

# FUUN FOR ALL AGES

Connection without Zoom

8 November 2020

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Dear All:

These materials can supplement the worship service before, during, or after the service. *They can also stand alone and be used at any time you wish.* In this time of Zoom fatigue, the hope is that families, children, youth, adults, anyone of any age, alone or as a group—everyone can have one more way to stay connected with FUUN. **This is our single greatest goal right now: to stay connected.**

Meanwhile, we have classes this Sunday on Zoom at 10:30 a.m.:

PreK-1<sup>st</sup> Grade: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87288152140>

2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grades: <https://zoom.us/j/94518102020>

5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades: <https://zoom.us/j/98572464291>

And Youth Group at 11:30 a.m.:

<https://zoom.us/j/94148119890?pwd=L1FYQXh0emp2TzJNUTZsWWxxZkt2Zz09>

Please stay in touch. If you have questions, suggestions, concerns, anything at all... I would truly love to hear from you.

Blessings.

*Marguerite*

Marguerite Mills

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P.S. Check out the last page for the full Sunday school schedule—maybe it would look good on your refrigerator door?!

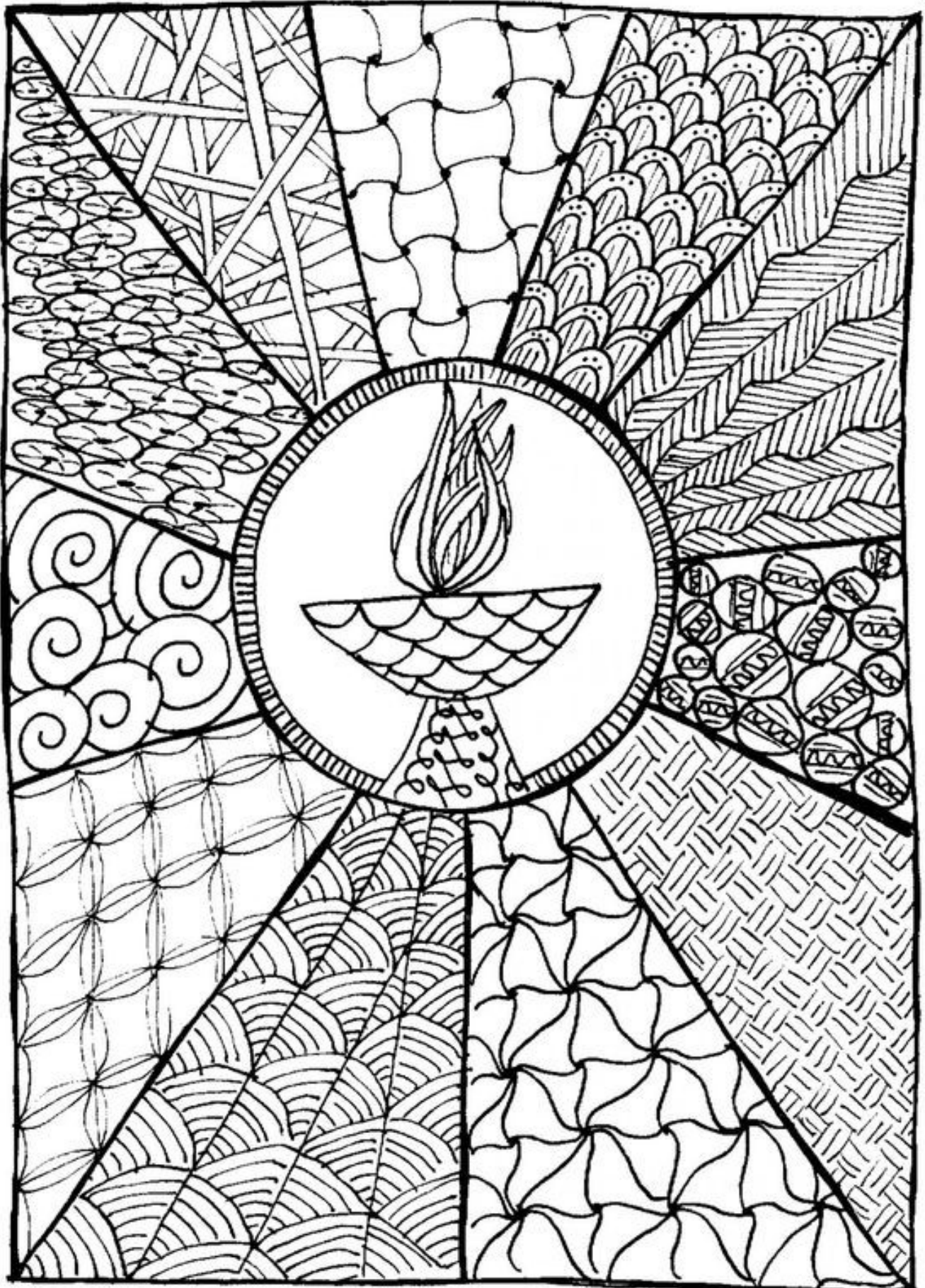
8 November 2020

## Keeping the Faith

*Rev. Diane Dowgiert*

The roots of our Unitarian Universalist faith run deep throughout history, roots that have held strong through times of struggle and adversity. Within this history we can find wisdom as we strive to keep this faith—a faith rooted in the democratic spirit—burning bright—now and for generations to come.

