and Melissa if I missed anything from the chat.

1218
01:05:08.855 --> 01:05:10.855
'cause I that I, uh, that we wanna lift up

1219
01:05:10.855 --> 01:05:14.255
before we move to our closing, uh, slides

1220
01:05:14.395 --> 01:05:15.535
for the last two minutes.

1221
01:05:16.595 --> 01:05:21.125
Um, yeah, I just wanna say quickly, um, I put uh,

1222
01:05:21.375 --> 01:05:23.005
three different resources in the chat.

1223
01:05:23.145 --> 01:05:27.245
So, um, anyone who is a is registered for ga,

1224
01:05:27.545 --> 01:05:30.565
you can show them this, this will be recorded and available.

1225
01:05:30.945 --> 01:05:34.085
Um, you can also show them the Aju Center one

1226
01:05:34.305 --> 01:05:36.525
that's about the sea change in religious education,

1227
01:05:36.525 --> 01:05:37.725
which has a lot of the same material,

1228
01:05:38.305 --> 01:05:41.565
but for people if you wanna give your congregation members

1229

01:05:41.595 --> 01:05:44.085

something and they are not registered for ga.

1230

01:05:44.465 --> 01:05:46.125

Um, those three links that I put in there.

1231

01:05:46.345 --> 01:05:49.485

Um, the first one is, uh, thing I wrote on

1232

01:05:49.485 --> 01:05:50.525

what it's like to be a millennial.

1233

01:05:50.945 --> 01:05:54.245

The second one is, um, the Surgeon General's report.

1234

01:05:54.385 --> 01:05:57.165

Um, which right now you can still find on the HHS website,

1235

01:05:57.165 --> 01:05:58.445

but in case that goes away.

1236

01:05:58.905 --> 01:06:01.285

And the last one is, um, a recording

1237

01:06:01.285 --> 01:06:04.205

of a webinar about the Surgeon General's report that I did

1238

01:06:04.235 --> 01:06:07.685

with, um, my colleague Jen Jenica Davis Hockett.

1239

01:06:07.865 --> 01:06:10.325

Um, so those you can all show to anyone,

1240

01:06:10.325 --> 01:06:11.765

they don't have to have registered for ga.

1241

01:06:12.145 --> 01:06:14.845

Thanks Erica. All right.

1242

01:06:15.025 --> 01:06:17.445

Um, and it looks like we need to do a little bit of, um,

1243

01:06:17.445 --> 01:06:20.205

updates to the sharing, so the sharing settings.

1244

01:06:20.205 --> 01:06:23.485

So we'll do that. And, uh, Caroline, I think we're gonna go

1245

01:06:23.505 --> 01:06:26.405

to our closing slides here.

1246

01:06:26.695 --> 01:06:29.325

Slide 16 I think is where we go to.

1247

01:06:30.985 --> 01:06:35.205

So, so much, uh, passion and creativity

1248

01:06:36.585 --> 01:06:39.685

and urgency bubbling up in the room.

1249

01:06:39.865 --> 01:06:42.405

So one of our major goals for Meet the Moment is

1250

01:06:42.405 --> 01:06:44.805

that it serves both to create the space

1251

01:06:44.805 --> 01:06:46.645

for conversations like this to bubble up

1252

01:06:47.305 --> 01:06:50.085

and to provide structures for those conversations

1253

01:06:50.145 --> 01:06:52.085

to continue and to evolve

1254

01:06:52.145 --> 01:06:54.845

and to ripple out like waves throughout the faith.

1255

01:06:55.345 --> 01:06:57.365

So as we close today, we wanna review a number

1256
01:06:57.365 --> 01:06:58.685
of things we're hoping you'll do

1257
01:06:58.705 --> 01:07:02.285
to make this experience at General Assembly, the beginning

1258
01:07:02.285 --> 01:07:03.365
of something much larger.

1259
01:07:04.425 --> 01:07:07.375
First, we hope you'll use the Meet the Moment framework in

1260
01:07:07.375 --> 01:07:08.415
your own congregations.

1261
01:07:08.995 --> 01:07:11.095
We have created two different templates for you

1262
01:07:11.095 --> 01:07:13.015
to use one two hour session

1263
01:07:13.755 --> 01:07:18.095
and three, a three session series of 90 minutes each.

