



PRISMES ELECTRIQUES, 1914 - SONIA DELAUNAY

JOURNEYS

Monthly Theme "Un-Pack-It"

A COMMUNITY OF VISION

THE UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF PETERBOROUGH

WONDERINGS *on the theme of* VISION

From the folks at *Soul Matters*

"What will mess you up most in life is the picture in your head of how it is supposed to be." ~ *Author Unknown*

This is not how the topic of vision is usually handled. Conversations about vision tell us to hold on tightly to our picture of how it is supposed to be. We're encouraged to "stay true to your vision." We're told, "Without vision, the people perish." We're warned that without a clear vision, we're vulnerable to whatever winds blow. And all of that is true. A clear vision anchors us. It gives us direction and hope. A vision is, indeed, a precious thing.

But, all that holding fast is also risky. In short, no vision is perfect. Every vision distorts even as it clarifies. On top of that, life changes. Some doors close, new ones open. If you stay true to the vision of what's behind a closed door, you might just end up spending your life banging your head against it. And as Unitarian Universalists, we also know that one vision isn't enough. As clear as our perspectives may be, we know that none is complete. To see the entire view, we need everyone's vantage point.

So clearly being a people of vision is not always easy. Knowing when to stay true to your vision and when to let go is tough. Figuring out when to keep your vision front and center and when to de-center it and make room for others intimidates the best of us.

Yet, if danger and hard work dominate the conversation, we will have done ourselves, and our vision, a disservice. Besides, holding tightly to one single vision is no fun! We don't have to see things from others' points of view; we get to see things from others' points of view! It's an invitation to see the world anew! And while letting go of precious visions and dreams might be painful, it can be exhilarating to evolve and grow.

So maybe that's the most important vision this month. Not that of a stern-faced people sticking to their single vision through thick and thin. But that of a playful people exchanging visions and helping each other encounter new and larger worlds. A people who don't just ask each other "Are you staying true to your vision?" but who also say with a smile, "What new vision is calling to you? Tell me about it!"

From Rev. Julie

At September's PRIDE service, I used "Nanette", Hannah Gadsby's performance video, to illustrate the importance of hearing one another's stories. Using the history of art as one example of incomplete stories, Gadsby points out example after example of Picasso's profound misogyny. She notes the irony in how the man credited with inventing Cubism, a new form of perspective from which all angles are considered meaningful. utterly failed to consider the female gaze.

This is a poignant example of how, with myopic vision, the important views and visions of others are excluded. Unitarian Universalism holds the vision of an inclusive world in which all are heard. And so, along with asking what we want to see made real, we must ask others the same question. And listen. And expand our views.

I love the idea of being a joyful, curious people exchanging visions and helping one another to encounter new and larger visions.

Let's be a community of vision!

A STORY *about* VISION

Adin Ballou and The Hopedale Community

By *Elisa Davy Pearmain (adapted)*

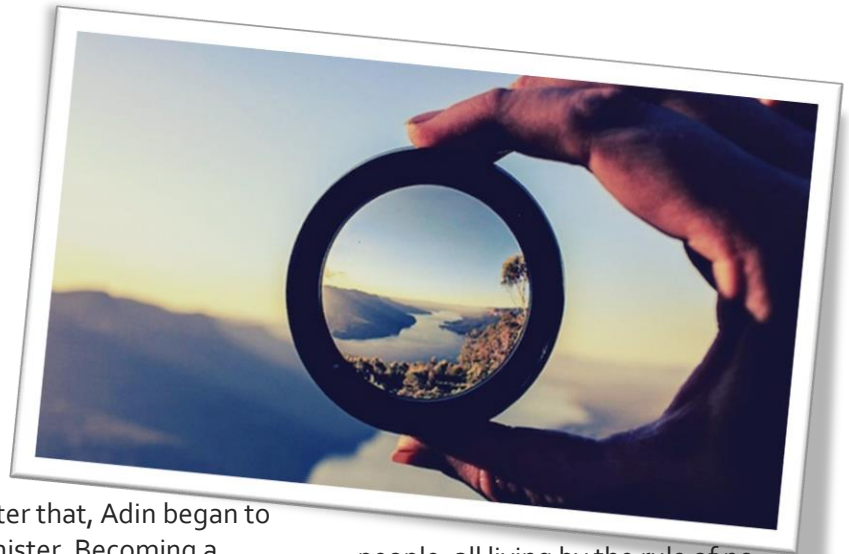
Adin Ballou, born over two hundred years ago, grew up to be a peacemaker and a Universalist minister, but he didn't start out wanting to be either.

