

Gathering for Humor

Words of the Day

Humor has (or had) the biggest impact on my life when I ...

Chalice Lighting

We light this chalice to shine on our time together. In its light we celebrate the relationships and understanding we are creating in this place and time. May our sharing be deep. (*Light chalice*)

The Basket

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Silence, holding ourselves and each other in silent support

Shared Readings

Time spent laughing is time spent with the gods. *Japanese Proverb*

As soon as you have made a thought, laugh at it. *Lao Tzu*

Earth laughs in flowers. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Whoever undertakes to set himself up as a judge of Truth and Knowledge is shipwrecked by the laughter of the gods. *Albert Einstein*

Everyone is so afraid of death, but the real Sufis just laugh: nothing tyrannizes their hearts. What strikes the oyster shell does not damage the pearl. *Mevlana Rumi*

A laugh costs too much when bought at the expense of virtue. *Marcus Fabius Quintilianus*

You grow up the first day you have your first good laugh – at yourself. *Ethel Barrymore*

Perhaps I know best why it is man alone who laughs; he alone suffers so deeply that he had to invent laughter. *Friedrich Nietzsche*

Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else. *Will Rogers*

A person without a sense of humor is like a wagon without springs. It's jolted by every pebble on the road. *Henry Ward Beecher*

Imagination was given to man to compensate him for what he is not; a sense of humor to console him for what he is. *Francis Bacon*

Deep Sharing/Deep Listening

Round 1: Share your reflections on humor and the preparation readings.

Round 2: Share additional thoughts or reflect on what others have shared.

Closing Circle

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame and we remember the warmth of our community, the light of our wisdom, the generosity of our sharing. We keep these in our heart until we meet again.
(*Extinguish the chalice.*)

Song/Chime

Announcements

The Covenant

I commit myself:

- to come to meetings when I possibly can, knowing that my presence is important to the group
- to let the facilitator know if I will be absent or need to quit
- to share with the facilitator the responsibility for good group process by watching how much time I take to speak and noticing what is going on for others
- to do the reading and thinking about the topic ahead of time
- 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, giving advice, or advocating a specific view
- to share as deeply as I can when it is my turn and to stay on the “I-message.”