

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Taking it Home: Faithful Journeys

"The inherent worth and dignity of every person."

IN OUR COMING SESSIONS...

We will focus on the Unitarian Universalist actor, director and activist Christopher Reeve, who died in 2004. We talked about how many people thought of Christopher Reeve as a superhero because he played Superman on the big screen. However, Reeve became a different kind of superhero after a riding accident left him a quadriplegic. His loss of mobility became the springboard for his activism. He spoke out in favor of stem cell research and created a nonprofit research and advocacy foundation.

- The group will hear the story of Christopher Reeve's life and learned that he was also a Unitarian Universalist.
- The children will design their own superheroes who worked to make the world a better place, without the use of physically fighting.
- They will do an accessibility audit of our congregation to see how our facility welcomes, or fails to welcome, people with disabilities.
- The children will play a game that helped them think about how they might complete a task without the abilities that ordinarily help them do it.

WAYS TO EXPLORE THE TOPIC TOGETHER.

Talk about...

- Do members of your immediate or extended family have disabilities? To include them fully, what actions do you or could you take? For instance, have you built a ramp so a wheelchair-user can visit your home? Are there people to whom children may need to talk more loudly or clearly? Do you need to make sure you are facing people who are hard of hearing when you talk with them? Identify the personal agency each of your family members does or could use to honor the inherent worth and dignity of every person through inclusion.

Try...

- There are many kinds of abilities and disabilities. Explore together the particular gifts members of your family may have, such as being good at music or sports, or being good with language or writing stories. How do you share these gifts with the world? Everyone also has areas in which they struggle, from a poor sense of direction or a tendency to misplace items to learning disabilities that make it difficult to read or do math. How does your family help each other overcome or live with your limitations?

FAMILY ADVENTURE.

Watch the 1978 film, *Superman: The Movie*, starring Christopher Reeve, as a family.

FAMILY DISCOVERY.

- See an online list of [books for children that deal with disabilities](#).
- Review the [Teaching Tolerance](#) website featuring activities about disabilities.