

## **Preparation for T325 – Oneness/The Unity in Unitarian**

Oneness/Unity is the monthly theme for September 2014. All month on Sunday mornings we will be exploring Oneness/The Unity in Unitarian. For more resources based on this month's theme, see the September 2014 church newsletter at [www.sanjoseuu.org](http://www.sanjoseuu.org).

1) There are 1) times that we feel separate and 2) times when we feel a part of something bigger. Tell a story about each of those times in your life. What did you learn?

2) Who are you in unity with? Why?

3) What Unity do you find in your Unitarian beliefs?

4) How do you seek to be at one with your community? Your world? Your Universe?

Water! Earth! Air! Fire!

Water: nurturer of life, sustainer of growth, basic to every living thing;

Earth: where every seedling takes root; the ground of our being, our home and point of outlook;

Air: in every breath we acknowledge the atmosphere wherein we live; the elixir of our existence;

Fire: thwarter of cold, light against the darkness, symbol of the burning human spirit.

Water! Earth! Air! Fire!

These signify the larger unity of all life and the glory of creation wherein our spirits are embraced.

*Peter S. Raible*

UUMA Worship Materials Collection; altered

The church is a body.

May this body breathe and be together in the spirit of hope

May it feel held by comfort.

Those who seek consolation, may they find it in the solace of this moment.

The church is a body.

It is as strong as all the men and women who have ever gathered within its walls.

It is the power of all they dreamed and all that they have done.

The church is a body.

It is as vulnerable as the most newborn and untried of its members.

It is ancient, and it is ever new.

The church is a story.

It is the story of lives that are interwoven,

brought together in this place and this time

for the simple purpose of caring for one another,

and helping one another along the arduous path from birth to death.

The church is a vision.

It is a vision of unity amid diversity,

It is a vision of reverence for all of creation,

It is a vision that beckons us beyond the concerns of our own skins.

In the silence, may we abide as one body in the spirit of faith, hope and love that is the story and the vision of this church.

*Victoria Weinstein*