Small Group Ministry

Group Session Plan – Parent, Adolescents

**Celebrate**

**Materials Needed:**

Journal, chalice

Affirmation books

**Opening Words:**

“These are the days that have been given to us; let us rejoice and be glad in them. These are the days of our lives; let us live them in love and service. These are the days of mystery and wonder; let us cherish and celebrate them in gratitude together. These are the days that have been given to us; let us make of them stories worth telling to those who come after us.” *-William R. Murray*

**Chalice Lighting:** As Unitarian Universalists we celebrate all that is sacred, right, true and good in ourselves, in each other, and in the mystery, for life is good and filled with possibility.

**Check in:** This is a time to briefly share how you are doing today, in order to free yourself to be present here. This is a time to listen with full attention to each other and accept each person’s sharing in silence.

**Topic/Activity:** We have two activities today. For our children’s Coming of Age Service, we each will give them back their childhood object, which we had for safe keeping [Part of Coming of Age at UUCC]. And we will give them something of ours that represents our hopes and dreams for them as they enter into their older teen years. Our first task is to decide what that object will be and discuss them here.

The second task is to pass around affirmation books for each of us to record an affirmation for each other. This is a chance to express gratitude, support and friendship.

**Check out/Likes and Wishes:** How was the session for you?

**Closing:**

Brothers and sisters, I call you my friends

We are an ancient circle that never ends

Each of us beautiful, each of us whole

And every single one of you is part of my soul.

*Parenting Adolescents,* Karen Fisk, Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Augusta, ME

Published in *Small Group Ministry With All Ages,* UU Small Group Ministry Network, 2011