

## **UU Church of Washington Crossing Welcomes New Director of Lifespan Religious Education Nancy Torres-Vignola**

Nancy Torres-Vignola, our new acting Director of Lifespan Religious Education, came to us in August 2005. She has been in the profession of Unitarian Universalist faith development for the past seven years. She is a certified DRE having completed all nine Renaissance Modules sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association. Nancy is now preparing to candidate for the Credentialing Program for professional religious educators.

In Spring of 1997, Nancy entered a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Collegeville, PA for a common reason that many of us discover this faith as adults. She had a young family with three children under five and wanted the spiritual community, and volunteer opportunities, found in a “church” without the dogma and unquestioning positions inherent with the religion of her youth.

“I wanted a place to explore world religions and practice and support fairness and equality for all humans in the present. I wanted my children to learn basic moral ethics because it is the right thing to do, and to be able to question and discuss their positions. My husband at the time, and I were Agnostics, and wanted a place that accepted our view. The day I visited the fellowship, I left knowing that I would return. By the fall, I became a member of the fellowship and my children were dedicated (one of several UU rituals) at the fellowship. It was a statement that I was a Unitarian Universalist and would raise my children in the faith. My eldest daughter has since completed another UU ritual, the Coming of Age program – where she at 13 years is asked to articulate her faith as a Unitarian Universalist. Her views are flexible and will change as she continues her spiritual journey with the Youth Group known as YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists).”

Our Lifespan offerings include children and youth religious exploration, College Campus Ministry, and Adult Exploration classes, too. Therefore Nancy welcomes and encourages others of all ages to the religious exploration found in the Unitarian Universalist denomination.

For more information on our congregation, classes and events please visit <http://www.uucwc.org>  
The Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing is located at 268 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road in Titusville, N.J.