

**What has life taught you so far?**

Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Rev. Liz Stevens, 2006-2007

**Opening Reading** You Reading This, Be Ready by William Stafford

Starting here, what do you want to remember?  
How sunlight creeps along a shining floor?  
What scent of old wood hovers, what softened  
sound from outside fills the air?

Will you ever bring a better gift for the world  
than the breathing respect that you carry  
wherever you go right now? Are you waiting  
for time to show you some better thoughts?

When you turn around, starting here, lift this  
new glimpse that you found; carry into evening  
all that you want from this day. This interval you spent  
reading or hearing this, keep it for life –

What can anyone give you greater than now,  
starting here, right in this room, when you turn around?

**Discussion Questions:**

What has life taught you so far?

What have you learned first hand?

What have you learned from others?

What particular wisdom do you have to offer? What particular wisdom do you see in each of the  
other people in your circle?

**Closing Reading:**

Take the whole kit (by James Broughton)

Take the whole kit  
with the caboodle  
Experience life  
don't deplore it  
Shake hands with time  
don't kill it  
Open a lookout  
Dance on a brink  
Run with your wildfire  
You are closer to glory  
leaping an abyss  
than upholstering a rut.