

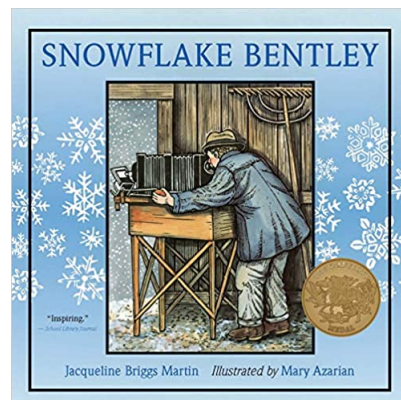
## Family Faith Formation

### Family Book Recommendation

**Snowflake Bentley** by Jacqueline Briggs Martin (Author), Mary Azarian (Illustrator)

Observing snow is one lens for stepping away from busyness to experience stillness, for those in climates that experience this winter weather.

**Video as Story:** The Snowflake Man (a short film about Snowflake Bentley) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptLmA263hlk>



### Family Activity: CHALICA

Prepare for Chalica! Chalica is a holiday designed by Daylene Marshall. For those that don't know, Daylene was our Director of Religious Exploration at one time. She designed the holiday in 2005 as a way for families to have a holiday that comes from our Unitarian Universalist principles. It is a week-long event with families coming together each day.

Chalica begins on the first Monday in December and lasts seven days. Each day, a chalice is lit, and the day is spent reflecting on the meaning of that day's principle and doing a good deed that honors that principle. Not all Unitarian Universalists celebrate Chalica, but it has a growing following.

To prepare to celebrate, you'll want to gather seven candles that can be lit over the week. Gather around at a mealtime and light your chalice together as a family in honour of each one of our seven principles and discuss ways you are already living out this principle in your daily lives and consider additional ways you can. To get you started:

- *Day One, Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>* – light your chalice for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Additional activities to engage in include helping someone in need, writing to someone in prison, or engaging in a peace offering such as inviting someone to dinner or making an apology to that person.
- *Day Two – Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>* – light your chalice for justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. On this day you can spend time in a soup kitchen or donate some of your gently used clothing. You can also make a promise to yourself to speak up when you see cruel or bullying behaviour – whether it's online or in person.
- *Day Three – Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>* – light your chalice in honour of the acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. For this day, you might want to take time to make yourself a chalice to use at home and discuss what it means. You could also gift the family with a hymnal or talk to an elder in the congregation about what they believe.

- *Day Four – Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>* – light your chalice for a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. On this day, take time to teach someone something you know, or learn something new from someone else.
- *Day Five – Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>* - light your chalice for the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large. Take time on this day to work for a cause by writing to your elected officials, or to help the congregation with a task that needs doing or on a committee that needs some additional help. See Rev. Samaya for some ideas.
- *Day Six – Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>* - Light your chalice for world peace, liberty and justice for all. Make plans to join Rev. Samaya from 1-2 pm outside Peninsula United’s Sunnyside location engaging in social activism.
- *Day Seven – Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>* – Light your chalice as a sign of respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. On this day, start a compost heap, plant seeds, or get cloth bags and use them instead of plastic or paper ones

## Family Movie

**Jingle Jangle: A Christmas Journey (2020)** - An imaginary world comes to life in a holiday tale of an eccentric toymaker, his adventurous granddaughter, and a magical invention that has the power to change their lives forever. Available on Netflix. Watch a trailer of the movie here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYPUYVgwLWY>