1264
01:07:18.285 --> 01:07:21.055
Kind of like this that allow folks to either lightly sample

1265
01:07:21.155 --> 01:07:24.375
or really dig into the three grounding questions as a way

1266
01:07:24.435 --> 01:07:26.815
of looking at a particular topic

1267
01:07:27.075 --> 01:07:28.855
or area of congregational life.

1268
01:07:29.675 --> 01:07:32.375
You might ask each of your congregation's committees

1269

01:07:32.375 --> 01:07:34.255
to use the two hour session template

1270
01:07:34.435 --> 01:07:35.935
to help determine their goals

1271
01:07:35.955 --> 01:07:38.895
and priorities for the next church year, for example.

1272
01:07:39.075 --> 01:07:40.935
Or you might ask the search team

1273
01:07:40.935 --> 01:07:43.255
or the Capital Campaign task force to go

1274
01:07:43.255 --> 01:07:44.775
through the three session version

1275
01:07:44.875 --> 01:07:46.575
and report back to the congregation

1276
01:07:46.835 --> 01:07:48.575
or the religious education committee

1277
01:07:49.755 --> 01:07:52.615
to report back on their conversations as a way

1278
01:07:52.615 --> 01:07:54.455
of talking about how they are going

1279
01:07:54.455 --> 01:07:55.615
to do their work together.

1280
01:07:55.715 --> 01:07:59.255
And maybe some of that reporting back can happen on a Sunday

1281
01:07:59.255 --> 01:08:02.255
morning from the pulpit, like as was suggested, uh,

1282
01:08:02.255 --> 01:08:03.255
this morning here,

1283
01:08:03.405 --> 01:08:06.255
because that's when you have your whole community gathered

1284
01:08:06.905 --> 01:08:09.735
these facilitation templates are available starting right

1285
01:08:09.735 --> 01:08:10.815
now on our website,

1286
01:08:11.115 --> 01:08:13.975
or you can use the QR code on the screen to get to them.

1287
01:08:14.435 --> 01:08:16.765
You'll also be able to link to these resources

1288
01:08:16.765 --> 01:08:18.005
through the GA app,

1289
01:08:18.825 --> 01:08:21.565
and we're going to work on using real data

1290
01:08:22.185 --> 01:08:26.605
to develop shared analysis across Unitarian Universalism.

1291
01:08:26.625 --> 01:08:28.405
That's our next slide.

1292
01:08:29.025 --> 01:08:31.725
Our first grounding question was what is the moment we're in

1293
01:08:32.345 --> 01:08:35.805
to come to a common understanding about what's happening?

1294
01:08:35.825 --> 01:08:38.485
We, of course, want a diversity of experiences

1295
01:08:38.625 --> 01:08:42.525
and perspectives, but we also want to share common data

1296

01:08:42.945 --> 01:08:44.405
and figure out what stories

1297
01:08:44.435 --> 01:08:46.725
that data is telling about our congregations,

1298
01:08:47.145 --> 01:08:48.245
our faith and the world.

1299
01:08:48.425 --> 01:08:51.445
So this coming fall, the UUA is going

1300
01:08:51.445 --> 01:08:53.285
to be offering public opportunities

1301
01:08:53.545 --> 01:08:55.245
to ground ourselves in data

1302
01:08:55.665 --> 01:08:59.005
and the stories it tells, starting with public webinars,

1303
01:08:59.005 --> 01:09:02.245
looking at the 2025 congregational certification data,

1304
01:09:02.535 --> 01:09:04.325
which tracks a whole range of aspects

1305
01:09:04.325 --> 01:09:06.165
of congregational life, from membership

1306
01:09:06.165 --> 01:09:09.085
to religious education, enrollment to annual budgets.

1307
01:09:09.215 --> 01:09:11.285
Again, you'll find information

1308
01:09:11.345 --> 01:09:12.605
and registration links

1309
01:09:12.605 --> 01:09:15.045
to those events on the Meet The Moment website under the

1310
01:09:15.355 --> 01:09:19.325
Real Data Shared Analysis, shared analysis section,

1311
01:09:21.075 --> 01:09:24.215
and then you got to have a very abbreviated version

1312
01:09:24.315 --> 01:09:26.855
of the Wave cohort experience during GA here.

