

**What advice or words of wisdom would you like to pass on to those close to you?**

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

**Opening Reading:**

What I Have Learned So Far by Mary Oliver

Meditation is old and honorable, so why should I not sit, every morning of my life, on the hillside, looking into the shining world? Because, properly attended to, delight, as well as havoc, is suggestion. Can one be passionate about the just, the ideal, the sublime, and the holy, and yet commit to no labor in its cause? I don't think so.

All summations have a beginning, all effect has a story, all kindness begins with the sown seed. Thought buds toward radiance. The gospel of light is the crossroads of –indolence, or action.

Be ignited, or be gone.

**Discussion Questions:**

If you were to deliver a commencement address, what would the theme be?

Is there anyone in your life right now who you would like to mentor or help through a challenge they are facing? If you are doing it already, how did you approach them, and how is it working? If you haven't, what is stopping you?

Who has given you advice that really impacted you? What was the advice? How has following it changed you?

**Closing Reading:**

Speech to the Young by Gwendolyn Brooks

Say to them,  
say to the down-keepers,  
the sun-slappers,  
the self-soilers,  
the harmony-hushers,  
“even if you are not ready for day  
it cannot always be night.”  
You will be right.  
For that is the hard home run.

Live not for battles won.  
Live not for the end-or-the-song.  
Live in the along.