When Adin was seven years old, he watched a militia parade in colorful uniforms, with swords and guns at the ready. Adin was so excited by the military men that he told his dad that if there was a call to war, he would join the militia! But soon he was called in a new direction.

Adin was ten years old when his family became religious Christians. Adin began to read the Bible and one story confused him. It was a story where Jesus says if someone slaps you, you should turn peacefully, and offer them your other cheek; and if someone steals your coat, you should offer them your shirt. Jesus told us to treat others the way that we want to be treated. We must act peaceful to make a peaceful world.

"When someone hurts me, I might feel like hurting them back," Adin thought. "And if someone steals something, I have been taught that they should be punished." But this story stayed deep in his heart.

It just so happened that their little church had no minister during the summer and the people in the congregation took turns in the pulpit. Adin remembered a dream he'd had in which his deceased brother told him to become a preacher. He was just a teenager, but one Sunday, he stood up, and with his knees shaking, said he would preach the following week.



So he did. After that, Adin began to work as a minister. Becoming a soldier was forgotten.

As he grew up, he started to notice that when people fought with each other to solve an argument (especially over the issue of slavery), that didn't help them to be peaceful. He saw when people were punished for fighting, punishment didn't make them more peaceful. He saw when nations used war to solve an argument, that didn't make people more peaceful, either. Adin decided any solution that used violence was not for him. He started to believe that if we really want peace, in our community or in our nation, we must love our enemies.

Adin decided to start a new way of living, called "Christian nonresistance." Christian nonresistance meant people would promise never to be violent to others, even to defend themselves. Many people thought he was crazy, but he felt very sure that this was what Jesus taught.

Adin was thirty-seven years old when he decided it wasn't enough to live peacefully on his own. He wanted to live in a town full of

people, all living by the rule of no violence. He hoped a small group of people could show the world a better way to live. With some friends, he bought some land and formed the Hopedale Community in Milford, Massachusetts.

People who believed in Christian nonresistance moved to Hopedale. They were very strict about not hurting others. They tried to live according to Jesus's ideas of peace, to care for the hungry and sick, and to love one another. They had a boarding school where many children came to live and learn, including some children who had escaped from being slaves.

The Hopedale Community lasted for fifteen years. During that time, Adin Ballou published a magazine and several books about Christian nonresistance that were read far and wide. Adin Ballou put his faith to into action and pointed us toward a better way to love and care for one another. He continued to write and speak about making a world of peace for the rest of this life. He died in 1890 at the age of eighty-seven.

From *Tapestry of Faith, Faithful Journeys, Make Peace*

<https://tinyurl.com/ybelfegg>

To receive these monthly packets by email, sign up to be on UFP's email list. Send a request to: office@peterboroughunitarian.ca

INSPIRATIONS *on the theme of* VISION

Failed plans should not be interpreted as a failed vision. Visions don't change, they are only refined. Plans rarely stay the same and are scrapped or adjusted as needed. Be stubborn about the vision, but flexible with your plan.

~ John C. Maxwell

Once there were three bricklayers. Each one of them was asked what they were doing. The first man answered gruffly, 'I'm laying bricks.' The second man replied, 'I'm putting up a wall.' But the third man said enthusiastically and with pride, 'I'm building a cathedral.'

~ Folk Tale

Your vision will become clear only when you look into your heart. Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens.

~ Carl Jung

We are limited, not by our abilities, but by our vision.

~ Unknown

The soul never thinks without a picture.

