

**Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website**  
**Why attend church, especially when it's a Unitarian Universalist church?**  
**Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, Lutherville, ME, Robin Sinn, Sept. 2016**

Welcome to, or welcome back to, Chalice Circles. These confidential small groups give us room to

- Express ourselves about topics of interest to us
- Think deeply about ourselves and the world
- Listen deeply to others, in order to better understand them and ourselves
- Continue worship in a different setting
- Provide service to others

We'll start with a **check-in**, a time for each person to make a brief statement about what's on their mind, in order to release it and focus on our topic. You can pass if you don't wish to speak.

### **Readings**

Both of these readings and the closing reading are from a 2011 talk by Bill Kronhom of Big Sky Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Helena, MT. You can read the entire piece here:

<http://bigskyuu.org/2011/08/why-do-we-go-to-church/>

... she goes to church to search for truth, even if the search is less than perfect. Again, it is something you might think she could do herself, anytime, anywhere. But the search for truth also is a communal affair. Churches are places where we can explore together what it means to be human; where we can discuss big issues of morality and reality; where we link the big truths to our own lives.

Mark Morrison-Reed is a retired UU minister and author. He wrote a short reading in the back of our hymnal titled "The Task of the Religious Community." Part of it reads: "It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done. Together our vision widens and our strength is renewed."

### **Discussion questions**

1. What brings you to TUUC on a Sunday morning?
2. What keeps you coming back?

### **Closing Reading**