

Creativity
UU Community Church of Santa Monica
Heart to Heart Circles
July 2015

Welcome and Orientation

This is a time when your facilitator/s introduce themselves and go over housekeeping details such as parking, meeting space, nametags, and confirming contact information.

Chalice Lighting

Because creation is always an act of faith, and faith is a spiritual issue, so is creativity. As we strive for our highest selves, our spiritual selves, we cannot help but be more aware, more proactive, more creative.

Julia Cameron

Sharing Silence – 3 minutes

We open our time together with shared silence for three minutes. This can be a time to meditate if that is part of your spiritual practice, reflect on your transition from where you have been during the day to where you are now, or just to be.

On Our Hearts 20 minutes

Covenant

Our covenant includes a description of how we want to be with each other, ground rules for our time together, and our expectations for members of the group.

Adapted from *Heart to Heart* by Christine Robinson and Alicia Hawkins

I commit myself:

- to give attendance at meetings a real priority knowing that my presence is important to the group;
- to let the leader know if I will be absent or need to quit
- to participate with my group in two service projects, one for our church community, and one for the wider community;
- to share with the leader the responsibility for good group process by watching how much time I take to speak and noticing what is going on for others;
- to not gossip about what is shared in the group, and tell only my own story to others;
- to honor the safety of the group by listening to what others share with an open heart;
- to refrain from cross-talk, judging, problem solving, or giving advice;
- and to share as deeply as I can when it is my turn.
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Readings

We all have unique talents and passions, our own personal creative potential...it may be music or mathematics or chemistry. A fireman or homemaker or physician or teacher all have the personal dimension of creative achievement -- that point where individual talent meets personal passion.

Ken Robinson

You need chaos in your soul to give birth to the dancing star.

Nietzsche

The highest prize we can receive for creative work is the joy of being creative. Creative effort for any other reason than the joy of being in that light filled space, love, god, whatever we want to call it, is lacking in integrity.

Marianne Williamson

Nobody will stop you from creating. Do it tonight. Do it tomorrow. That is the way to make your soul grow – whether there is a market for it or not! The kick of creation is the act of creating, not anything that happens afterward. I would tell all of you watching this screen: Before you go to bed, write a four line poem. Make it as good as you can. Don't show it to anybody. Put it where nobody will find it. And you will discover that you have your reward.

Kurt Vonnegut

Rule of art: Can't kill creativity

Camille Paglia

Questions for consideration:

1. What are the ways in which you are creative? Share some things you are proud to have created.
2. What creative longings do you have? Can you name some ways you might try to nurture the creator in you?
3. Do you see ways spirituality and human creativity are connected? How are they related for you?
4. Share a creative activity or moment that you experienced as religious or spiritual.

Sharing 60 minutes

Reflecting on Our Time Together

Closing Words

If I were to wish for anything, I should not wish for wealth and power, but for the passionate sense of the potential, for the eye, which ever young and ardent, sees the possible. Pleasure disappoints, possibility never.

Soren Kierkegaard