~ Aristotle

We are here to abet creation and to witness it, to notice each thing so each thing gets noticed. Together we notice not only each mountain shadow and each stone on the beach, but we notice each other's beautiful face and complex nature so that creation need not play to an empty house.

~ Annie Dillard

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

~ Helen Keller

The most beautiful things are always hidden.

~ Anonymous proverb

Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare.

~ Japanese Proverb

Vision looks inward and becomes duty. Vision looks outward and becomes aspiration. Vision looks upward and becomes faith.

~ Rabbi Stephen Wise

Luke, you're going to find that many of the truths we cling to depend greatly on our own point of view.

~ Obi-Wan Kenobi

Your outlook on life is a direct reflection on how much you like yourself.

~ Lululemon

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery

If you don't look back, the future never happens...

~ Rita Dove

When you look deeply into your anger, you will see that the person you call your enemy is also suffering. As soon as you see that, the capacity of accepting and having compassion for them is there.

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

Our picture of ourselves has become too grand, we have lost the vision of a reality separate from ourselves.

~ Iris Murdoch

Earth's crammed with heaven.

~ Elizabeth Barrett
Browning

If you sense there must be more, there is more.

~ Alan Cohen

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

~ Proverbs 29:18

DEFINITION

vi·sion

'viZHən

noun

1. the faculty or state of being able to see.
2. the ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom.
3. a mental image of what the future will or could be like.
4. an experience of seeing someone or something in a dream or trance, or as a supernatural apparition.
5. a vivid mental image, especially a fanciful one of the future.
6. a person or sight of unusual beauty.

synonyms: sight, observation, perception, imagination, creativity, inventiveness, innovation, inspiration, intuition, perception, insight, foresight, prescience, manifestation, dream

verb

1. to imagine

Above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.

~ Roald Dahl

What will mess you up most in life is the picture in your head of how it is supposed to be.

~ Unknown

Look at the world around you. It may seem like an immovable, implacable place. It is not. With the slightest push—in just the right place—it can be tipped.

~ Malcolm Gladwell

The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.

~ Albert Einstein

My barn having
burned down
I can now see
the moon.

- Mizuta Masahide



PRACTICING VISION

Option A: Your Personal Vision Statement: Write It!

We've all heard of companies and organizations writing vision statements, but we rarely write a personal one. Yet, simple, clear and memorable statements of vision inspire us, help clarify our choices and motivate us to choose and shape our own path. You don't have to make it complicated. In fact, the best personal vision statements are short and simple, even one-sentence. And, it can be helpful to narrow the timeline. For instance, instead of trying to write a vision for your entire life, just focus in on what you want to see happen this year. You can ask, "How do I want to be different by next summer?" and/or "What do I want to have done before the new year?"

Daniel Pink has written about a single sentence approach; check out these videos:

- <https://vimeo.com/8480171>
- <https://tinyurl.com/oj2uqeg>

If you want to dive in more deeply, here's a great road map: <https://tinyurl.com/y9y6rkwc>

As you are writing your statement, run it by those close to you. Ask for their reactions. Something insightful will surely arise from those conversations.

Option B: Your Personal (or Collective) Vision Statement: Visualize It!

If you are a visual learner, instead of writing your personal vision statement, create a visual representation of it. One popular technique is called vision-boarding. Here are three great sites that explain what a vision board is and how to go about creating one:

- <https://tinyurl.com/ybmdfn6l>
- <https://tinyurl.com/y7lkn5a>
- <https://tinyurl.com/ydggfpnv>

Just as suggested in Option A, consider focusing your vision board on your vision for this year. Another idea is to include your relationship partner or the entire family. How cool it would be if your

family, or your team, or your committee, had a "group vision"?! Make sure to include all voices and perspectives!



Option C: Your Personal Vision Statement: Wear It!

Don't want to write or visualize a vision statement? Well what about those personal vision statements you wear – your favorite t-shirt. Many of us have them: a t-shirt that makes a statement of our deepest beliefs. Implicit in each of these is a vision of the good life.

