

# Resources for Families

## **Religious Education at Home: A Handbook for Parents**

*Church of the Larger Fellowship*

How to nurture your child's spiritual life and teach religion at home. Includes the history of Unitarian Universalist ideas and symbols.

## **Our Seven Principles in Story and Verse: A Collection for Children and Adults**

*Kenneth W. Collier*

The seven Unitarian Universalist Principles come to life in this accessible collection. Some of the stories employ themes borrowed from other cultures, and others are original to the author, as is the poetry. Simple to use, each Principle is followed by a short essay, a story, and a poem. "At last! *Mishna* for our UU Principles!"—Elizabeth Strong, MRE

## **The Book of New Family Traditions: How to Create Great Rituals for Holidays and Everyday**

*Meg Cox*

Fresh ways to celebrate holidays like Thanksgiving and Halloween, Passover, Easter, Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. Offers new approaches to birthdays, bedtime and dinnertime, as well as ideas for altogether new traditions: sports rituals, pet rituals, homework rituals, vacation rituals and family meetings, among others.

## **Stories in Faith: Exploring Our Principles and Sources Through Wisdom Tales**

*Gail Forsyth-Vail*

Nineteen tales illuminate our seven Principles and six Sources. Culled from different cultures and faith traditions, each story is accompanied by reflections on its applicability to life in our congregations and families. Available August 2007.

## **Evensong for Families: An Eight-Week Series of Gatherings**

*Barbara Hamilton-Holway*

Weekly covenant group meetings for families. Session titles: 1) Who Is Your Family? 2) Mealtimes, Bedtimes, Hellos and Goodbyes, 3) Birthdays and Holidays, 4) Things You Love to Do Together, 5) Good Times and Bad, 6) Your Family's Ten Commandments, 7) Sharing and Privacy, 8) Celebrate Your Family. Author is co-minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Berkeley, California, and author of the *Evensong* series and *Who Will Remember Me? A Daughter's Memoir of Grief and Recovery*, all published by Skinner House Books.

"Evensong was the gateway into our congregation's small group ministry program." —Geoff Rimositis, associate minister of religious education, First Unitarian Church, San Jose, California

## **How to Bury a Goldfish: And Other Ceremonies and Celebrations for Everyday Life**

*Virginia Lang and Louise Nayer*

More than 100 new traditions to commemorate the special moments and milestones in day-to-day life. This inventive collection offers original rituals for everything from holidays and birthdays to a teen's first job and a woman's midlife journey. For families and singles alike.

## **The Gift of Faith: Tending the Spiritual Lives of Children, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

*Jeanne Harrison Nieuwejaar*

Celebrates the importance of nurturing our children's spiritual growth. Believing that parents are their children's primary religious educators, the author demonstrates how to be intentional and clear in the messages they give children about religion. She explores ways to foster spiritual awareness in the home, and includes rituals for marking important events as religious occasions. Ideal for adults of any faith. Nieuwejaar, a minister of religious education, was ordained in 1987.

## **Rejoice Together: Prayers, Meditations and Other Readings for Family, Individual and Small-Group Worship**

*Edited by Helen Pickett*

Collected from traditional and modern sources, these prayers and readings are especially useful for worship services and special ceremonies in family and small-group settings. First published in 1995, this collection was updated and expanded in 2006. Pickett served on the UUA Hymnbook Commission that produced *Singing the Living Tradition*.

## **Raising Freethinkers: A Practical Guide for Parenting Beyond Belief**

*Dale McGowan, Molleen Matsumura, Amanda Matskas, and Jan Devor*

Advice and activity suggestions on every important topic secular parents need to know to help their children with their own moral and intellectual development, including advice on religion, extended-family issues, death and life, secular celebrations, wondering and questioning, and more.

## **The Three Big Questions for a Frantic Family: Leadership Fable about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life**

*Patrick Lencioni*

How being purposeful, strategic and proactive in our families will reduce stress and increase the pleasures of everyday life. Three questions for every family to answer: What makes our family unique? What is our most important priority now? How do we talk about and use the answers to the first two questions?

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## A UUA Bookstore Reading List