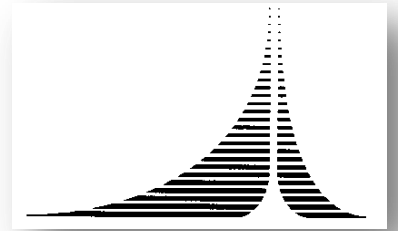


**The Unitarian
Church**
In Westport

**PRE-K-3
FAMILY TAKE-IT-HOME**



10-14-2018

Theme: Blessing: Sanctuary

Topic: Being a shelter for each other

UU Source: Each and every person is important

"...A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. ... cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" - The New Colossus
Emma Lazarus, 1849 - 1887

Talk to your children about the blessings of sanctuary: The gift of safety and refuge.

Many people come to America for safety and refuge. They are called immigrants. In fact, the only people who aren't immigrants would be the Native Americans. Right now, our country is struggling with the idea of immigration. Some people believe we are letting too many people come into the country. So they are picking them up and sending them back to their original homes. This is called "being deported." But some immigrants are afraid to go back home because there is little work or food or because there is war or gangs. Many people in our country don't think we should send them back to their home countries. Many of those are religious people, including many UUs. So instead of letting the government send the immigrants back, these people are protecting immigrants inside their churches, because government and police won't go into holy places and remove people. Because the word sanctuary means safety, these churches are call "sanctuary churches."

Activity suggestion: Have your children take their favorite, toy, doll, stuffed animal and have them make a sanctuary for them with blankets, pillows, materials etc.