**Life altering experiences and decisions Susan Hayman**

**Group business**

**Chalice lighting and Chimes**

**Silence**

**Check in**

**Opening Words**

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did, so throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover”--Mark Twain

“Our lives are different than anybody else’s, that’s the exciting thing. Nobody in the universe can do what we’re doing.” David Tennant, Dr. Who #10

“For some people, small beautiful events are what life is all about.” Peter Davison, Dr. Who #11

“He used often to say there was only one Road; that it was alike a great river: its springs were at every doorstep and every path was its tributary…You step into the Road, and if you don’t keep your feet, there is no telling where you might be swept off to.” Bilbo Baggins, Lord of the Rings

**Topic: Life altering experiences and decisions**

As we have gone through life we periodically came to “crossroads” where we needed to make a decision. Each option took our lives in a different direction. Experiences led to decisions that moved us forward, developing who we are today and who we are becoming tomorrow.

These experiences changed us in some deep way: by changing our self-concept; by creating awareness; by creating spiritual growth; perhaps by increasing our sense of self as a different person. The experiences may also include negative experiences; a loss, a struggle, or a failure.

1. After thinking back over your life, try to identify those experiences that changed the direction of your life, and which brought you a decision that led to who and where you are today.
2. What direction might your life have taken had you made a different decision in the face of those experiences?
3. Are you satisfied being where your life has taken you?
4. What decision could you make today to create a more satisfying life for yourself in the future?

**Sharing without crosstalk**

**Discussion of the topic with crosstalk**

**Closing Words**

“Life is what happens when we are making other plans” John Lennon

**Likes and Wishes**

**Who is leading the next topic?**

**Chimes and extinguish chalice**