Remembering Kevin Drewery

By Ellen Hall-Patton, UU Las Vegas

Kevin Drewery, the extraordinary man known as Kevo to anyone who passed through the Young Religious UU program (YRUU) in Las Vegas, played an important role in the lives of everyone he came into contact with. For me, he was more than a friend and more than a mentor. Aside from my family, he has been the person who has made the largest and most positive impact on my life.

Kevin served as the Director of Lifespan Faith Development at the UU Congregation in Las Vegas for seven years. Gratefully, I was involved in the program for the entire time. Kevin's impact on my life would have been huge for nothing more than introducing me to the community that has shaped my current self, that of YRUU. But more than that, Kevin had the qualities that we admire in others and covet for ourselves, while remaining human and quite approachable.

I feel the best way to tell you who Kevin was and what he is to me is to tell a few stories. Everyone who has ever met him has a “Kevin Story.” They range from funny to serious, sardonic to enlightening. My Kevin stories encompass all these emotions, plus a few more.

My most important Kevo experience by far happened at my bridging from YRUU to Young Adulthood at this year’s PSWD District Assembly. I was completely unaware that Kevin planned to attend and was kept in the dark by everyone who knew he would be there. On Sunday morning, when I was getting another cup of coffee, I turn around to see Kevin’s oh-so-familiar purple polo shirt and balding head. Quickly running over to him, I tapped his shoulder. When he turned around, I burst into happy tears. Overcome with disbelief and excitement, I did the only thing left for me to do: drink more coffee and cry profusely.

During the Bridging Ceremony, I was the last one introduced to give my speech. When they called my name, Kevin sauntered to the front, in his usual manner, to introduce me. By this point, it did not matter to me what Kevin said, though he did say very nice things. His presence made the day one of the most meaningful for me.

Last year, when Kevin announced that he would be leaving the Las Vegas congregation to pursue his Masters of Divinity at Starr King School for the Ministry, I decided the best way to let him know how much I was going to miss him was to write a letter. A few days ago, when I went back to read the letter after Kevin’s passing, I was surprised by how true my words still ring. “I love how much work you do for everything you are involved in. From the thought put behind every service, to the way that you work at camp, you never miss a thing. And, if you do miss something, you take care of it without anyone being the wiser.”

Continued on Page 4
November 2009

10-29/31  PSWD Renaissance Module - Philosophy of Religious Education
   For info, contact (626) 840-5412 or http://pswduua.org
10/30-1  Work Weekend
   See advertisement on page 7 for additional info
6-8     Music in the Mountains
   See advertisement on page 4 for additional info
13-15   Fullerton/Las Vegas UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (702) 227-4729 ljbowy@cox.net or (714) 871-7150, http://uusalterton.org
20 - 22 Rainbox Pride Youth Alliance (Private)
26 - 29 Thanksgiving Holiday Celebration
   See advertisement on page 4 for additional info

December 2009

4-6     PSWD Jr High Fall Camp & Coming of Age Retreat
   See advertisement on page 5 for additional info
8-25    Camp Available for Lease
27-1/1   PSWD/YRru Sr High Winter Camp
   See advertisement on page 5 for additional info

January 2010

1-3     Camp Available for Lease
8-10    Neighborhood UCC Church of LA (Private) - Craig's Cabin
   UCR BGLT Student Retreat (Private)
14-18    Society for Creative Anachronism (Private)
22-24    USC Scholars (Private)
29-31    Peninsula Girl Scout Neighborhood Snow Camp (Private)
   Santa Monica UU Families (Private) - Craig's Cabin

February 2010

5-7     UUWinter Family Fun - sponsored by Neighborhood UU Church
   See advertisement on page 6 for additional info
13-15   PSWD Elementary Winter Camp
   See advertisement on page 5 for additional info
19-21    Riverside YMCA Family Camp (Private)
   Cherokee Nation of Orange (Private)
21-26    1st Congregational Church Teen Group (Private)
26-28    Camp Available for Lease

March 2010

5-7     Long Beach UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (562) 225-5458 or ramonhandy824@mns.com
12-14   Camp Available for Lease
19-21    Girl Scout SongSwap Weekend
   See advertisement on page 6 for additional info
24-26    Odyssey Charter School (Private)
26-28    Rainbow Family Camp
   See advertisement on page 6 for additional info

