***PJ Ponderings…*** **October 2018**

## Celebrating Children’s Sabbath

## “A Vision for Every Child: Lives of Hope, Not Despair.”

*“*Freedom and justice are not negotiable to people who truly seek to honor God. No child should suffer poverty, gun violence, or be torn from the loving arms of family. God did not make two classes of children and values each child as God’s own sacred gift regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexuality, or national origin. **All children deserve lives of hope, not despair.”**

*Marian Wright Edelman, President of the Children’s Defense Fund*

At Trinity UCC we are blessed with the opportunity to be advocates not just of the precious children we know and love; we are called to help EVERY child have a life filled with hope. We can make a difference in the lives of children and in the life of our place of worship—by connecting the two, we can improve the lives of children in our place of worship, community, and across our nation and bring new inspiration and excitement to our worshipping community.

As we celebrate **Children’s Sabbath on October 14th,** we will be a part of a powerful, diverse multi-faith voice for children spanning our nation and crossing all lines of income, race, ethnicity, and political party. What unites us is the belief that God calls us to protect children, especially the poorest and most vulnerable, and the conviction that our faith calls us to live out God’s justice and compassion.

Let us daily remember and pray… Jesus taught us that whoever welcomes one such child in his name welcomes him, and whoever welcomes him welcomes not him but the One who sent him. May God grant us compassion and courage to serve with love and call for justice so that all children may thrive. Amen.

*Grace & Peace, Pastor Jane*

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