



Preface

The creation and development of *Quest: A Spiritual Journey* was the work of many years, many minds, and many hearts. It began with a simple idea for an adult spiritual development program and grew to be a complex, multi-faceted, two-year intensive life-changing journey. The idea was to create a program that fostered an intense opportunity for spiritual development. In June 2003, individuals from the First Unitarian Society (FUS) congregation were recruited to begin serving on a planning committee to research and develop possibilities for such a program.

Recruiting committee members was not a difficult task. Many realized the need for such a program within our community and several realized a broader need as well in our larger Unitarian Universalist (UU) movement. This program was developed in part to help Unitarian Universalists discover for themselves how to bring our UU Principles and values to life, how to give them meaning daily in their own lives, and how to bring those values to bear in our larger society. At the time of the development of this program, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) was undertaking its own curriculum development process. What they hoped to create was a series of programs for all ages that would support the development of UU identity, nurture spiritual growth, and illuminate the transformative possibilities of the UU faith, personally and in our justice-seeking communities. This call from the UUA confirmed the need for this program not only for our own community, but also for the wider UU world.

The Planning Committee met for two and a half years until the beginning of the pilot program in January 2005. These years of planning were more than research into how to best serve the spiritual needs of others. They also became years of deep spiritual growth, personal and communal challenge, and community building among the

