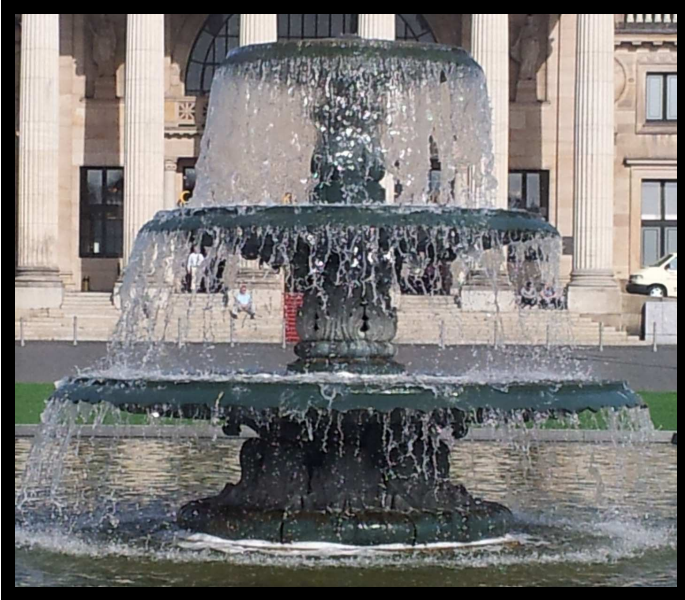


*The Ingathering and
Return from the summer break*



Wiesbaden Unitarian Universalists

17 August 2014

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all

Wiesbaden Unitarian Universalists

17 August 2014

Love is the doctrine of this church, the quest of truth its sacrament, service its prayer.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn 188 *Come, Come Whoever You Are*

Chalice Lighting In unison:

*We gather this hour as people of faith
With joys and sorrows, gifts and needs.*

*We light this beacon of hope,
sign of our quest
for truth and meaning,
in celebration of the life we share together.*

Christine Robinson

Opening Reading *The Task of the Religious Community*
Reading 580

(Mark Morrison-
Reed)

The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bounds that bind each to all. There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice.

Is it the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength is limited to all that must be done. Together our vision widens and strength is renewed.

Ingathering of Water

A pitcher of water is passed, and all are invited to pour a little into the common vase, and say from where they have come and what they are expecting.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

We invite you to light a candle at this time as an expression of your joy or concern that you'd like to share.

"I light this last candle for all joys and concerns left unspoken this day."

Story for All Ages

Frederick

by Leo Lionni

*"Go now in peace, go now in peace/May the spirit of love surround
you/
Everywhere, everywhere/ You may go."*

Second Reading *A Buddhist Sutra*

*The wondrous voice, the voice of the one
Who attends to the cries of the world
The noble voice, the voice of the rising
Tide surpassing all the sounds of the
World
Let our mind be attuned to that voice.*

Meditation

Hymn 1021 *Lean on Me*

Homily

"Religious Community"

Discussion

What sort of religious community do we want?

What does it mean to be in religious community together?

How do we treat one another?

What do we do together?

Hymn 121 *We'll Build a Land*

Benediction

Reading 463 (Adrienne Rich)

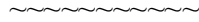
My heart is moved by all I cannot save:
So much has been destroyed
I have to cast my lot with those who, age after age
Perversely, with no extraordinary power, reconstitute the world.

Amen.

Extinguishing the Chalice In unison:

*"We extinguish this flame, but not the
light of truth, the warmth of community,
or the fire of commitment which it here*

*symbolizes. These, we carry in our
hearts until we are together again.”*



Please join us for refreshment and conversation after the service. Our next service will be 21 October 2014 at Hainerberg Chapel, beginning at 14:00.

Ingathering

The core symbolism of the Water Communion is that we all come from water: as a species on a planet where life began in the ocean, as mammals who float in amniotic fluid as we are readied for birth, as beings whose cells are mostly water. And yet we are separate from each other, and we have been apart—since there tends to be a slowing-down, a different rhythm in the summer months, even in churches that have services and religious education right on through the summer—and now we are reuniting. We are separate and together, the way water scatters into rain and streams and clouds and springs and ponds and puddles and yet flows together again and again, one great planetary ocean.