April 2010

2-4     Camp Available for Lease (Easter Weekend)
9-11    San Dieguito UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (858) 755-9225 or office@pusfd.org
16-18    UU Men's Fellowship Retreat
   For info, contact (619) 466-5952 or mdorf@cox.net
23-25    Camp Recovery
   For info, contact http://camprecoveryinfo.com
30-5/2   UUWomen's Retreat
   See advertisement on page 7 for additional info

May 2010

3-7     Prototypes Recovery House (Private)
7-9     Work Weekend
   For info, contact (909) 794-1252 or registrar@uucamp.org
13      Craig's Cabin Available for Lease
14-16    Diamond Bar High School - Pathways Academy (Private)
21-23    Camp BLogaway
   For info, contact (310) 471-3138 or http://campblogaway.com
28-31    Camp Bravo Theater Arts Educators’ Weekend
   For info, contact (888) 442-7286 or http://campbravo.org

June 2010

4-6     First UU Church San Diego Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (619) 298-9979, mail@firstuuandsd.org
11-13    PUC/Orange County UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (310) 378-9449, admin@pacificunitarian.org or (714) 999-1077, 6022erit@yahoo.com
18-20    Santa Monica/Chalice UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (310) 829-5436, office@uusm.org or (760) 737-0393, office@chaliceuu.org
23-26    Fullerton Stake LDS Young Women's Camp (Private)
27-7/3   Camp Bravo Theater Arts Camp for Middle Schoolers (Wk 1)
   For info, contact (888) 442-7286 or http://campbravo.org

July 2010

4-10    Camp Bravo Theater Arts Camp for Teens (Wk 2)
11-17    PSWD YouUU Camp - Elementary (grades 2 - 6)
   PSWD Counselor-In-Training Program (ages 15 - 18)
18-24    PSWD YouUU Camp - Jr High (grades 6 - 9)
   PSWD YouUU Camp - Sr High (grades 9 - 12)
25-31    PSWD Adult Advisor Training (ages 25+)
   For info, contact (909) 794-1252 or registrar@uucamp.org

August 2010

1-7     PSWD UU Family Camp
   See advertisement on page 6 for additional info
8-14    Camp Bravo Theater Arts Camp for Teens (Wk 3)
15-21    Camp Bravo Theater Arts Camp for Teens (Wk 4)
   Camp Bravo Theater Arts Camp for Teens (Wk 4)
22-27    PSWIRL Summer Camp for Grownups
   For info, go to http://pswirl.org
   Art Camp
   For info, contact (909) 794-1252 or registrar@uucamp.org
27-29    Neighborhood UU Congregational Retreat
   For info, contact (626) 798-1375 or Melinda.Goddard@clearmannrestaurants.com
31-9/3   PSWD Small Group Ministry Retreat
   For info, contact (805) 485-1780 or http://www.pswduua.org/
Kim St Clair  continued from page 1

at a premium in a camp teeming with 85 teens busily bonding with each other, deepening their UU faith, and contemplating how to change the world.

Acting as an advisor for a number of camps, then serving as Adult Dean for the past two years has transformed my life in ways I never imagined. Opening myself to these incredible youth has been life-changing. It has also allowed me to build relationships with other youth-empowering adults and they have deeply touched my life.

Sadly, three amazing Advisors have passed away in the past two years: Jeff Knowles from the UU Congregation of Tucson, Ed Burditt from UU Fellowship of San Diego, and Kevin Drewery, former Director of Lifespan Faith Development at the UU Congregation of Las Vegas. Each served at countless camps and brought a sense of joy and wonder to their work with youth that is nothing short of inspiring. A plan is underway to create a permanent memorial for these incredible men, to express the spirit they added to the PSWD YoUUth Camps.

Don’t hesitate. If you have a knack for talking with young people, enjoy their energy, and aren’t afraid of a week filled with love and laughter, raise your hand and say “yes!”

Jaynn Truran  continued from page 1

and teaching that goes on during the high school years. Advisors hone their skills with training, but more importantly, adapt to the needs of their congregations and youth communities. Each group is different. The dynamics and focus of the youth we serve often shift from year to year. Among other things, YRUU advisors must be open to change, prepared to deal with conflict, and willing to challenge the teens to look inward. We help ensure a safe space to question, to learn, to change, and to grow, but often must step back, even when it is uncomfortable to do so. We strive to avoid projecting our personal values, and wish instead to encourage our youth to make healthy and safe decisions. We are not problem solvers; we are facilitators. We are not leaders; we work to empower the youth to lead themselves. We are not parents; we are mentors working together to grow young people who are confident and able. Our job as YRUU advisors is not just to tell our youth that they are awesome, not just to remind them to dream big, not just to let them know they can be whatever they want, but to help them see that they have the power within themselves to reach their goals.

