Teachable Moments

One of the great gifts of congregational life is the abundance of teachable moments that arise in our day to day interactions as learners. In our religious education classrooms we often find ourselves in need of fun resources to begin in-depth conversations about our first principle. It can be challenging for our teachers to ground difficult conversations about our struggles against oppression in hands-on learning activities.

The Identity-Based Ministries staff group is committed to working with our congregations to find ways to engage with these critical issues. We are offering these activity sheets as a way to generate teachable moments. We do not think of these puzzles and coloring pages as ways to keep children (or adults!) busy, or to distract them during a service. Our intention is to provide activities that can be part of any lesson plan in diversity education.

We are interested in your feedback about these activity sheets, and we invite you to explore our website for further information at www.uua.org/idbm or to contact one of us directly:
Rev. Sofía Betancourt: sbetancourt@uua.org; Rev. Dr. Devorah Greenstein: dggreenstein@uua.org.
Welcome Maze

It is important to have friends and feel like you belong. Sometimes coming to a new church can be scary. There are things that can make a newcomer (or even someone who has been here a while!) feel left out. Can you help this newcomer get to the friends and the chalice at the center of the maze?

Can you think of some things that might feel like running into a dead end in this maze? What about people treating you differently because you don’t look like them, or talk like them, or move in the same way? What things can you do that would help someone get to the chalice in the middle and feel truly welcome?
Path to Inclusion

Can you help our sad friend find their way from feeling left out to feeling included?

What makes you feel left out?

What makes you feel included?
It feels good to welcome everybody to be in our class with us. See how many words about welcoming you can find by yourself, then work with other kids and find the rest of the words together.

**FRIENDS**
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
CHALICE

**FEELINGS**
WELCOME
IMAGINE

**PLAY**
SHARE
LEARN
Justice Word Find

It is important to feel wanted. Can you find these words which describe some of what people are searching for when they come to church?

FREEDOM     SHARING     RESPECT
JUSTICE     DIVERSITY     LOVE
TOLERANCE     TRUTH     ACCEPTANCE
DIGNITY     INCLUSION     COMMUNITY

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Adapt Word Find

We adapt or change games and lessons so that everybody can be included.
See how many words about adapting activities you can find by yourself, then work with others and see if you can find all the words together.

THINK          ADAPT          RESPECT
PLAN            INCLUDE         CREATIVE
ASK              CHANGE         GAMES
ENJOY

Y P L A N V T A T H I P
I R S D R I N S P E N L
C H A A E G A K M E C E
R J B C H A N G E V L N
E N R E S P V I N J U V
A S G I N T U G J O D I
T H B M O J K F A Y E N
I N C J I T O Y T M C O
V T H I N K D Y M P E A
E S R E S P E C T S I S
O N L O A D A P T T V E T

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American Sign Language (ASL) is fun to learn. You may have a chance to learn ASL if you have a friend or teacher who is deaf. There may also be ASL classes in your community.
Some kids don’t read well and it can be scary to have to read out loud. If the teacher reads the story and some kids act it out, then nobody has to take turns reading.

It’s not fun to be left out. You can adapt games and toys so that everyone can join in. A big ball is easier to catch, a brightly colored ball is easier to see. Find more ideas at: www.wccip.org/tips/inclusion/adaptation.html.
Everyone Has Worth

These two puzzles say the same thing. The bottom puzzle is in Spanish, the second most common language in the United States. Does your church have other things written in Spanish?
Hello, my name is __ __ __ __ __, __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

Practice finger spelling your name. Finger spelling will be easier if you notice how the letters look like their shapes.