



Spiritual Leadership for Culture Change: Community of Practice

Prework for Gathering #5: November 2022

Theme: *Transforming Culture by Centering in Gifts*

Review

For those who did not attend a previous gathering or those who need a refresher, please review our "[Community Expectations and Covenanting Practice](#)."

1. If you are not already familiar with the practice of centering in gifts or want review:

- Watch: "[Gifts in and for Community](#)" (9:31m)
- Listen: "[Homegoings](#)" by Isaiah Owens (9:58m)
- Read:
 - "[Remembering Our Gifts](#)" by wren bellavance-grace
 - "[Making Channels for the Streams of Love: Gifts as Spiritual Center](#)" by Rev. Molly Brewer
 - "[The Gift in Everything](#)"

Reflection 1: What do you imagine would be different and/or what would become possible if centering in gifts were a normative, standard practice in your congregation?

2. Read: "[Dominant Culture's Resistance to Centering in Gifts](#)" by the NER staff team

Reflection 2: How for you does the practice of centering in gifts transform or interrupt dominant culture?

3. Read: "[Centering in Gifts at the Unitarian Society of New Haven](#) (USNH)" by Bobbi Pace

Reflection 3: How is your congregation already engaging in the practice of centering in gifts? What opportunities are you aware of for greater intentional practice? How are you inspired by the example of MELD at USNH?

[Additional resources: [MELD Exercises](#), [USNH Leadership Retreat](#) | [script for exercises](#)]