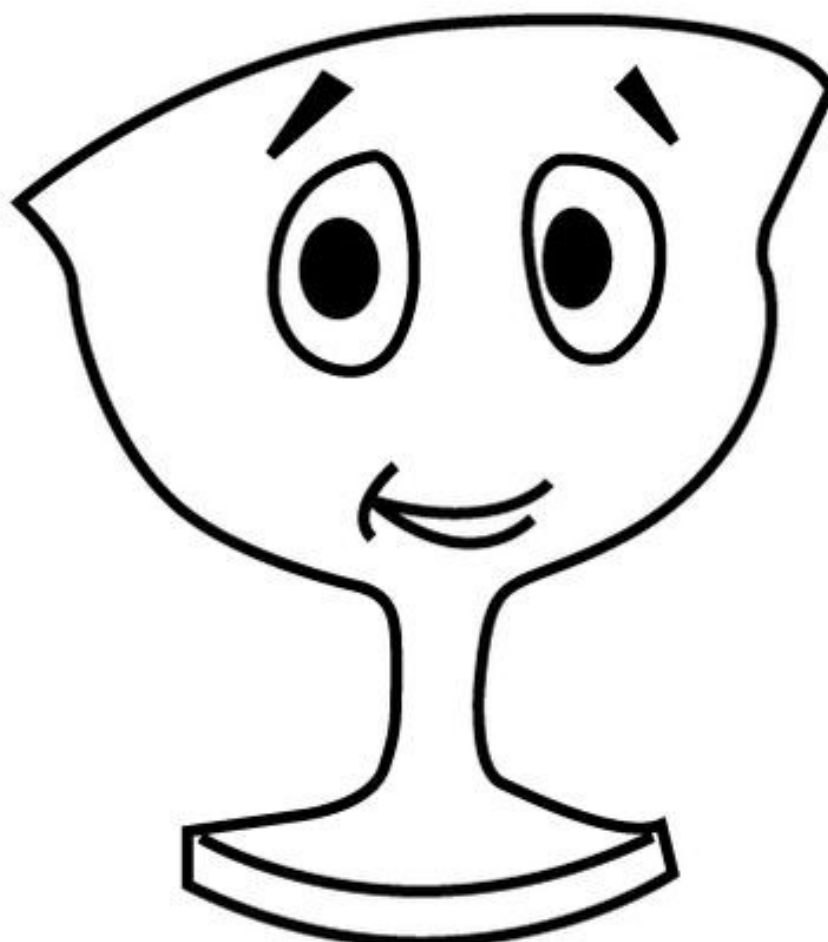
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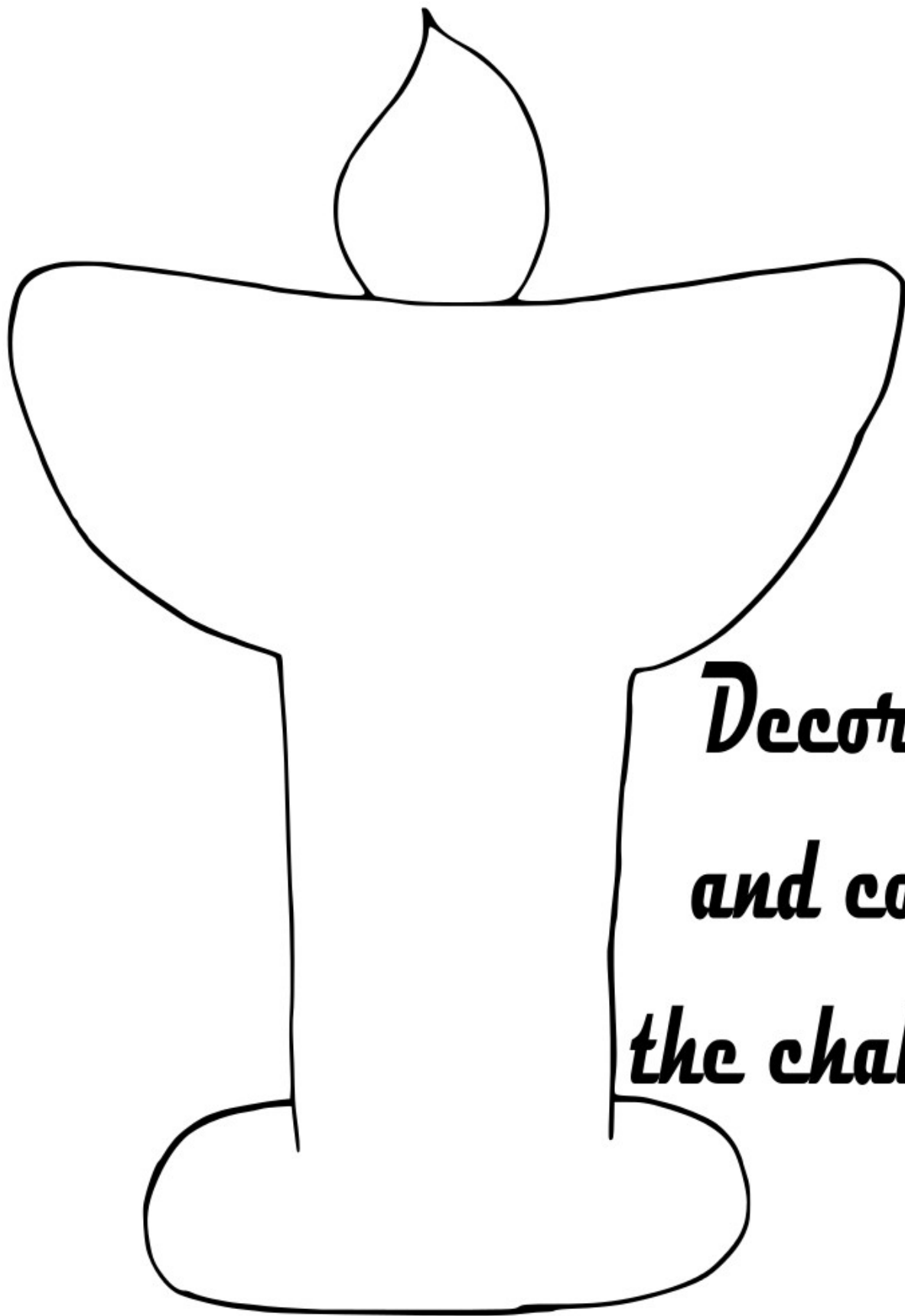
**KIDS: Color "Alice the Chalice"  
and draw her a flame!**



"Alice the Chalice" Copyright 2004 Peter Bowden



"Alice the Chalice" Copyright 2004 Peter Bowden. Permission granted to copy for use as activity pages in Unitarian Universalist church services and religious education programs. For more resources like this one visit [www.UUPLANET.com](http://www.UUPLANET.com).

