

# Classroom News

September 2020

## Upcoming Events

- Oct 7th - 28th: People's Eco Challenge Beacon Team!
- October 24 - 31st Halloween Party  
*(more info to come)*
- Oct 24th - HalloUUeen Youth Con 2020
- Nov 13th - 15th CUC Regional and National Gatherings.
- Nov 28th - Virtual Night Tree Party

## Reminders

- Some of the events above have time sensitive registration dates.

## Fall Start Up

By: Ashley Cole

Hello everyone! As we have ease into our 'new normal' we seek adapted pathways for connection. And that's exactly what we are doing here at Beacon. This fall we are launching a new way for families to participate in Unitarian Universalist programming that is in their own homes and on their own schedule. This newsletter is one part of that plan. On the following page you will find a series of activities to engage children and families on the monthly theme, based on our principles, and structured around the well-loved chalice lighting words, We are Unitarian Universalists, (*Cup hands to make two 'U's*), with minds that think, (*Cover eyes and open hands*), hearts that love, (*Cross arms over heart*) and hands that are ready to serve. (*Stretch hands out, palms up*). Each month we will provide family activities for head, heart and hands. This newsletter is available both on the website and will be mailed out to registered families. The mail-out will include some additional gifts/resources so if your family is not already on our list and would like to register for a physical copy please reach out to me at [dre@beaconunitarian.org](mailto:dre@beaconunitarian.org).

## September Theme - 7th Principle

We believe in caring for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things

### Head

Read the Story The Grumpy Gecko. *Adapted from "The Grumpy Gecko" in The Barefoot Book of Earth Tales by Dawn Casey and Anne Wilson (Cambridge: Barefoot Books, 2009). Used with permission.* You can find the story attached or online here: <https://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/wonder/session1/grumpy-gecko>. Talk with your family about what you think this story teaches us about our connection to each other and the importance of caring for our planet.

### Heart

Colour in the attached 7th Principle colouring sheet (designed by Kimberlee Carson and shared with permission) and reflect on what it means to be interconnected. Because you feel connected to the earth, what is one thing you would like to do to make it healthier?

If you practice lighting a chalice, use these words with your family:

*We light our chalice to honour the web of all life.*

*We honour the sun and earth that bring life to us.*

*We honour the plants and creatures of land, water, and air that nourish us. And we honour each other as we share the wonder of our world.*

### Hands

If you were unable to attend the water ceremony service, plan a mini one with your family. You can do so in three simple steps. 1. **Consider:** Think about what water has meant to you this past summer. What memories come to mind? 2. **Tell:** Take turns telling each other what memories or thoughts came to mind. 3. **Share:** pour out some water on the plants in your home in celebration and gratitude for the life-giving nature of water.

The interconnected web of life includes community. Plan one activity that connects you with your community. To connect with the Beacon community, email Ashley Cole who can support families to share a chalice lighting or reading during a Sunday morning services. Ashley's email is [dre@beaconunitarian.org](mailto:dre@beaconunitarian.org).