Dig out that "Vision T-Shirt" and remember the story of when and why you bought it and what adventures you've had while wearing it.

The goal of this exercise is, of course, to take some time for deeper reflection on what it means to declare your vision to world. It's never simple to be public with our hopes, dreams and visions. It's also a great joy when our t-shirts enable us to connect with like-minded souls and know we are not alone. Take some time to think about how much these simple articles of clothing have meant to you. There's a reason most of them are torn, ratty and old. We don't want to let go of them in the hopes that their message won't let go of us!

Check out examples of some "vision t-shirts" here: <https://tinyurl.com/yah2lyrt>

Option D: Your Vision Mentor

Our visions of the possible and the good are most often given to us, or at least greatly shaped by others. They come as

gifts that are cultivated, inspired and midwived by those we consider visionaries or mentors. So, who are your vision mentors? What poet, preacher, spiritual teacher, artist, activist or musician helps you hold on to your vision of the possible and the good?

Use this month to honor them and refresh their vision in your mind's eye. Re-

read the book they wrote. Pin up your favorite quote or picture of theirs.

Memorize their poem so you can more easily keep it close. Whatever your method, find a way to keep them front and center this month, paying attention to new ways they are calling to you or propping up your hope and commitment.

Share the book, quote, poem or piece of art you've chosen with others. Tell how they became your "vision mentor" and the impact they have made on your life.

Option E: Pick a Quote to Expand Your Vision

This packet contains lots of quotes about what it means to be a person of vision. There's likely to be at least one of them that opens you to a new way of thinking about the role and call of vision in your life. So as your practice of the month, set aside some time to go through them and meditate on them until you find the one that most expands your understanding of vision. After you've found it, consider printing it out and carrying it with you or pinning it up so you can continue to reflect on it throughout the month. Where did that journey lead you?

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION on the theme of VISION



As always, simply pick the question that speaks to you and let it lead you where you need to go. The goal is to figure out what being a part of a community of vision means for you and your daily

living. So, which question is calling to you? Which one contains your "vision work"?

1. What vision has been with you since you were a child? How has it both changed and remained the same?
2. Who are your vision mentors? What person(s) helps you hold onto your vision of the possible and the good?
3. What vision do you want to pass on...to your kids, grandkids or those who look to you for guidance?
4. How is the season of fall a time of vision for you? Does this season of harvest and turning of leaves allow you to "see" differently?
5. Might you need to take a break from the long view and gaze at what is right in front of you?
6. What form of perception helps you to connect with the sacred? Visual sight? Analytical thinking? Listening? Touch? Intuition? Creative expression? Your "beginner's mind?" What might help you to open an entirely new door to vision?
7. Wayne Dyer writes, "If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change." What in your life needs another look?
8. Is your vision of how your life is "supposed to be" in your way?
9. Have you ever had a "vision?" A spiritual revelation, mystical experience or premonition?
10. Loren Eiseley reminds us "...that the [person] seeking visions and insight must go apart from [their] fellows and live for a time in the wilderness." What might that look like in your life?
11. Is the speed and pace of your daily routine blurring your vision?
12. What vision for the Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough inspires and engages you?
13. What's your question? Your question may not be listed above. As always, if the above questions don't include what life is asking from you, listen in your days to hear it.

RESOURCES on VISION

MUSIC

Music is often the key to opening us up. Here are some songs calling us to see life in new ways. Which song is calling to you? If none of these speak to you, do a little searching and find your own "vision song."

