Hi Everyone,

1. I'm in my second year in the Journey MDiv program here at Iliff, and I'm currently living in Taylor Mill, Kentucky. I was raised in the UMC, but I left the faith as a teenager. I was religiously unaffiliated for about 20 years until I became a Unitarian Universalist earlier in 2016. Today I call myself an Earth-centered pantheist. I have been active in a small Earth-based spiritual community in Seattle, WA which isn't affiliated with any larger tradition since 2008 (I moved from Seattle to KY shortly before fall quarter last year).
[My photo is currently an attachment because I'm having trouble getting Canvas to allow me to upload the file to embed it for some reason. Once I get to the bottom of that, I'll change it to an embedded file.]
The attached photo is of me with my wife, Diane, and my 2 year old daughter, Everly. This was taken in May during the annual butterfly exhibit at Krohn Conservatory in Cincinnati, Ohio - if you look closely, you can see a blue morpho butterfly flying toward me from the viewer's left of my elbow.
2. When I'm in a sensitive care conversation, I sometimes will place both feet flat on the floor to feel rooted to the Earth. I breathe deeply and intentionally and maintain my voice in a lower register when I speak with the intention of exuding a calming and supportive tone. I find that this helps me to feel my most capable and compassionate self and bring my best to the person to whom I'm listening.