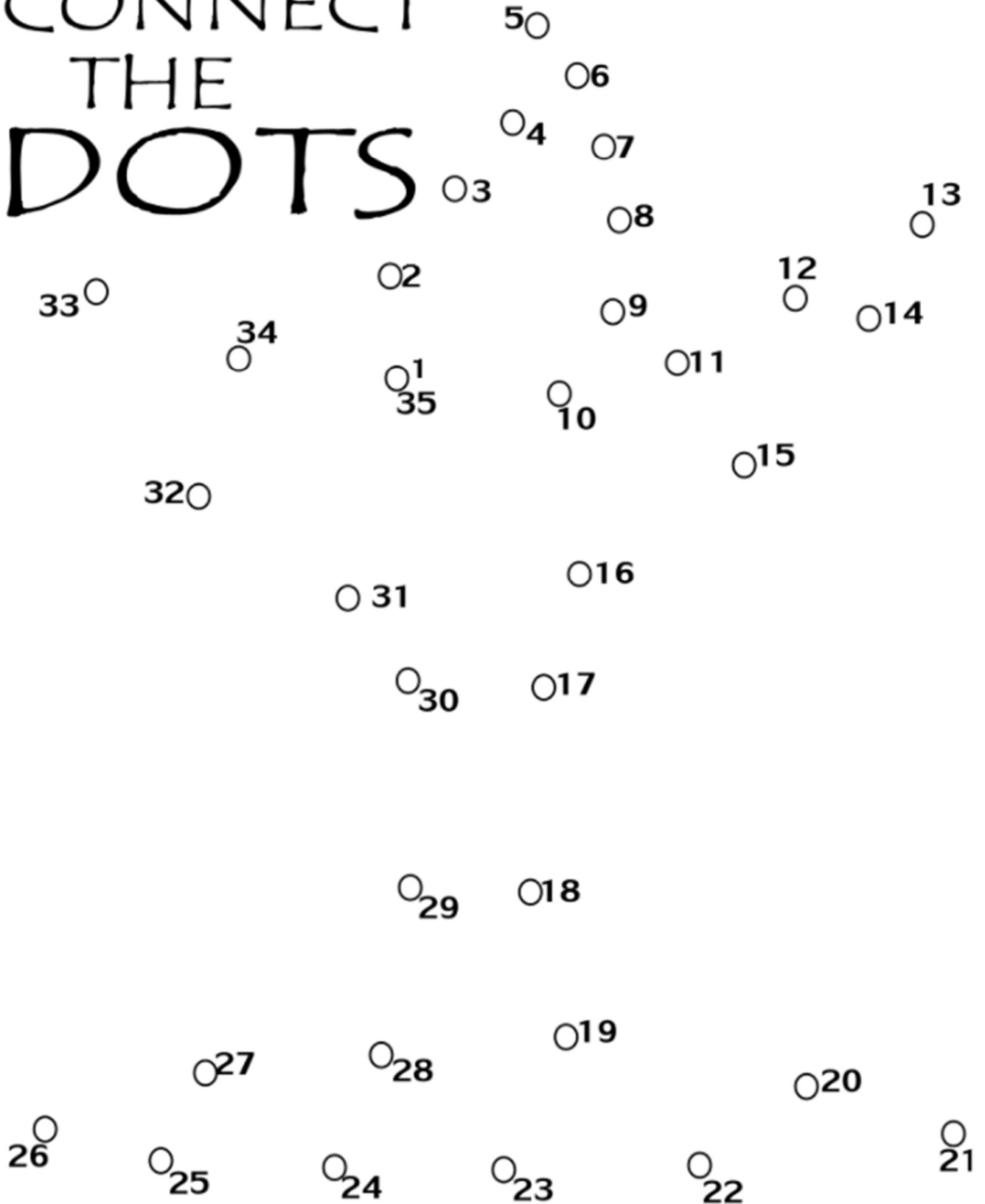


***Decorate  
and color  
the chalice***



"Circles of Light," Creating Home; illustration, Amy Paschall

# CONNECT THE DOTS





Write your own chalice lighting!

