

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website
What Talent Do You Wish You Had?
First Parish Church of Stow and Acton, MA April 2024

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting:

We are all capable
In different ways
With various strengths and talents.

We are all holy
Part of the universe
And the interdependent web.

We light this chalice
Cherishing our differences
And holding each other in sacredness.

— Cindy Fesgen

Check-in/Sharing:

Let's each take a couple minutes to check in with how we are feeling and any thing we would like to share. Brainstorm Community Service ideas.

Topic: What Talent Do You Wish You Had?

Everyone has talents – unique abilities or innate gifts. Sometimes talents manifest themselves in hobbies, sometimes we are lucky enough to parlay them into vocations. Their prominences in our lives may wax and wane, receding during certain periods only to reappear later. Or maybe a particular skill is one that has developed as we age, becoming increasingly gratifying.

But obviously not everyone has every talent. Some are artistically talented, others musically talented; some have a talent for languages, while others have more physical talents. However talented we are, there will always be something just out of reach that we wish we could do. In this session we'll discuss talents – those we have and those we wish we had.

“The secret of all greatness is to discover what you were born to do in life and then do it. You must find out your gifts and talents.” — *Sunday Adelaja*

“Use your unique gifts and talents to make a difference in the world.” — *Lailah Gifty Akita*

“If you try to cultivate your talents in someone else's shadow, they might wilt.” — *Matshona Dhliwayo*

“Not necessarily what's tough for you is tough for everyone.” — *Sarvesh Jain*

“Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.” — Tim Notke

Possible Questions for Discussion:

- What talents do you have? How do you make use of them?
- What talents do you wish you had? Can you indulge in those activities even though you aren't “talented” at them?
- Do you have talents that you don't use? Why?
- Have you ever overcome being “untalented” at something?
- Have you found areas in which you've combined any talents and hard work?
- How have “talents” and “interests” intersected for you?

(Group will take a few minutes to consider topic and questions and then share).

Wrapping Up:

How did you like this topic and session?

Closing Words:

“I do not believe that gifts, whether of mind or character, can be weighed like sugar and butter” — *Virginia Woolf*