

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website
Small Group Ministry Session

“Where I’m From”

by George Ella Lyon, former Poet Laureate of Kentucky

Prepared by Phyllis Beckman, UU Fellowship of La Crosse, Wisconsin, November 14, 2018

Note: Invite participants to complete the “I Am From” Poem Template and bring to the session.

Chalice Lighting:

We light this chalice to find inner peace,

Love for one another, and faith in ourselves.

Also, to be welcoming to whomever we meet

And to be kind to all living creatures. So, gather around

This light of hope as we share this time together...Oberlin UU Fellowship, Oberlin, Ohio

Check In: Share your joys and/or sorrows.

Discussion:

Please refer to the “I Am from” Template that you previously filled out.

Read your poem to the group and choose one phrase to elaborate on and state why you chose it.

Allow comments from the group if you wish. Accept questions or comments from the group only if you choose to do so. We are aware of what a personal document this poem is.

Closing Words:

Before we gather here again—

May each of us bring happiness into another’s life;

May we each be surprised by the gifts that surround us;

May each of us be enlivened by constant curiosity—

And may we remain together in spirit ‘til the hour we meet again.....by Barbara Cheatham

"I Am From" Poem Template

I am from.....

Adapted by Levi Romero
Inspired by "Where I'm From" by George Ella Lyon

I am from _____ (an everyday item in your home)
from _____ and _____ (products or everyday items in your home)
I am from the _____ (description of your home)
_____ (a detail about your home – a smell, taste, or feel)
I am from the _____ (plant, flower, natural item)
The _____ (plant or tree near your home)
whose long gone limbs I remember
as if they were my own.

I'm from _____ and _____ (a family tradition and family trait)
from _____ and _____ (family members)
I'm from _____ and _____ (family habits)
and from _____ (family habit)

I'm from _____ and _____ (things you were told as a child)
and _____ (a song or saying you learned as a child)
I'm from _____ (a family tradition)
I'm from _____ (place of birth) and _____ (family ancestry, nationality or place)
_____ and _____ (family foods)
From _____ (a story about a family member)
_____ (detail about the story or person)
_____ (description of family momentos, pictures or treasures.)
_____ (location of momentos – under my bed, on the wall, in my heart)
_____ (more description if needed)

By (student name) _____ Date _____
