

“Archive Invite to the Congregation” (Matters of Our Lives)

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For this “Matters of Our Lives,” I’d like to speak with you on what I call the Spiritual Journey Archive Project. We each have our own ways of arriving at our truths, most all of which are generated by Unitarian-Universalism’s Six Sources, especially direct experience. We all have defining stories to tell about what shapes our values and helps us come to better understand ourselves, the world, and our purposes in it. This project hopes to help foster the telling of these stories through publishing what we hear on Sundays, both the full sermons and the shorter talks, such as, the occasional “Matters of Our Lives” section of our service. I believe our working theology is constantly being defined by the sum total of all our specific and personal thoughts, beliefs, experiences, and actions in so far as they support our stated UU Principles. UUism thrives on personal experiences promoting spiritual growth. Through our stories, we collectively define the church.

To this end, I am compiling an accessible text archive of such sermons and talks formally delivered to the congregation, occasionally dipping back into the deeper past, but primarily starting with last summer’s wide-ranging sermons. So, if you would like to share your story with the Society during the regular church year as either a full sermon or a short talk of about 300 words, submit a draft to the Celebration team for consideration.

I believe listening closely to our fine sermons and talks and to then read them even more closely in the tranquility of contemplation will help define and energize our community. Let’s let them live on.

A final note. Jens Wennberg and myself are now scheduling for this summer’s Sunday morning sermons to be given in the parlor. See or email us if you would like to give a full-length sermon on a topic of your choice. You’ll be surprised how rewarding it is - for both us and yourselves. Thank you.