Be Thou My Vision ~ Audrey Assad
(Traditional Irish Melody)
<https://tinyurl.com/yay3qty5>

A Better Life ~ Grace VanderWaal
<https://tinyurl.com/ybn35g6b>

Beautiful Vision ~ Van Morrison
<https://tinyurl.com/yayrmmpw>
Cover: <https://tinyurl.com/ycq7uru7>

Better Way ~ Ben Harper
<https://tinyurl.com/yc2yvhwv>

Dreamer ~ Isbells
<https://tinyurl.com/ya3jjsdf>

Head Full Of Doubt/Road Full Of Promise ~ The Avett Brothers
<https://tinyurl.com/l8duvl3>

I Believe in the Sun ~ Mark A. Miller
<https://tinyurl.com/lxsrjgg>

I Believe In You ~ Don Williams
<https://tinyurl.com/n95gejo>
Cover by Carli Tuttle:
<https://tinyurl.com/y7kna2a3>

I Can See Clearly Now ~ Johnny Nash
<https://tinyurl.com/n500bm7>
Cover by Haeda:
<https://tinyurl.com/yac90fjz>

Cover by Grace VanderWaal:
<https://tinyurl.com/yc9y25ex>
Cover by Klapa Sinj & Iva Ajduković:
<https://tinyurl.com/gt6u3fk>

One Day (with No Woman No Cry mash up) ~ Matisyahu
<https://tinyurl.com/yazhad43>

Orange Sky ~Alexi Murdoch
<https://tinyurl.com/y8t3qute>

We're All in This Together ~ Ben Lee
<https://tinyurl.com/mrxewxf>

What's So Funny 'Bout Peace Love and Understanding ~ Elvis Costello
<https://tinyurl.com/yc3xp62f>

The World Is Ours
~ Aloe Blacc X David Correy
<https://tinyurl.com/ybft8oc8>

Soul Matters Spotify Playlists:
There's a playlist for each monthly theme.
<https://tinyurl.com/y89r48wb>

more RESOURCES on VISION

MOVIES

***Akeelah and the Bee* (2006/12A)**

Young Akeelah participates in a spelling bee to avoid detention...and wins. Making it to the Nationals could provide her community with someone to rally around and be proud of -- but only if she can overcome her insecurities.

***Barbershop* (2002/12A)** – Calvin inherits a struggling business and views the shop as nothing but a burden. But he slowly begins to see his father's vision and legacy.

***Black Mirror* (TV/15)** – Unveils how modern technologies can backfire and be used against their makers as humanity's greatest innovations and darkest instincts collide.

***Charlotte's Web* (1973/2006/U)**

Wilbur the pig is scared, because he knows that at the end of the season, he will end up on the dinner table. He hatches a plan with Charlotte, a spider that lives in his pen, to ensure that this will never happen.

***Ex Machina* (2014/15)** – A young programmer is selected to participate in a ground-breaking

experiment in synthetic intelligence by evaluating the human qualities of a breath-taking humanoid A.I.

***Field of Dreams* (1989/PG)** – An Iowa corn farmer, hearing voices, interprets them as a command to build a baseball diamond in his fields; he does, and the 1919 Chicago White Sox come.

***Frida* (2002/15)** – A biography of artist Frida Kahlo, who channeled the pain of a crippling injury and her tempestuous marriage into her work.

***Invictus* (2009/12A)** – Nelson Mandela initiates a unique venture to unite the apartheid-torn South Africa and enlists the national rugby team on a mission to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup.

***IRIS* (2015/PG13/Doc)** – Iris Apfel has had an outsized presence on the fashion scene for decades. Portrays a singular woman whose enthusiasm for fashion, art and people are life's sustenance and reminds us that life is nothing but an experiment. "If you're lucky enough to do something you love, everything else follows."

Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision

(1994/Doc) – A film about the work of the artist most famous for her monuments such as the Vietnam Memorial Wall and the Civil Rights Fountain Memorial.

***The Minority Report* (2012/12)** – In a future where a special police unit is able to arrest murderers before they commit their crimes, an officer from that unit is himself accused of a future murder.

***Selma* (2014/12A)** – A chronicle of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965.

***Seraphine* (2008/12)** – Based on the life of French painter Séraphine de Senlis, who when 'discovered', was working as a cleaning lady who is the laughing stock of others.

***The Social Network* (2010/12A)** Harvard student Zuckerberg creates the social networking site that would become known as Facebook, but is later sued by two brothers who claimed he stole their idea, and the co-founder who was later squeezed out of the business.