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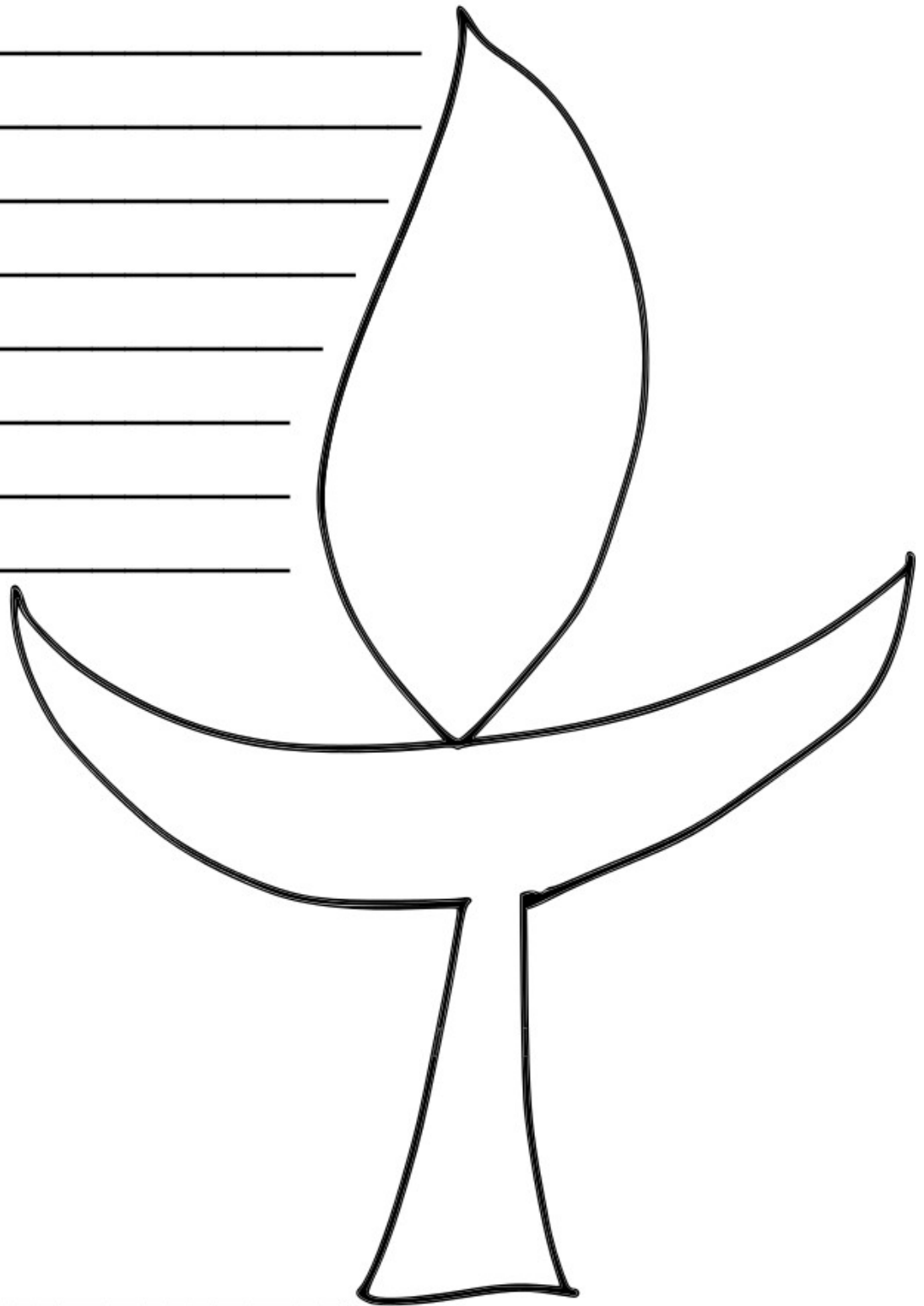
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Circles of Light

Part of [Creating Home](#)

By Janeen K. Grohsmeyer, adapted from the story, "Circles of Light: The Flaming Chalice"

*(The words in red are hiding in the WordSearch on page 15... can you find them?)*

In the dark nights and the darker days of World War II, guns blazed all over Europe and airplanes dropped death from the sky. Many people tried to escape from the war. These people were called **refugees**.

Some **Unitarians** in the United States decided to help the refugees and formed the Unitarian Service Committee. The committee members went to Europe to try to bring refugees safely out of the war. But the refugees came from many different countries. They spoke many different languages, like German, or Yiddish, or French, or Italian, or Polish, or Hungarian. Most of the refugees did not speak English. Most of the Unitarian committee members spoke only English. How could the Unitarians explain they were there to help? It was difficult for the refugees to understand them.