In addition to advisors, who must be at least 25 years old, our YRUU communities include adult and young adult allies. These folks help when it comes to special events: assisting with travel, food, chaperoning or planning. They also offer support to the advisors. Many allies fill important roles at camp and conferences when the time commitment is more flexible. YRUU is not just about Sunday morning! Adult allies also help YRUU communities stay connected to what goes on in the congregation and help the teens see that it truly does “take a village”...

If you would like to get involved as an adult ally, or if you would like more information on training to become a YRUU advisor, please contact Tera Little at teral@att.net.

If you would like to make a donation to de Benneville in memory of Kevin, Ed, or Jeff, please use the form below.

Camp de Benneville Pines Donation Form

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor Name(s):</th>
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<td>Share the Vision Annual Fund Drive</td>
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<td>Campfire Lighter’s Endowment Fund</td>
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If you would like to receive confirmation that your donation has been received or if you would like to charge a credit card for your donation, please include an e-mail address.

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<th>UU Congregation/Camp Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Camp de Benneville Pines is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Corporation</td>
<td>Your donation may be tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor.</td>
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To use a credit card, complete the following:

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<th>Card</th>
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To make your donation by mail (check or credit card):

Camp de Benneville Pines
41750 Jenks Lake Road West
Angels Camp, CA 95220
Kevin introduced me to Camp de Benneville Pines. Our shared experiences at camp are ones that I will not soon forget. I had heard stories about this UU camp in the mountains. My brother had attended once, but I had never been there. Kevin, in his usual way, asked me if I would be interested in becoming a camp counselor. Of course, I was.

When I got to de Benneville, I found that Kevin was Dean of Elementary Camp, Kim St Clair and Robin Darling were the facilitators of the Counselor-in-Training program, and I had an amazing time. I went home and begged my parents to let me attend Sr High camp. They agreed and the next camp, I was part of the youth staff. The following summer, I attended camp for three weeks as both a counselor and a camper.

Throughout this time, for something like eight camp sessions, Kevin was my ride to and from camp. During those long drives from Las Vegas to de Benneville, I learned about Kevin and learned from him, in a way that I never would have had the opportunity to do otherwise.

As I write this, my appreciation for knowing and learning from Kevo continues to grow. I am so thankful to have been able to see him at District Assembly, before he was no longer able to serve in the ways we all knew him. Kevin has been special in our lives, meaningful to all of us, and will always be in our minds when we see something purple.

So soon after Kevin's death, it is difficult for us to cope, but I have to imagine Kevin quietly snickering at all of us in that way that he always does. Wherever Kevin will go, I know that he will be surrounded by love, adoration, and respect. I hope that sometime in the not too distant future, we will be able to look back at Kevin's impact on our lives with a smile on our lips rather than tears in our eyes.

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**Do you love a party?**

Volunteer to plan de Benneville's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Help by sorting through old photos, recording campers' remembrances, and planning the big party

To join the planning committee, contact Janet James at (909) 794-2928 or uucamp@aol.com

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**Music in the Mountains**

**Acoustic & Vocal Music Weekend**

Sing, play, jam and dance—all day and into the night with musicians, singers and dancers from Southern California and beyond

Old friends & new, great music, good food and the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains in fall!

**Thursday, November 26 - Sunday, November 29, 2009**

Escape from shopping, chopping, cleaning, cooking to celebrate with friends & family in the crisp mountain air

Attend workshops, hike or read by the fire, sing, dance, stretch your mind and body or get a massage

There’s also plenty of space to relax and do nothing

The scents of the holiday fill the lodge: Pumpkin pie, hot apple cider, fresh baked bread and of course, turkey, dressing and all the rest......

Be part of the de Benneville Thanksgiving tradition!

