Welcome to the Faith Development Office Webinar

Please mute your microphone and turn off your camera.

Find the Meeting Chat box and introduce yourself.
Housekeeping

Audio problem? Mute audio on your computer, and then call in by phone.

We’ll have time for questions at the end.

Recorded webinar, slides and transcript will be posted online:

www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars
Welcome!

What's a UU Religious Educator to Do (in the Summer)?

May 2017
Presenters
Lily Rappaport
DRE, UU Church of Kent (OH)

Leah Purcell
DRE, First UU Society of Albany (NY)

Patti Withers
DLRE, Bay Area UU Church, Houston (TX)

Host
Susan Lawrence
UUA Faith Development Office

Tech Support
Kareem Watson
UUA Faith Development Office
Opening Words

“We light this chalice to find inner peace…” published by Oberlin UU Fellowship, Oberlin, OH
Agenda

• The wide view: Obligations and opportunities
• Camps and conferences
  – For you, the religious educator
  – For families
• Staying home: Nurture yourself and your congregational programs
• Leading a summer program / UU versions of Vacation Bible School
The opportunity to attend worship services and the community of other religious educators at these experiences [LREDA Professional Day and Star Island] fill my soul and refill my spiritual tank.

-- Patti Withers
I - Camps and Conferences

Lily Rappaport

• Director of Religious Education
  UU Church of Kent, Ohio

• Member, LREDA Board

• Dean of Star Island Lifespan Religious Education Conference
Religious Education Weeks

Ferry Beach, Waco MA
July 8 - July 14

The Mountain, Highlands, NC
July 9 - July 14

Star Island, Rye, NH
July 15 - July 22

RE Week by the Sea (Central East Region) Ocean Grove, NJ
Aug 15 - Aug 9
A Typical Day at RE Week

**MORNING**
Wake up singers, yoga, bird watching, workshops,

**AFTERNOON**
Porch chats, tie dye, island tours, boating, art, softball

**EVENING**
Bonfire, bingo, talent show, candlelight chapel
UU Family Camps 2017

• UBarU
  May 26-29, Mountain Home, TX
  www.ubaru.org

• Southeast UU Summer Institute
  July 16-22, Cullowhee, NC
  www.suusi.org

• Chalice Sparx UU Family Camp
  July 27-30, Sturgis, MI
  www.chalicesparx.org

• Camp de Benneville Pines
  July 30-Aug. 5, Angelus Oaks, CA
  www.uucamp.org/camp-calendar/
Council of UU Camps & Conferences
CU2C2

Bayside UU Family Camp, WI
Camp Unistar, MN
Eliot Institute, WA
Midwest UU Summer Assembly, MO
Murray Grove, NJ
Northern California UU Camp (PCD), CA
Ohio Meadville District Summer Institute, OH
Rowe Camp, MA
Southwest UU Institute, OK
UU MidAtlantic Community, PA
Other Nourishing Getaways

• **Professional Retreats** (non UU)

• **Personal Retreats**, not explicitly for professional collegiality/study (e.g., Kripalu in Lenox, MA)

• **NVC Family Camps**, Center for Nonviolent Communications (CA, CO, OH, NY, WI, WV, WA, CO)

• Visit other congregations
II – Using Your Summer at Home

Leah Purcell

• Director of Religious Education
  First UU Society of Albany, NY
• Credentialed Religious Educator
  • Member, LREDA Board
Nurturing Yourself Close to Home

Visit nearby places close to you that you wouldn't otherwise.

- Natural
- Historical
- Cultural

What might your families appreciate?
What would challenge them?
Leveraging Your Summer Work

Look for opportunities within your congregational work to grow and stretch.

- Use summer RE or “pop ups” to experiment with different models.
- Lead a summer multigenerational service or preach.
- Welcome newcomers; take on new roles.
Summer Reading

• Read a text to inspire your newsletter columns or blogs for the coming year.
• Reading list for Fall Con or list from BLUU Teach-In
• Credentialing Reading List
Take Your Vacation Time

• During Summer
• Sprinkled throughout the congregational year
III – Running a UU Summer Camp

Patti Withers

• Director of Lifespan Religious Education
  Bay Area UU Church, Houston, TX
• Credentialed Religious Educator/
  Master Level
Adventures in World Cultures

- Four mornings in July, for 28 years
- Serves rising K-6th Graders
- Youth are classroom helpers
- Created as an answer to Vacation Bible School
Adventures in World Cultures

• Held at the church
• Cultures chosen by the teachers
• Teachers and decorators are volunteers
• Cultural sensitivity
• Builds community among children
• Friends and neighbors invited
• BAUUC very proud of program
Morning plan

- Opening together; passports
- Go to country; introduction
- Activities
  - Story
  - Snack
  - Crafts/songs/dance
  - Physical activity (outdoors weather permitting)
  - Investigate room
- Closing – all together
Botswana delta
Scotland: movable Nessie
Thailand
Marty Wilmer, UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL

• Develop understanding of 1\textsuperscript{st} and 7\textsuperscript{th} UU Principles
• Covenant, composting, and movement activities are core
• Attracts families from outside and within the congregation
• Volunteers teach in area of expertise
Marty Wilmer, UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL

**Typical Day**
- Morning meeting
- Compost
- Theater/movement
- Fossils
- Flower painting
- Lunch
- Engineering challenge
- Free play
Marty Wilmer, UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL

More activities
Animal movement
Piñata make/break
Bird feeders
Origami
Puppets
Slime
Visit from Peace River Wildlife Center
Summer Day Camps
Katie Covey, Author, Consultant, and 2017 UUA GA Middle School Camp Co-Director

- One week
- High school counselors
- Themes: Dharma Camp, Science Camp, Gaia Camp, World Religions
- World Religions Summer Day Camp Guide (K-5th grade)
  www.uure.com/daycamp.html
Another full day ahead with an opportunity to evangelize with joy.

-- Jim Key, UUA Moderator
Upcoming Webinars

We’ll be back with new webinars in 2017-18.

Check out the archives of our monthly webinar series:
www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars
Thanks for attending this Faith Development Office webinar.

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