Dr. Charles Joy was in charge of the committee. He knew that the Unitarians needed a **symbol** everyone could recognize, no matter what language they spoke. It would have to be a picture, a symbol with no words. That way, anyone could understand the message: "We are here to **help** you."

Dr. Joy asked an artist named Hans Deutsch for help. Maybe an artist could draw the right kind of picture that could be a symbol for the Unitarians. The two men met in Portugal. Mr. Deutsch understood why a picture would be helpful. He had come from Austria. But now he was a refugee, because of the war. In Portugal, people speak Portuguese. Mr. Deutsch was used to speaking German.

Mr. Deutsch made a drawing of a **chalice** with a **flame**, surrounded by a **circle**. He showed it to Dr. Joy. The symbol really worked. Soon refugees all over Europe began to see this symbol wherever the Unitarian Service Committee went to find and help them. When refugees saw the picture of a chalice, a flame, and a circle around the chalice that looked like it was protecting it, they knew they could **trust** the committee members. They did not need to speak English, or even know how to read, to understand the symbol. The picture gave the message of **hope**, **freedom**, and **love** that the refugees were looking for.

After the war was over, Unitarians began using the flaming chalice and its circle as a symbol in worship. Later, the Universalists joined the Unitarians to form the Unitarian Universalist Association and people started to draw the symbol with two circles, instead of one. One circle is for the Unitarians and one circle is for the Universalists. The circles are so close together that they overlap. The circles are connected, just as Unitarian Universalists believe that all of us are connected to one another.

The chalice is not in the exact middle of the circle. It is almost like the chalice has moved over to let something else come into the circle. This reminds us that as Unitarian Universalists, we always leave room for other ideas and other ways. There is always room for more in Unitarian Universalism.

We, as Unitarian Universalists, have all kinds of chalices. We light a chalice on Sunday morning in worship, and at other times when we gather in our **faith** home together. Some family homes use chalices during meals or on special occasions. Chalices come in lots of different shapes, sizes, and colors, just like Unitarian Universalists.

The flaming chalice is a faith symbol for the Unitarian Universalists. It is a symbol of **learning, caring,** and love. It is a symbol of hope, freedom, and light. It is our faith home symbol.

### **Questions for Reflection**

Why did the Unitarians need a symbol?

What are some other reasons it might be useful for a faith community to have a symbol?

Can you think of other symbols for faith communities? (Such as the Christian cross, the Jewish Star of David, or another faith symbol.)

Does a symbol have to always be a picture?

What did the circle symbolize when the Austrian artist drew the first symbol, during World War II?

Why do you think a circle is used to show protection? Why is a circle used to show love?

## The Flaming Chalice

*By Susan J. Ritchie*

**The flaming chalice** is the symbol of Unitarian Universalism. Most Unitarian Universalist congregations begin their worship on Sunday mornings by lighting one in the form of a lamp or candle cradled within a wide-lipped vessel. But you will also find them out in the world, sometimes as three-dimensional objects, sometimes as two-dimensional artistic renderings. Many people wear chalice jewelry, some as a cue to prompt others to ask about Unitarian Universalism, some as a reminder to make their actions reflect their highest values. And some people mark their faith boldly with a chalice tattoo.

At its most literal level of meaning, the flaming chalice signals Unitarian Universalist identity. But it has other registers of meaning as well. It suggests the transformations that take place when we are held within religious community. When we light the chalice in worship, we illuminate a world that we feel called upon to serve with love and a sense of justice. The flame is what one of our beloved congregational hymns terms “The Fire of Commitment.”

Thus you will see the flaming chalice on stoles and banners at demonstrations against injustice. We also often light the chalice whenever we gather, be it at worship services, committee meetings, or board retreats. We appreciate the reminder that even the most basic work serves the larger mission.

In its setting in worship, lighting the chalice signals the entry of the gathered community into a sacred space. As a minister, when I light the flame, I like to think of the thousand or more congregations doing so at the same time. This helps me to enter the spirit of worship, which is intended to break down apparent barriers of time and place so that we, the congregation, can establish larger connections to the sacred, and to all other people of liberal religious faith who are gathering in the present, have gathered in the past, and will gather in the future. The rhythms and concerns of our everyday life remain, but they come to be held in a much larger context.

