

Infants (0-2 yrs.)

Infants are welcome to stay with their parents during our services. In the event that your young ones become fidgety and unable to make it through the service, you are welcome to retreat with them out into our social hall or stay with them in the preschool room. The social hall is wired with speakers so you will still get to hear the service. Changing tables are in both restrooms.



The Great End in Religious Instruction

“The great end in religious instruction is not to stamp our minds upon the young, but to stir up their own; not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own; not to give them a definite amount of knowledge, but to inspire a fervent love of truth; not to form an outward regularity, but to touch inward springs; not to bind them by ineradicable prejudices to our particular sect or peculiar notions, but to prepare them for impartial, conscientious judging of whatever subjects may be offered to their decision; not to burden the memory, but to quicken and strengthen the power of thought; not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules, but to awaken the conscience, the moral discernment.

In a word, the great end is to awaken the soul, to excite and cherish spiritual life.

-William Ellery Channing

7 Principles

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

7 Principles for Children

We believe,

1. Each person is important
2. Be kind in all you do
3. We're free to learn together
4. In search for what is true
5. All people need a voice
6. In a fair and peaceful world
7. We care for the earth and all of its creatures.

Unitarian Universalist Church Surprise

Children & Youth Religious Education Programs



2020-2021

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Our Program

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion that values the individual spiritual journey and focuses on making the world a better place through deed and service. Parents seeking a spiritual home are often looking for a community of shared values in which to raise their children. These values are the most important things we teach, but we also give children building blocks with which to form their own beliefs. In addition to RE classes, the children have opportunities to interact with the congregation as well as take part in family events, service projects and holiday celebrations throughout the year.

2020-2021 Curriculum

Unitarian Universalists find inspiration from six sources. The stories and lessons we offer in religious education are drawn from these foundations of our faith:

- the sense of wonder we all share.
- women and men long ago and today — people whose lives remind us to be kind and fair.
- the ethical and spiritual wisdom of the world's religions.
- Christian and Jewish teachings which tell us to love all others as we love ourselves.
- the use of reason and the discoveries of science.
- the harmony of nature and the sacred circle of life.

This year's curriculum will focus on the sources and principles of Unitarian Universalism as well as building UU identity. Classes will be taught on ZOOM until the church can safely resume in-person services.

ZOOM Schedule:

RE classes will take place on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month. The 4th Sunday is off. *The ZOOM link will be emailed after your children are registered. To register your children please send an email to uucslisal@gmail.com*

Preschool: Sunday 10:00-10:30 A.M.

Grades 2nd & Up: Sunday 11:00-11:45 A.M.

In Person Schedule: *(when services resume)*

All RE classes will take place at the church every Sunday of the month at 10:30 A.M.

Preschool

The Rainbow Connection

Preschool children ages 2-6 will begin to become acquainted with the 7 principles and the concepts behind them. Four sessions are devoted to each Principle, helping preschoolers to explore the values that unite us as UUs. Each lesson will use a story book to discuss and focus on those values inherent in each and is crafted around Unitarian Universalist ritual and tradition. If your preschooler loves stories, crafts and activities then they will love this class!

Grades 2nd and Up

Spirit of Adventure

Do you like challenge, adventure and movement? This year we are offering

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a curriculum for active, busy children that also teaches about Unitarian Universalism and building a UU identity. Each session will refer to a principle and a source in both adult and children's language while also teaching about: sports, circus arts, food science, architecture and much, much more.

What Would You Do?

During months with 5 Sundays, the 2nd grade and up classroom will engage in character building discussions by exploring situational dilemmas. The goal of these discussions is to encourage creative thinking and personal and emotional development in a safe group environment.

O.W.L (Our Whole Lives)

Our Whole Lives is a series of sexuality education workshops that we offer for: grades K-2 and grades 5-7. These workshops help children to make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health, behavior and safety. ***TBD upon church reopening.***

High School

If you are a high school-aged youth and are interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, as well as connecting with other teens, please email: uucslisal@gmail.com Your name will be placed on a contact list and when there are 4-5 individuals, you will be contacted about starting a twice monthly youth group. Please feel free to invite your open-minded friends! High-Schoolers are always welcome in the service.