



### ***The Seabeck Tradition:***

For more than 30 years, the East Shore and University Unitarian Churches have come together on Memorial Day for a weekend of fellowship at Seabeck Christian Conference Center. Part retreat and part social event, Seabeck puts a uniquely Unitarian spin on the American custom of “church camp,” providing three days of fun, friendship, relaxation, and revitalization for Unitarians of all ages. Strolling on the beach, watching the kids scramble across the huge expanse of rolling lawn down to the playground, disappearing into the forest with a book, lingering over a glass of wine with friends, singing around the campfire, laughing through the Talent Show – this is Seabeck. Everyone moves at one’s own pace and creates their own agenda during this informal, opportunity-filled, and memorable community gathering.

### *Life Passages on Our Spiritual Journeys*

We pass through various life stages on our spiritual journeys: childhood, youth, young adulthood, adulthood and elderhood. Yet chronological age alone does not move us from one stage to another, nor do our achievements or responsibilities guarantee that we ever reach true psychological and spiritual maturity. In fact the crisis in our communities and our culture at large may be due in great part to a majority of us remaining in psychological and spiritual adolescence our whole lives, never attaining soulful adulthood and certainly never stepping into elderhood. What do these life stages look like? What are the tasks we must accomplish in each to move gracefully onto the next stage? How do we recognize the passages from one to another? How do we help ourselves and others in our community reach and celebrate these life passages?

We can only build strong, vibrant and healthy multigenerational communities if members of each life stage are present and if we honor the gifts that people in each life stage bring to the whole. We can only move toward a sustainable, soulful and just human presence on this planet if we do form a whole: youth and elders, adults and children working and playing together, appreciating each other in loving community. Join us to explore the life stages, the passages in between and the ways we can facilitate healthy passages (not only for youth, but for adults and elders too!) in our communities. We will weave storytelling, art, and ritual into our time together.

#### ***Amanda Ayling***

Amanda has served as the Youth Program Coordinator at University Unitarian Church for 13 years. She has been involved with Rite-of-Passage Journeys for 12 years, leading youth rite-of-passage trips, consulting for organizations wishing to start up their own Coming-of-Age Programs, and serving on the Journey's Board of Directors.

#### ***Randy Morris***

Randy has been a faculty member in the Liberal Studies Program at Antioch University Seattle since 1987. Prior to that, he taught kids, K-12, in Atlanta and Hiroshima, Japan for ten years. Currently, he teaches adult classes in dream work, archetypal and spiritual psychology, history and philosophy of science, ritual process and ceremonial design. Randy has been leading adult rite-of-passage programs since 1990 and has successfully created and facilitated Journeys first Ritual Leadership program. He is the president of the Journey's Board of Directors.

#### ***About Rite-of-Passage Journeys***

Rite-of-Passage Journeys has been guiding rite-of-passage experiences for 40 years. They currently offer rite-of-passage trips for youth ages 8 - 18, adult rites-of-passage experiences in the wilderness and retreats for those stepping into elderhood. They also offer trainings and consulting for communities wanting to offer their own rite-of-passage programs. <http://www.riteofpassagejourneys.org/>