

## **Youth Group Small Group Ministry (November 9, 2014)**

**Topic: Dating Rituals Around the World (co-created by Callan Veltheim)**

**Advisor: Sean Elliot; Mentor: Gretchen Edstrom**

### **Opening Words & Chalice Lighting**

“In its purest form, dating is auditioning for mating, and auditioning means we may not get the part.”

-from *Dating for Dummies* by Joy Browne

**Purpose:** We come together to build connections and to talk about what deeply matters.

### **Reading of Group Covenant**

Golden rule: Treat others how you want to be treated

Respect each other

No side talking

No phones except for time check

Don't take someone else's seat if they called 5's

Get outside together

When someone is breaking the Covenant, we'll say "Dharma."

**Check-In:** Each person shares how they are doing.

**Focus:** Have each person pull a strip from the basket and read the blurbs which describe various dating customs from around the world. Have them each write one thing that would make an ideal date on a large piece of paper, creating a collage.

### **Questions**

- ⤴ What would the blurb be for an American date?
- ⤴ What is your ideal date?
- ⤴ Do you agree with the Opening Quote and if not what do you feel dating is about at your age?

**Check-Out & Confidentiality Check:** Is there anything that you shared here today that you would like to be held confidential? Otherwise this is a reminder that we treat each others' sharing with kindness and respect.

### **Closing**

“One woman I was dating called and said, 'Come on over, there's nobody home.' I went over. Nobody was home.” -- Rodney Dangerfield, comedian

“I've been dating since I was 15. Where is he?! I'm exhausted.” -- Charlotte, character in *Sex and the City*