Sometimes readings or other words are used to connect the lighting of the chalice to the theme of worship, and often, the lighting of the chalice accompanies the reading of a congregation’s covenant. Our church covenants are the promises we make to each other that hold us together, across a diversity of beliefs, in our shared commitment to each other. The cup of the chalice is like the cradle that holds us in covenant.

Many congregations extinguish their chalice at the close of worship, sometimes with a reminder that those who have gathered together now carry the warmth of human community and the light of truth with them throughout the week. The fire is not so much extinguished as borne in the heart of each person, a new expression of what Ralph Waldo Emerson called “divine spark”—the manifestation of divine possibility within each human soul.

Many people are surprised to learn that lighting a chalice as a part of worship only found its way into Unitarian Universalist congregations in the early 1980s. But the path it took to reach the sanctuary is a very Unitarian Universalist one, a story that begins with Nazi resisters and ends with children in the religious education program.

Originally, the flaming chalice was a two-dimensional image stamped on documents created by the Unitarian Service Committee (USC) to help Jewish refugees escape Nazi persecution on the eve of World War II. The design had been hastily put together by the artist Hans Deutsch, himself a refugee. Deutsch was working at the direction of the USC's director, Rev. Charles Joy, who believed that such a logo would make their paperwork look more official. Rev. Joy would later claim that the design was reminiscent of the lamps of holy oil used by the ancient Greeks and Romans on their altars, and that

the flame itself represented a spirit of helpfulness and sacrifice. There has always been a lack of clarity regarding Deutsch's original intentions, which were quite possibly not highly developed.

Eventually the chalice design formed the basis for the American Unitarian Association's official logo. After Universalism and Unitarianism merged in 1961, the symbol acquired two overlapping circles, to represent each of the two traditions. Many renditions of the chalice from the time of the merger display the chalice off-centered, a design copied from one popular among many Universalists in the 1950s. That symbol featured a large, open circle with a very small, off-centered cross inside. This signified how Universalism had grown out of the Christian tradition but was still held open to a world of other possibilities and even unanswered questions.

Interestingly, we aren't sure how the chalice as a two-dimensional artistic rendering transformed itself into the three-dimensional object used in worship. All evidence, though, suggests that the path leads through our children's religious education programs. Curricula used in the late seventies stressed the meaning of the chalice and encouraged the children to make chalices in different media. Eventually, those chalices morphed into objects that could be lit. The first documented uses of chalices in the main sanctuary are from Sundays on which the children and youth led worship and demonstrated their practice to the adult congregation. How wonderful that a children's church craft captured the imagination of an entire denomination.

I enjoy the chalice's lack of predetermined meaning. One way to understand Unitarian Universalism's distinctive character is to see it as an orthopraxy. Orthopraxy stresses that the most important religious bonds are formed out of justice actions and loving practice. This contrasts with orthodoxy, more common in the Christian traditions, which stresses correct and often homogeneous beliefs as the most important aspect of religion. The chalice was a symbol invented to represent courageous deeds that were already taking place, which was then developed by children in the cradle of love.

## **Questions for Reflection**

What is the symbolism of the flaming chalice for you personally? If you have not reflected on this before, think about what the cup or bowl might mean, what the flame might mean, and what the two could mean together.

In what ways does the flaming chalice serve to illuminate your faith community's collective identity? How about your personal identity?

Do you have a personal practice that involves the flaming chalice? Do you have a personal representation of it that is important to you, such as jewelry or a tattoo or a chalice you use at home? What makes it special to you? What memories and values are associated with it?

