

**Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website:
“FINDING OUR WAY”**

Chalice Circle #9 Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Bremerton, WA, Jill E. Clarridge
August 17 2020

OPENING WORDS & CHALICE LIGHTING:

The chalice lit among us is a beacon
A beacon of hope, in a world in crisis
A beacon of possibility, made manifest in community
A beacon of warmth through our interconnections
A beacon of light illuminating our shared wisdom
A beacon of connection by our being together
Debra Faulk, UUA

CHECK IN

FOCUS:

“Nothing in life is to be feared; it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more so that we may fear less.” Marie Curie

“Just when I think I have learned the way to live, life changes.” Hugh Prather

In Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* there is brief exchange between Estragon and his companion Vladimir. Estragon says, ‘We always do find something, don’t we, to give us the impression that we exist?’

“I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived”. David Thoreau

“The man who views the world at fifty the same as he did at twenty has wasted thirty years of his life.” Muhammad Ali

“Courage does not always roar, sometimes courage is that small voice at the end of the day saying, “I will try again tomorrow”. Mary Anne Radmacher

“There is only one corner of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that’s your own self.” Aldous Huxley

“If you don’t get lost, there’s a chance you may never be found.” Anonymous

A man said to the universe:

“Sir, I exist!”

“However,” replied the universe,

“The fact has not created in me
A sense of obligation.”
Stephen Crane

DISCUSSION:

1. Is finding your way more difficult now or when you were younger?
2. How is authenticity related to finding your (our) way?
3. Is there anything in your (our) present circumstances that make you feel lost?
4. Referring to Godot--- What do you do to give yourself the impression that you exist? Art? Family? Other ideas? Do you object to the word “impression”?
5. Referring to Mme. Curie --- Do you think understanding more leads to less fear or that ignorance is bliss? Consider climate change for this.
6. Referring to Stephen Crane --- But do we have an obligation to the universe?

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma – which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary. -- Steve Jobs

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. —
Maya Angelou

“Ultimately, man should not ask what the meaning of his life is, but rather must recognize that it is he who is asked. In a word, each man is questioned by life; and he can only answer to life by answering for his own life; to life he can only respond by being responsible.”
— Viktor E. Frankl, Man's Search for Meaning

EXTINGUISHING CHALICE:

As we extinguish our flames, let us reflect that though apart we are together in spirit.

CHECK OUT