

Worship

The Seven Principles in Word and Worship

Edited by Ellen Brandenburg

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism continue to be plumbed for meaning, depth and inspiration. This elegant volume presents fresh perspectives from seven ministers who joined the ministry after the Principles took their current form. Here are essays, prayers, chalice lightings, litanies, meditations and worship readings on each Principle—helping us reflect on their significance and the ways they call us to ethical action and deeper spirituality.

Be the Change: Poems, Prayers and Meditations for Peacemakers and Justice Seekers

Stephen Shick

This collection is designed to inspire and sustain activists and others who are working for a better world. Brimming with poignant and inspirational quotations and verse from Jesus to Shakespeare to Edna St. Vincent Millay, Rachel Carson and Maya Angelou.

Consider the Lilies: Meditations

Stephen Shick

"These meditations, born out of Shick's finely honed mystical naturalism, are exquisitely rhythmic. They lure us outdoors to soak in the silent, wondrous, somber reflection and they push us inside, to excavate riches from our inner realms."—Tom Owen-Towle

Handbook of Religious Services

Church of the Larger Fellowship

Worship services and ceremonies for individuals, families and small groups. Draws from the writings of Unitarian Universalists. Includes child dedications, weddings, memorial services and readings.

Everyone a Butterfly: Forty Sermons for Children

Randy Hammer

Offers 40 original sermon stories for children, for use in worship services and at home year-round. These stories are based on biblical and classical literature, everyday observations and anecdotes from history. Hammer's primary source of inspiration is nature—one of our greatest teachers and a wonderful learning tool for children. Each sermon is accompanied by suggestions for presentation, objects for sharing and follow-up activities. Based on his 25 years of pastoral experience, Hammer provides an insightful introduction on what makes a quality sermon for children. Annotated resources are also included.

We Light This Chalice

David A. Johnson

Collected prayers for chalice lightings, drawn from a variety of religious traditions. Diverse and useful resource for every church and fellowship.

Fire of Ancient Faith

David A. Johnson

The author's second volume of chalice lightings explores wider and older sources than the first volume, as well as texts from hymns, prayers and poetry.

The Light Invisible: Chalice Lightings

David A. Johnson

The newest collection of chalice lightings by Johnson. Includes prose and poetry, hymnody and chalice lightings that address birth, life and death, plus a section authored by Ken Patton.

Sonata for Voice and Silence: Meditations

Mark Belletini

A collection of 54 poetic prayers about human connections, the search for stillness and the mysteries of life and death. Belletini's poetry is shaped by the theme of sound and silence. Listen to moon songs, chirping crickets and chanting bees. Experience the silence of love, friendship, snowflakes and creation. The 2008 UUA Meditation Manual.

Amethyst Beach: Meditations

Barbara Merritt

"I have heard that when something is valuable and worthwhile, you are not apt to find it lying around in great heaps. Diamonds and gold are rare. Lions do not congregate in large numbers. So it is that God is not easy to find. Truth is not easy to put your hands on. But the saints, in all religious traditions, say that there is something about the search itself that instructs us, humbles us, informs us. Just because our own life sometimes appears to be empty of spiritual treasure, doesn't mean that this treasure doesn't exist. People do find amethysts! People do experience the reality of God."—from *Amethyst Beach*.

The 2007 UUA Meditation Manual.

A Guest of the World: Meditations

Jeffrey Lockwood

"We might think of ourselves as uninvited, but not unwelcome, guests of the planet. And I think the rules for being a good guest of the world are just the same: Ask little, accept what is offered and give thanks." —from *A Guest of the World*.

The 2006 UUA Meditation Manual.

A UUA Bookstore Reading List

Worship

Come Into the Circle: Worshiping with Children

Michelle Richards

Comprehensive how-to guide for creating meaningful religious experiences for children. Provides a framework for understanding their unique spiritual needs. Includes suggestions on the form, style and elements of worship, plus an extensive collection of opening words and chalice lightings, meditations and prayers, stories, songs, sermons, and even complete orders of service.

One and Universal: Prayers and Meditations from Around the World

Edited by John Midgley

Collection celebrating the rich diversity of Unitarian and Universalist worship styles. Contributing countries include Canada, the United States, Spain, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, Romania, the Czech Republic, the Philippines, India, Hungary, Northern Ireland, South Africa, Pakistan, Nigeria, Germany and Denmark.

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

Edited by Helen Pickett

Opening words, chalice lightings, prayers, table graces, devotions, meditations and more, culled from traditional and modern sources. Expanded and updated, this new edition includes more than 50 added selections, primarily from contemporary sources. Designed to help laypersons plan and conduct simple worship services or special ceremonies in families and small-group settings.

The Communion Book

Edited by Carl Seaburg

Over 50 ideas for celebrating communion—from the traditional to the innovative. Features special holiday and seasonal rites, a brief overview of communion in Christian history and a look at current trends.

Great Occasions: Readings for the Celebration of Birth, Coming-of-Age, Marriage and Death

Edited by Carl Seaburg

Words to honor the watershed events of life—birth, coming of age, marriage and death. Includes services for adoption, divorce and memorials. Index of authors, first lines and subjects. For ministers, hospices and more.

In Memoriam: A Guide to Modern Funeral and Memorial Services, Second Edition

Edward Searl

Practical and sensitive guide for planning memorial services. Updated and expanded to include advice for creating a unique and appropriate service to fit any circumstance. Includes 15 sample services to be used as they are or adapted.

A unique series collected by Edward Searl

Beyond Absence: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations and Readings On Death and Remembrance

Words ancient and modern on life's final passage. Useful for composing eulogies, readings at memorial services and funerals and writing sympathy and condolence cards. Selections also offer comfort to the bereaved and personal reflection during mourning and recovery.

Bless This Child: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations and Readings to Celebrate Birth

Nearly 200 selections of prose, poems, blessings and readings gathered to welcome and honor children.

"In a time when society pays laser-focused attention to parenting, from court cases to advice books, this exquisite volume expresses the spectrum of parental feelings, from awe to anxiety."—*Foreword Magazine*

Coming of Age: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations and Readings on Growing Up

Poetry and prose from across the ages and around the world describe the journey from adolescence to adulthood. An indispensable tool for bridging ceremonies, bar and bat mitzvahs and coming of age celebrations of all kinds. Suitable for parents, teachers and clergy, and a wonderful keepsake for young adults.

In Praise of Animals: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations and Readings

This imaginative collection offers poems, prose, blessings, chants—tributes of all kinds—to the animals in our lives. An ideal gift for welcoming a new pet, sympathizing with the loss of a pet and animal-lovers in general. A perfect resource for animal-blessing ceremonies and other rituals honoring the animals.

We Pledge Our Hearts: A Treasury of Poems, Quotations and Readings to Celebrate Love and Marriage

Over 200 diverse poems, reflections and meditations on love, marriage and commitment. Includes Unitarian Universalist contributors plus selections from different cultures and faith traditions, ancient and modern. Enduring collection ideal for worship and personal use. An excellent resource for ministers, and a perfect gift for couples of all ages.

For Praying Out Loud: Interfaith Prayers for Public Occasions

L. Annie Foerster

Nearly 80 prayers by Foerster and others, plus helpful advice on how to write prayers that welcome the whole community and how to create a holy space for public events.

A UUA Bookstore Reading List