## WordSearch

A I C J S Q S T C J H A H C E  
N K A T Y L E F N H K R I L M  
B F B A M O E H A G A R X S A  
R T E U B V G D V X C L W N L  
A K L T O E U V W L O G I X F  
Y B P S L H F O E H N C N C V  
S C X X N Y E K E I T R N F E  
H E L P T A R T N L H B K Y M  
O O X Z H V I R F R E E D O M  
C I P M R Q A R T G H L D Z S  
T C S E H E I B A T Q C Z T Q  
D S D A L X I A I T D P N N O  
W D U V R P X A G N I R A C U  
B V K R E L F D G K T N Q Y H  
L R S J T C J X D F B D U U H

CARING

FAITH

HOPE

SYMBOL

CHALICE

FLAME

LEARNING

TRUST

CIRCLE

FREEDOM

LOVE

UNITARIANS

HELP

REFUGEES

## Make your own chalice



### Materials:

- Small clay flowerpot with detached saucers
- Embellishments: markers, paint, stickers, ribbon, whatever you like
- Tea light
- Glue gun, optional

### Instructions

- Decorate the pot and saucer as you like
- Turn the flowerpot upside down and place the saucer on top (see picture)
- If you wish, glue the saucer to the pot
- Place the tea light in the saucer

Then light your chalice and say some words, perhaps something from page 17. And don't forget to extinguish it, perhaps with something from page 18.



## **Selected Chalice Lightings**

### **A Child's Chalice Lighting of Gratitude for the Earth**

*By Karen G. Johnston*

What if when  
I light the chalice,  
you hear an invitation  
to welcome gratitude  
for the earth?

This week, as I got ready to light the chalice,  
my family talked about blessings  
from this planet.

Here is my list:  
*[list 3-7 things]*

And now, with this flame of hope  
shedding light in your heart:  
what is *your* list?

### **Welcoming the Stranger**

*By Tracy Bleakney*

A child journeys far from home  
Fearful and brave,  
in need of safe harbor.  
Guided by this chalice, may we seek to understand the causes of flight.  
Like the comfort of a candle flickering in a window of darkness,  
Let us welcome this child into our home with  
warmth, nourishment, and love.  
Would we not want the same for our own child,  
lost and alone in a strange land?

### **Many of the Past Generation and Many of Today...**

*By Sophia Lyon Fahs*

Many of the past generation and many of today have found three abiding values in prayer: the quiet  
meditation on life,  
the reaching out toward the universal and the infinite,  
and the courageous facing of one's profoundest wishes.  
Let parents sense and share with their children the glory and mystery of everyday things.  
Let them look with sympathy upon humanity's age-long dilemmas.  
Let no questions be taboo.  
The next generation can ill afford to have the deeper values deleted from the book of life.

## **Selected Chalice Extinguishings**

### **As Breath to Song**

*By Becky Laurent, adapted*

As flame is to spirit, so spirit is to breath, and breath to song. Though we extinguish this flame for now, may we tend it in our hearts until we light it again.

### **Daring Vision**

*By Maureen Killoran*

We extinguish this chalice flame,  
daring to carry forward the vision of this free faith,  
that freedom, reason and justice  
will one day prevail in this nation and across the earth.

### **It Becomes More**

*By Amy Zucker Morgenstern*

When we take fire from our chalice, it does not become less.  
It becomes more.  
And so we extinguish our chalice, but we take its light and warmth with us,  
multiplying their power by all of our lives, and sharing it with the world.

## 2020-2021 SUNDAY SCHOOL

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

#### All Ages

Formerly Music with Karina, future program tbd

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86558123983>

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

#### PreK-1<sup>st</sup> Grade—Story & Song

with Suzanne LeBeau & Susie Wilcox

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87288152140>

#### 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade—Tools of Faith & Minecraft

with Marguerite Mills & Christopher Cotton

<https://zoom.us/j/94518102020>

#### 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade—ChUrchCraft & Minecraft

with Chas Sisk & Jason Plummer

<https://zoom.us/j/98572464291>

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

#### All Ages—Family Games

with Christopher Cotton, Colin Guerrette, & Jason Plummer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89770398199>

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

#### PreK-1<sup>st</sup> Grade—Story & Song

with Suzanne LeBeau & Susie Wilcox

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85217697987>

#### 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade—Tools of Faith & Minecraft

with Marguerite Mills & Christopher Cotton

<https://zoom.us/j/94398891671>

#### 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade—ChUrchCraft & Minecraft

with Chas Sisk & Jason Plummer

<https://zoom.us/j/92332008761>

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

#### All Ages—Story & Song

with Marguerite Mills & Harmon Nine

Nov 28, 2020: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81465722239>

Jan 31, 2021: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86352116223>