***WALL-E* (2008/U)** – In the distant future, a small waste-collecting robot inadvertently embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide the fate of mankind.



ON THE WEB

Throw Away Your Vision Board

~ Neil Farber

Fantasizing about your perfect world and your perfect life may make you feel better in the short term but will limit your ability to transform your dreams into reality. Convert your vision boards (See Practice Option B on page 4) to action boards...

<https://tinyurl.com/y8tjpvту>

Looking at the world from a different perspective

Charts and maps that will change your view on the world.

- <https://tinyurl.com/ydafgvxt>
- <https://tinyurl.com/kagu6ja>
- <https://worldmapper.org/>

CHALICE LIGHTING on VISION

Vision is a Choice

~ Soul Matters Team

As we rekindle the flame of our faith, may we remember that vision is a choice.

In every moment we look forward or behind, to the hopeful horizon or the hard road at our feet, to those already in the circle or those who have been shut out.

We return today to remember that we become the vision we embrace.

May our time together today help us choose wisely and with courage.

Learn more about "Darshan" (The Hindu practice of "divine sight")

- <https://tinyurl.com/y7gprgk3>
- <https://tinyurl.com/ybj2c9mw>
- <https://tinyurl.com/ycvo3kwh>
- <https://tinyurl.com/y7hl6oxw>

Coping When Your Life Vision Doesn't Go to Plan

~ Teresa Shimogawa

Spoiler alert: "Life was only that simple until the universe pulled the rug out from beneath my feet. It was an ordinary school day when my life fell apart. These sorts of things usually happen on ordinary days."

<https://tinyurl.com/y9378nfa>

Would your life be dramatically improved if you were utterly deluded? ~ Eric Barker

"Evidence shows that people who hold pervasive positive illusions about themselves, their abilities, and their future prospects are mentally healthier, happier and better liked than people who lack such illusions..."

<https://tinyurl.com/yaubchha>

5 Ways to Help Your Children Turn Their Dreams Into Reality

~ Kevin Geary

Children start dreaming at an early age. They think about their future career, their wealth, their education, and so on. And their dreams can be huge. <https://tinyurl.com/ybh9c95z>

Personality Test: What Do You See First and What It Reveals About You It's unclear how scientific this really is. But it's sure fun!

<https://tinyurl.com/ycoh5ywg>

VIDEOS

How to See the World Like

~ Malcolm Gladwell

"There is a point in every child's development where he begins to realize that the content of his parents' minds is different than that in his own. Yet adults often forget

this fundamental realization."

<https://tinyurl.com/yaz22whq>

A Different Perspective – What does it take to no longer see a threat?

<https://vimeo.com/120438150>

Painting With a Different Kind of Sight – After losing his sight, John

developed a new way to share his vision by using touch, music, and emotion to paint stunningly colorful works of art.

<https://tinyurl.com/yd2q5pkg>

A New View of the Moon (and us)

<https://vimeo.com/259818647>

An Engineer's Vision for Tiny Forests Everywhere

~ Shubhendu Sharma

Sharma explains how to create a mini-forest ecosystem anywhere.

<https://tinyurl.com/ybc4tgci>

A Realistic Vision of World Peace

~ Jody Williams

What does "peace" really mean?

<https://tinyurl.com/yayozlkd>

A Queer Vision of Love and

Marriage ~ Tiq Milan and Kim Katrin Milan Offers a vision of an inclusive, challenging love.

<https://tinyurl.com/h3uos2v>

PODCASTS

Danger - Seeing White, Part 11

(Challenging the vision of black-on-white violence)

<https://tinyurl.com/yb5osx7x>

Standing in the Shadow of Hope

(Committed to the struggle without a vision of hope) ~ Austin Channing Brown

"I cannot hope in whiteness. I cannot hope in white people or white institutions... I cannot hope even in myself. I am no one's savior. The longer this list gets, the more elusive hope becomes. This is the cool place from where I demand a love that matters. In this place, I see the sun setting behind me...How dare I

consider surrender simply because I want the warmth of the sun?"