**Friday November 6 - Sunday November 8, 2009**

**Full Weekend (includes food, lodging, all workshops & activities):**

- $98/adult, $80/youth (3-17)
- Deluxe Cabins (Craig’s Cabin & Cabin 6) - add $35/person

**Cancellation Policy:**

- $75/person fee before 10/25/09 * No refund after 10/25/09

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**Thanksgiving Holiday Celebration**

**Thursday, November 26 - Sunday, November 29, 2009**

Escape from shopping, chopping, cleaning, cooking to celebrate with friends & family in the crisp mountain air

Attend workshops, hike or read by the fire, sing, dance, stretch your mind and body or get a massage

There’s also plenty of space to relax and do nothing

The scents of the holiday fill the lodge: Pumpkin pie, hot apple cider, fresh baked bread and of course, turkey, dressing and all the rest......

Be part of the de Benneville Thanksgiving tradition!

**Thursday - Sunday:** $185 Adult * $135 Youth (3 - 17) * Children under 3 are free
includes all workshops, activities, lodging, meals, and Thanksgiving Feast Thursday evening

**Upgrade:** Craig’s Cabin/Cabin 6 - $35/adult * Rooms w/ 1 Double Bed in 5/7/8 - $35 per room

**Cancellation:** Refund less $75/person before November 10, 2009 * No refunds after 11/10/2009
At camp, Middle/Jr High School aged yoUUt (grades 6 - 9) and advisors have opportunities to form connections and explore spiritual practices in the beautiful mountains at de Benneville Pines.

The camp program will be a spiritual adventure through the mind, body, and soul. We will form bonding relationships while creating group and personal spiritual practices.

We will play, grow and have fun!

Co-Deans:
Mary Jane Holden, DRE, Throop UU Church, Pasadena
Michael Alvarado, Neighborhood Church, Pasadena

**Coming of Age Retreat & Jr High Camp**

Friday - Sunday December 4 - 6, 2009

At camp, Middle/Jr High School aged yoUUt (grades 6 - 9) and advisors have opportunities to form connections and explore spiritual practices in the beautiful mountains at de Benneville Pines.

The camp program will be a spiritual adventure through the mind, body, and soul. We will form bonding relationships while creating group and personal spiritual practices.

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**Co-Deans:**
Mary Jane Holden, DRE, Throop UU Church, Pasadena
Michael Alvarado, Neighborhood Church, Pasadena

**My ❤️ is in the Mountains**

Come to camp for a hot chocolate-y, singing weekend ❤️ With play, arts & crafts and worship we’ll explore how love can change the world

**Dean:** Celeste Plumlee

**Music Minister:** David Diiorio

**StrUUck**

How do we make our society and the world a more loving place?

At camp, we explore the UU Principles and learn how to use them in our daily life.

Sunday, December 27, 2009 - Friday, January 1, 2010

PSWD/YRUU Sr High Winter Camp

**Deans:** Alexi Foster
Karl Regner * Kathe Larick

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**Registration**

**Coming of Age/Jr High Camp**
(Currently in grades 6 - 9)

YoUUt - $145

Coming of Age: Youth Advisor - $120

4+ youth per church - advisor pays 50%
6+ youth per church - advisor is free

**YRUU/Sr High Winter Camp**
(Currently in grades 9 - 12)

YoUUt - $375

Deduct $35 if registering before 11/15/2009

**Elementary Winter Camp**
(Currently in grades K - 6)

Campers - $145

Parents/Guardians - $120

Younger siblings (Under 3 free) - $85

Sibling Discount - $15 (campers only - one per family)

T-Shirt $12  Sweatshirt $25

Submit registration with a $75 non-refundable deposit
No refunds after check-in

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**Presidents & Valentines Day ❤️ Weekend ❤️**

Saturday - Monday

February 13 - 15, 2010

**PSWD Elementary Winter Camp**

**Dean:** Celeste Plumlee

**Music Minister:** David Diiorio

The Elementary camp is for children ages 2 - 12. Campers may attend with parents and are invited to bring their friends. Parents are asked to attend with their children and are responsible for them. Children are 3rd grade or older will be expected to attend with the activities.

Camp is for children 5-7 and younger than 2nd grade, day will accommodate all children throughout the day and be primarily responsible for them. If their parents will be expected to attend with the activities.

**How do we make our society and the world a more loving place?**

At camp, we explore the UU Principles and learn how to use them in our daily life.

