



The Unitarian Church in Westport

Spiritual/Sacred Text Discussion Group

Sundays, January 16 - February 20

9-9:45 AM in the West Wing and on ZOOM

The Adult Faith Formation team is pleased to offer six short sessions of discussion and reflection on spiritual/sacred texts which hold meaning to us. All are welcome.

Here is an opportunity to hear from each other, as we delve into the words and legacy of some wise leaders and thinkers that have graced our world, over time. These texts will be short passages – a few sentences, perhaps a paragraph – that will be shared at the beginning of the meeting; in some cases they may be shared even before then. Participants will be invited to comment and share their reactions and thoughts.

While each facilitator will have their own group meeting style, it is expected that each will introduce the text, share its provenance and then perhaps a story or two of its usage or appearance in civilization over time. They will then lead an open discussion with the group, prompting the group with questions such as:

- Why has this passage been deemed “sacred” by so many? Do you agree with that assessment? Why?
- What resonates for you, in this reading? How does it make you feel? Understand Life?
- How does it apply to our lives today, even if it was written hundreds of years ago?
- What will you do with this new piece of literature – today? Next week? Next month?

Unitarian Universalists may wonder what qualifies as a “sacred” text. We won’t belabor the issue; let us just say selections will be something steeped a bit more in history and religion than a modern-day poem or writing has done. To make it easy, we can use the dictionary’s definitions:

- a) connected with God (or the gods) or dedicated to a religious purpose and so deserving veneration. (“sacred” rites)*
- b) religious rather than secular. (“sacred” music)*
- c) of writing or text) embodying the laws or doctrines of a religion. (“a sacred Hindu text”)*

This program will be held before our service begins, from 9-9:45 AM in the West Wing and on ZOOM. Please note that if worship is not happening in person that Sunday for COVID reasons, then the group will meet on ZOOM only.

Folks are welcome to join all or some of the sessions as their calendars allow. RSVPs to each host would be appreciated but not required; drop-ins are always welcome. And note this is open to all – friends outside the congregation as well as within it.

Our schedule is as follows:

- Rev John - Jan 16
- Diane Cano - Jan 23
- Dayle Brownstein - Jan 30
- Rainy Broomfield - Feb 6
- Kim Warman - Feb 13
- Beth Cliff - Feb 20

The ZOOM link for all six sessions will be

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81437035470?pwd=ZWRWNIR5K3JHUnN5eYvbjZKTi9QQT09>

Please note it is NOT the worship link!

Questions? Contact Linda Lubin, linda@uuwestport.org