

Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Family Ministry
October 16th, 2006

What Are Our UU Values?

We began with the words of William Ellery Channing:

The great end in religious instruction... is not to stamp our minds irresistibly on the young but to stir up their own; not to make them see with our eyes but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own; not to give them a definite amount of knowledge but to inspire a fervent love of truth; not to form an outward regularity but to touch inward springs.¹

We then moved to a contemplation of our UU values. The following values were expressed by the group:

Appreciation of diversity
Appreciation of the uniqueness of each individual
Appreciation of the inherent worth and dignity of each individual
Open mindedness
Open heartedness
Strength in community
Respect for all religious traditions
Emotional intelligence
Decision making through consensus
Embracing the mysteries
Honoring and caring for our environment
Awareness of interdependence
Embodying our inclusive values in government
Putting values into action
Healing our own wounds
Understanding humanity and what it is to be human

We then broke up into groups and discussed how one of these values had been significant to us in our own lives.

¹ Quoted from *The Unitarian Universalist Pocket Guide*, pp. 29-30.