

## Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website

### Gone Missing

By Phyllis Beckman, UU Fellowship of La Crosse, Wisconsin, October, 2015

#### Opening Words and Chalice Lighting:

“Don’t it always seem to go  
That you don’t know what you’ve got  
‘Til it’s gone”

Joni Mitchell, Marc Williams, Thomas Mckenzie: “Big Yellow Taxi” lyrics

**Check in:** Take a brief moment to share what’s on your mind, knowing that we’re listening without interrupting, and keeping your comments confidential.

#### Introduction/ Quotations

The Parable of the Lost Coin: “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” New Testament of New International Version of the Bible.

“Big Yellow Taxi” Lyrics: They paved paradise and put up a parking lot with a pink hotel, a boutique and a swinging hot spot. Don’t it always seem to go that you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

They took all the trees and put them in a tree museum; then they charged the people a dollar and a half just to see ‘em. Don’t it always seem to go, that you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

Hey farmer, farmer, put away that DDT now. Give me spots on my apples but LEAVE me the birds and the bees. Please! Don’t it always seem to go that you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

Late last night I heard the screen door slam and a big yellow taxi came and took away my old man. Don’t it always seem to go that you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

I said,” Don’t it always seem to go that you don’t know what you’ve got till it’s gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

They paved paradise and put up a parking lot. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

Writer(s)

Marc Williams, Joni Mitchell, Timothy McKenzie

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**Shared Thoughts:** What have you observed or experienced as “gone missing” in your or someone else’s life? How do/did you react to that occurrence? Reflect.

**Closing Words:** Until we meet again, may we be spared losses, large or small.