

PART

Cz

Rep

FI

1989: Communism fell and the Czech Republic and Slovakia were formed as two independent states.

Pick a Customs Card.

2000: Czech Unitarians won a long legal battle and regained the use of the Prague church, Unitaria.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

Communism followed WWII in Czechoslovakia; some religious groups went into hiding, the Unitarians continued to meet but did not do well for the next 50 years.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

During WWII, the Nazis took over Czechoslovakia and Chapek and his daughter were arrested for treason. He died at the concentration camp in Dachau in 1942.

Pick a Customs Card.

1930: The Unitarian Church of Czechoslovakia was officially recognized by the Czech government. By 1940 some 8,000 Czechs considered themselves Unitarian.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

UNIVERS!

In Czech Republic

WISH

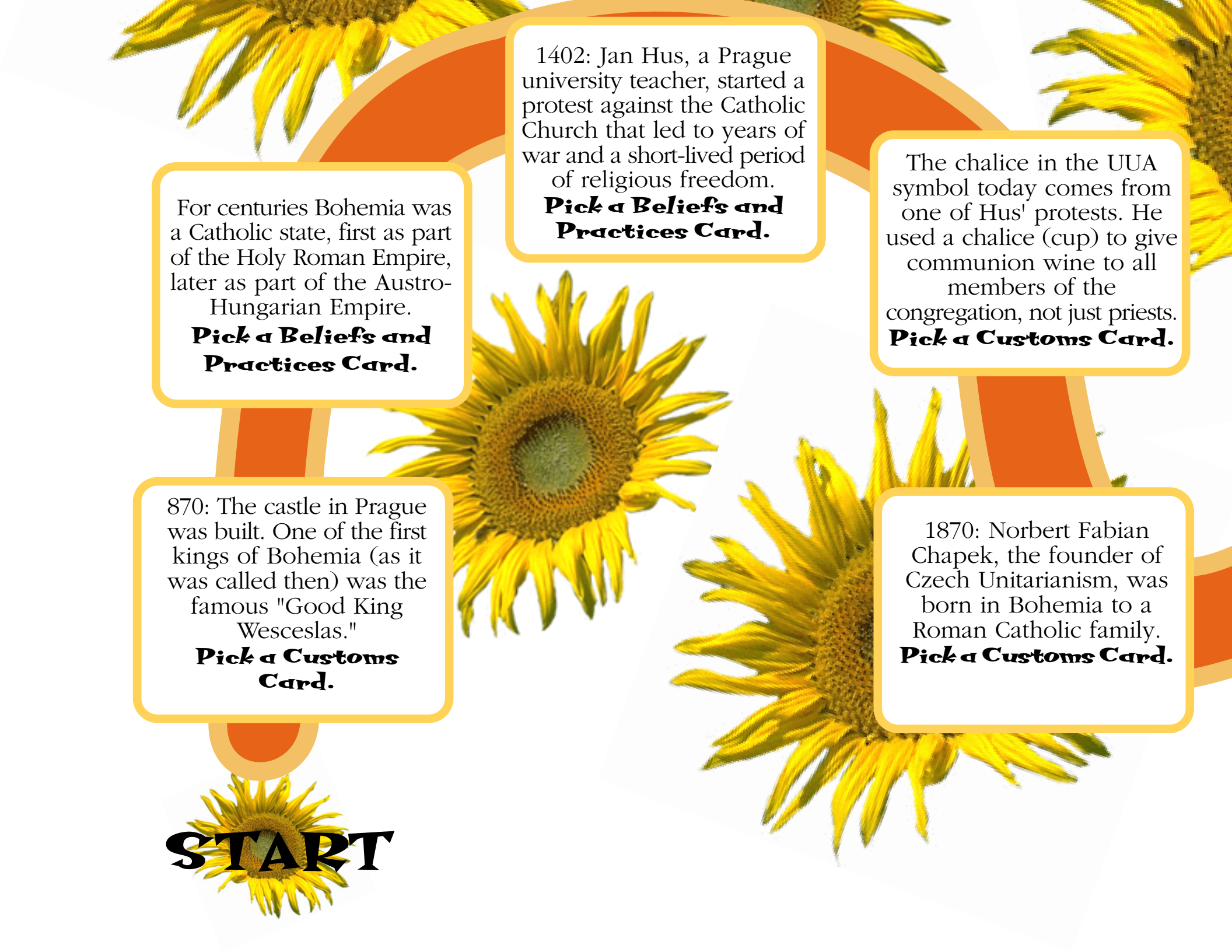
1923: Chapek designed the now-popular Flower Celebration service.
Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

With help from the American and British Unitarian associations, they bought and renovated an old palace in Prague.
Pick a Customs Card.

1922: Chapek organized the Prague Congregation of Liberal Religious Fellowship. People came from many different religious backgrounds to participate in a free thinking religion.
Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

Chapek returned to Czechoslovakia, with a promise from the American Unitarian Association to help him build a Unitarian church in his homeland.
Pick a Customs Card.

At the end of WWI, Czechoslovakia became independent and many Czechs left the Roman Catholic church.
Pick a Customs Card.



1402: Jan Hus, a Prague university teacher, started a protest against the Catholic Church that led to years of war and a short-lived period of religious freedom.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

For centuries Bohemia was a Catholic state, first as part of the Holy Roman Empire, later as part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

The chalice in the UUA symbol today comes from one of Hus' protests. He used a chalice (cup) to give communion wine to all members of the congregation, not just priests.

Pick a Customs Card.

870: The castle in Prague was built. One of the first kings of Bohemia (as it was called then) was the famous "Good King Wenceslas."


Pick a Customs Card.

1870: Norbert Fabian Chapek, the founder of Czech Unitarianism, was born in Bohemia to a Roman Catholic family.

Pick a Customs Card.



START

The background features several bright yellow sunflowers with dark brown centers. Interspersed among the flowers are thick, wavy orange lines that create a decorative, flowing pattern across the page. The overall aesthetic is warm and natural.

1921: Chapek and his wife Maja joined the Unitarian Church in Orange, NJ.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

Chapek was minister in several Baptist churches in New Jersey but his questioning, scientific spirit led him to be unhappy with the Baptist faith.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

1914: Chapek's anti-Catholic and nationalistic writings put him in danger at the beginning of WWI, so he moved to the United States.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

At age 18 Chapek left the Catholic Church and joined the Baptist Church. He became a Baptist minister and editor of religious and scientific journals.

Pick a Beliefs and Practices Card.

1910: Chapek first learned of Unitarianism from T.G. Masaryk, a Czech married to an American Unitarian, who later became the first president of Czechoslovakia.

Pick a Customs Card.