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T-Shirt $12  Sweatshirt $25

Submit registration with a $75 non-refundable deposit
No refunds after check-in
UU Winter Family Fun!
Sponsored by Neighborhood UU Church of Pasadena
Join your UU neighbors from Neighborhood Church for a California winter weekend!
It’s a great opportunity for relaxation and fun for all -- families, couples and singles.
The weekend retreat will include arts & crafts, frisbee golf, workshops, social hour, snow sports—weather/precipitation permitting—and more!
For more information and to register, contact Cheri Gaulke at 323-662-3940 or cgaulke@adelphia.net
Include “Winter Camp” in subject on all e-mails
Enjoy winter with your whole family!

Friday - Sunday, February 5 - 7, 2010

Rainbow Family Camp
A Weekend for BOLF Families and their allies
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:
- Arts & Crafts  - Movies
- Talent Show  - Parent Socials
- Outdoor Sports Activities
- Indoor Games  - Community Meals
LOTS OF FUN!!!

Adults $130  * Teens (13-19) $100  * Kids (3-12) $70
Under 3 Free! Includes meals, lodging and all activities
Non-refundable cancellation fee - $75/plans before March 16, 2010
No refunds after 3/10/2010

Registration Opens
January 11, 2010

SongSwap Weekend
for Girl Scouts & their Leaders
Bring your troop to camp for a chance to
sing, play, learn, grow and have fun together.
Learn lots of songs and how to involve other scouts
and the community in singing and sharing songs.

There will be music, music, music!
Storytelling, roasting marshmallows,
sledding in the snow, looking at the stars
crafts, and playing games by the fire.
Dick Benneville provides your food
and a warm, snug place to sleep.
A memorable weekend!

Friday - Sunday  *  March 19 - 21, 2010

Registration:
Cost: $69/youth (ages 3 - 17), $89/adult (under 3 are free)
Includes food, lodging and activities, Friday dinner - Sunday breakfast
Please include your troop number and level on the registration form
Cancellation: Full refund for individual cancellations before 2/20/2010
$5 per person cancellation fee for troop cancellations.
No refunds after 2/20/2010

PSWD UU Family Camp
Sunday - Saturday, August 1 - 7, 2010
with Chaplain Reverend Matthew Crary
Receive the 2009 rate with a $75 per person non-refundable deposit paid before January 31, 2010!
$325/adult  * $295/teen (13-18)  * $285/child (3-12)  * $100/baby-toddler (0-2)
Craig’s +$80/pp  * Cabin 6 +$50/pp  * Double Bed in 5/7/8 +$50/room

Register now for next summer’s
## UU Womencs RETREAT

**Friday - Sunday * April 30 - May 2, 2010**

Women in community: telling our stories, sharing ritual, art, dancing, singing and fun together. Don’t miss our annual gathering!

**Register Before January 31, 2010 for 2009 prices**

- $165 per person * $20 additional Thursday lodging
- $30 additional for Craig’s or Cabin 6

Cancellation: $75 per person before 4/15/10 - No refund after 4/15/10

Pre-register for any de Benneville sponsored event up to 12 months before by paying a $75 per person, non-refundable deposit. Your payment in full will be required 30 days before the event.

### Adult & Family Event Registration Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendee Name</td>
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<td>Special Diet, Allergies or Medical Needs</td>
<td>Adult-A or Child’s DOB</td>
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<td>If you would like to receive confirmation that we have received your registration or if you would like to charge your fees, please include an e-mail address.</td>
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<td>Circle Requests:</td>
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<td>Cabinmates:</td>
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<td>Adult or Family Event Registration Form</td>
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<td>Total enclosed/to be charged $</td>
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### UU Congregation

| To use a credit card, complete the following: |
| Card# |
| Expiration Date: | Security Code: 3 digits M/V/D or 4 digits AMEX |

### PSWD YoUTh Camp Registration Form

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<td>Scholarship Fund Donation</td>
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<td>If you would like to receive confirmation that we have received your registration or if you would like to charge your fees, please include an e-mail address.</td>
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<td>First Time Camper? Yes / No</td>
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<td>Do you need a PSWD Scholarship? Yes / No</td>
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<td>Cabinmates:</td>
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<td>UU Congregation</td>
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| To use a credit card, complete the following: |
| Card# |
| Expiration Date: | Security Code: 3 digits M/V/D or 4 digits AMEX |
We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces that create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teaching which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolaters of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.