

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website  
Small Group Ministry  
**Looking For Teachers**

**Opening Words:**

I do not want just anybody for a teacher. I certainly do not want people who think that they are very wise or very good or have the answers. I want people who appreciate that here is something that is worth their doing, and are willing to do the best they can. I want people who are willing to engage with children, youth, or adults in the spiritual quest that is the core of our faith tradition.

**Check in:** How are you today?

**Topic/Activity:** Guided meditation

Read slowly and pause between sentences. Suggestion: pause at least equals the time it took to read the sentence(s).

*Get into a comfortable position and begin to relax. Breathe easily, close your eyes if you choose, and let your mind take you to a place of remembering.*

*In that place, remember a teacher who stands out from the rest of the teachers you have had. Think of an experience with this teacher.*

*What is happening? What are you doing?*

*How is the teacher interacting with you?*

*What did you learn from this teacher?*

*How did this teacher make you feel?*

*Gradually, leave the place of remembering, possibly saying 'good-bye' to the teacher. Slowly move back toward this place, and open your eyes or look up when you have returned.*

What made you think of this person?

Who would you recruit to be a teacher?

What are their gifts?

How would you recruit for honest diversity?

Share a success story in recruiting for a religious education program (specific session or other contribution). How was it done? Who was involved?

**Check-put/Likes and Wishes:** How did this session go for you?

**Closing:**

We ask them to share their gifts, their passions and their lives.

We ask them to enrich the lives of those they teach, and to strengthen our community of faith.

We ask them to consider teaching as spiritual practice.

We give them our support, our gratitude.

We promise to walk with them as they undertake the educational ministry of this congregation.

Helen Zidowecki, January 2012