1313
01:09:26.915 --> 01:09:30.695
But we're excited to let you know that a whole new wave

1314
01:09:30.875 --> 01:09:33.695
of Wave cohorts will be launching this fall,

1315
01:09:33.795 --> 01:09:35.855
and we would love to have you join us.

1316
01:09:35.995 --> 01:09:38.695
The topics range from administration to worship,

1317
01:09:38.835 --> 01:09:42.015
to fund fundraising to the future of religious education,

1318
01:09:42.015 --> 01:09:44.295
which is going to be very broadly held,

1319
01:09:44.675 --> 01:09:47.175
and that they promise to be an incredible way

1320
01:09:47.175 --> 01:09:49.655
to grow your skills, deepen your understanding,

1321
01:09:50.315 --> 01:09:52.415
and prime your imagination in the company

1322
01:09:52.475 --> 01:09:54.295
of other you use across the faith.

1323

01:09:54.675 --> 01:09:57.575

You'll be able to find these Wave Co in the Wave cohort

1324

01:09:57.575 --> 01:09:59.655

section of the Meet the Moment landing page.

1325

01:10:01.265 --> 01:10:02.775

We're going to be publishing all

1326

01:10:02.775 --> 01:10:05.975

of this week's content from these various Meet the Moment

1327

01:10:05.975 --> 01:10:08.535

program blocks and our wave cohorts,

1328

01:10:08.535 --> 01:10:11.815

including the introductory storytelling videos about the

1329

01:10:11.815 --> 01:10:15.135

three questions, the Wave cohort content presentation,

1330

01:10:15.135 --> 01:10:16.295

videos and slides,

1331

01:10:16.515 --> 01:10:18.975

and the ideas that were captured in our three

1332

01:10:19.035 --> 01:10:20.055

GA conversations.

1333

01:10:20.085 --> 01:10:22.055

Over these few days, you'll be able to see

1334

01:10:22.055 --> 01:10:23.175

what you missed in other rooms

1335

01:10:23.755 --> 01:10:25.735

or share with your fellow colleagues

1336

01:10:25.755 --> 01:10:27.055

or congregants who weren't able

1337
01:10:27.055 --> 01:10:28.775
to be here at General Assembly.

1338
01:10:29.225 --> 01:10:31.695
Again, all of that will be live on the Meet the Moment

1339
01:10:31.695 --> 01:10:35.375
section of the UUA website starting soon after ga.

1340
01:10:36.875 --> 01:10:40.095
And lastly, sign up for updates about all of these.

1341
01:10:40.095 --> 01:10:43.015
Meet the Moment events and resources.

1342
01:10:43.015 --> 01:10:45.335
Just click the button on the Meet the Moment landing

1343
01:10:45.565 --> 01:10:48.495
page as we close.

1344
01:10:49.495 --> 01:10:52.575
Remember to fill out your session evaluation in the GA app.

1345
01:10:52.635 --> 01:10:55.255
And finally, thank you so much for being part

1346
01:10:55.275 --> 01:10:56.815
of this Meet the Moment Wave cohort.

1347
01:10:56.905 --> 01:11:00.815
Track with us the Meet the Moment framework draws from many

1348
01:11:00.975 --> 01:11:02.895
lineages that we have navigated,

1349
01:11:03.285 --> 01:11:05.055
that have navigated great change

1350

01:11:05.155 --> 01:11:07.615
and imagined liberatory futures.

1351
01:11:08.355 --> 01:11:12.295
As we leave today, we offer you this short blessing

1352
01:11:13.385 --> 01:11:16.365
out of the lineage of AF Afrofuturism.

1353
01:11:16.705 --> 01:11:19.845
The words of the unparalleled prophet Octavia Butler

1354
01:11:21.585 --> 01:11:25.735
alter the speed or the direction of change, vary the scope

1355
01:11:25.835 --> 01:11:29.335
of change, recombine the seeds of change,

1356
01:11:30.525 --> 01:11:34.535
transmute the impact of change, sees change,

1357
01:11:35.555 --> 01:11:38.595
use it, adapt and grow.

1358
01:11:39.725 --> 01:11:42.395
May it be so. Be well beloveds.

1359
01:11:42.645 --> 01:11:44.755
Thank you and goodbye.