<https://tinyurl.com/ycjd76pp>

CHILDREN'S BOOKS on VISION



Drum Dream Girl ~ Margarita Engle

Giraffes Can't Dance ~ Giles Andreae

How to Catch a Star ~ Oliver Jeffers

I Have the Right to Be a Child ~ Aurélie Fronty

King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table ~ Roger Lancelyn Green

The Lightning Thief ~ Rick Riordan
Martin Luther King

~ Rosemary L. Bray

Me ... Jane ~ Patrick McDonnell

My Wish for Tomorrow ~ Jim Henson and the UN

Nelson Mandela ~ Lenny Hort

On a Beam of Light ~ Jennifer Berne

The Tree Lady ~ H. Joseph Hopkins

BOOKS

Reading about cultures and lives of people different than one's own, gives a different perspective on life. So, read anything that opens you up to new worlds!

For the Time Being ~ Annie Dillard

With her keen eye, penchant for paradox, and yearning for truth, Dillard renews our ability to discover wonder in life's smallest--and often darkest--corners.

BOOKS, Continued

The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate

~ Peter Wohlleben

After learning about the complex life of trees, a walk in the woods will never be the same again.

Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations

~ Gil Rendle and Alice Mann

Casts congregational planning as a "holy conversation," a discernment process about three critical questions: Who are we? What are we called to do or be? Who is our neighbor?

Invisible Man ~ Ralph Ellison

"I am invisible, understand, simply because people refuse to see me." – from the prologue.

On Looking: A Walker's Guide to the Art of Observation

~ Alexandra Horowitz

Shows us how to see the spectacle of the ordinary—to practice, as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle put it, "the observation of trifles." Why most of us do not see the same things reveals the startling power of human attention and... what it means to be an expert observer.

Pale Blue Dot

~ Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan

Traces our exploration of space and suggests that our very survival may depend on the wise use of other worlds. Reveals how scientific discovery has altered our perception

WHO CREATES THESE PACKETS?

We subscribe to the "Soul Matters" and Rev. Julie uses that resource to compile each packet. Your contributions are always welcome!

Service Leaders and others work with Rev. Julie to incorporate the theme into our programming & Sunday Services. Would you like to share your talents and ideas? November's theme is **LEANING IN**.

TABLE GRACE on VISION

Pausing before a meal calls us into a deep remembering...and gratitude...and action:

When We Pause to Remember ~ Alicia Forde

When we pause to remember who we are: companions on this grand experiment called life, when we take a moment to shed the ways we have been carefully taught:

to lead from fear...to punish the poor...to persecute those who don't look like we do...to deny rights to those who love...to believe that we are separate...that some people are superior to others...

When we take a moment to shed all of that and hear our stories...hear and see each other into existence, into community, when we take a moment to embrace...to practice a different way of being...

When we answer the call of love, then we are living into the promise of building the world we dream about.

It is beautiful to dream...to cast a vision...to stretch our minds into the future and imagine what may be if we were to build a new way of being – not some day but beginning again today beginning again every day that we have breath taking courage with these hands and hearts to make real the dream of a more equitable world...to journey together...seeking to be transformed, even as we transform.

Becoming explorers and learners in this world around us, humbled by what we do not yet know, fulfilling the promise of healing a fragmented world, laboring not just in hope...but also in Love.

In this spirit, we commit. In this spirit, we gather. In this spirit, we pray.

of who we are and where we stand and challenges us to weigh what we will do with that knowledge.

A People's History of the United States ~ Howard Zinn

Throws out the official version of history taught in schools—with its emphasis on great men in high places—to focus

on the street, the home, and the, workplace.

Visionaries: People & Ideas to Change Your Life

~ Jay Walljasper & Jon Spayde

Inspiring, real-life tales of visionaries around the globe who foster enlightened living in the 21st century.

The Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough
Sunday Services @ 10am @ 775 Weller St
www.peterboroughunitarian.ca
office@peterboroughunitarian.ca

705-741-0968