



Global Literacy Project: Weaving our U*U Global Village Network

By Rev. Dorothy May Emerson

The *Global Literacy Project* is an exciting, new six session program to educate ourselves about our U*U global village, the challenges women face globally and what we are doing about improving women's lives. "Global literacy" means becoming informed about what it means to be effective global citizens.

The program provides a process and internet-based resources for participants to learn about:

- Mapping personal global connections
- U*U and United Nations organizations working globally to improve women's lives
- Stories of U*U women from around the globe
- Developing global partnerships based on right relations
- Strengthening our U*U global village network
- Participating in the International Convocation of U*U Women (to be held in Houston, February 26-March 1, 2009) in person and via the internet

Individuals, families, congregations, women's groups and other organizations are invited to use the program. Guidelines are provided for six two-hour sessions, with additional resources for individual exploration and reflection.

Order online at www.icuuw.com.

\$10 for congregations and organizations,
\$5 for individuals and families.



Note: U*U is an abbreviation developed by the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists to be inclusive of Unitarian, Universalist, and Unitarian Universalist groups.

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GLOBAL LITERACY PROJECT OVERVIEW

Goals and preparation for facilitators provided for each session, along with resources.

SESSION I: *How is each of us connected globally?*

Introductions

Slide show: *“Building Global Partnerships based on Right Relations”*

Global Chalice Lighting (in English and Czech)

Personal Connections and Networks: interactive map and yarn activity

Right Relations: discussion

Citizenship in the Global Village: small group discussion with UU Principles

Exploring the U*U Global Village: internet research, resources provided

Closing Words

SESSION II: *Who is in our U*U Global Village Network?*

Gathering Together

Global Chalice Lighting (in English and French)

UU Organizations and Programs: slide show *“A Web of U*U Global Organizations,”*
followed by sharing by participants and discussion

International Unitarian and Universalist Congregations: locating on map and discussion

Meeting the People: small group presentations of stories from Global Sisters Network

Exploring the U*U Global Village: internet research, resources provided

Closing Ritual with interactive web

SESSION III: *How is the challenge of achieving Women’s Rights worldwide being addressed?*

Gathering Together

Global Chalice Lighting (in English and Portuguese)

Travel Reports presented by participants

Role of the United Nations in Addressing Gender Equality: creating small group collages
on women and economics; education, health and safety and as community and
political leaders, with discussion.

Facing the Facts about Inequalities for Women and Girls: recitation of facts with unison
affirmation followed by discussion

International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women: introduction and discussion

Exploring International Work on Women’s Rights Worldwide: internet research,
resources provided

Closing Words

SESSION IV: *What strategies and model programs are working to end poverty and improve women’s lives?*

Gathering Together

Global Chalice Lighting (in English and Cebuano)

Reports on United Nations Programs and NGOs by participants

Poverty—a Quiz: Consciousness Raising Activity

Millennium Development Goals Presentation and discussion

Extreme Poverty and A Model Program to End Poverty: reading of one particular
woman’s story out loud by participants, followed by discussion

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Four Pillars of Women's Development: brainstorm in small groups topics of economic participation, community leadership and political expression, education, health and safety, connecting them to Millennium Development Goals(MDGs)

Achieving the MDGs: internet research, resources provided

Closing Words

SESSION V: How can we develop global partnerships based on right relations?

Gathering Together

Global Chalice Lighting (in English, French, and Sinhala)

Progress Reports on the Millennium Development Goals

A Story of Results

Developing Global Partnerships: partnership brainstorm

Characteristics of an Effective Partnership: slide show "*A Piece of the Web of U*U Partner Congregations*," followed by small group discussion

Community Capacity Building: small group community assessment process making organizational chart of congregation or organization

Alternative Explorations: internet research, resources provided

Closing Words

SESSION VI: How can we weave our U*U Global Village Network?

Gathering Together

Global Chalice Lighting (in English, Italian, and German)

Exploring the Global Village Concept: small group visual representation of quotes, then Global Village Quiz

Making Connections in the Global Village: presentation of material on World Wide Web and discussion of repercussions for a U*U global village.

Next Steps in Developing Global Literacy: discussion

Engaging in the Process of the International Convocation of U*U Women: slide show "*International Convocation of U*U Women*" and discussion of options for continuing involvement in the convocation process both personally and as a group

Sharing What We Have Learned and Intentions for the Future

Closing Ritual with stones and bowl of water

RESOURCE LINKS

Page of Chalice

Global Sisters Network

Global Sisters Stories

Philippines—Lenna Desuasido

Transylvania—Krisztina Pall

Transylvania/US—Zsófia Sztranyiczki

United States—Elissa Courtney Goss

ICUU Groups (listed by size)

Global UU Groups and Websites

Proposed Social Action Issue

United Nations Resources on Women

Women's UN Report Network

Millennium Development Goals