

Religious Education Curriculum for 2017-2018

During the school year (September-June) we offer formal programs starting at age 4 and continuing through grade 12. Nursery care is provided every Sunday for children ages 1 to 3.

Toddlers (1-3 yrs)

Our talented staff will encourage young children to explore the world around them. Toddlers may be dropped off before service or attend the first part of the service with their families. Class meets in “Pinecones”, above the upper parking lot.

PreK-K (4 yrs+): Chalice Children

Introduces children to concepts such as family, holidays, birth and death, marriage, dreams and the natural world using fun activities, rhymes and finger plays. Class meets in “Footprints” Building, first classroom up the hill past the administrative office.

Grades 1-3: A Stepping-Stone Year

Stepping stone has 6 distinct units over the year. The first unit is “beginning myths”, stories of creationism from different religions and cultures. Our second unit, “the stories scientists tell,” which is about how scientists believe the world, animals and people came to be. The third unit, “the wonder of birth,” which includes birth stories from different religious traditions as well as our own family structure. The fourth unit is “the adventures of our people” about influential people who are also Unitarian Universalists. The fifth is “wonderings about death” where we will explore what happens when someone dies. Our last unit is “making decisions” where we will explore easy and hard choices. Class meets in “Treetops”, which is the second classroom up the hill past the administrative building.

Grades 4-6: Monthly Themes

The 4th through 6th grade class are exploring monthly themes including “Getting to Know You” (studying heraldic symbolism and discussed personality traits), “Conquering Fears” (sensory experiences and developing our senses of empathy), “Native Cultures: Fairy Lore”, “Greek and Egyptian mythology” and “Generosity”. Themes are chosen with

the the help of our students and always presented within UU values including a focus on Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression. Class meets in the Palmer Library.

Grades 7-8: JRUU – *11:00 service only

Because we are offering the Coming of Age Class for JRUU at 9:00, the traditional JRUU class will be held in conjunction with the High School Class. This class will be held in the Cathy Schepps Space (YRUU room) next to the upper parking lot.

Grades 9-12: YRUU – *11:00am service only

The YRUU Leadership has decided that this year the JRUU and the YRUU will be combined on Sundays. This class will be focused on the concept of Gratitude as a spiritual construct and also current events such as #metoo movement, gun violence prevention issues and Anti Racism/Anti-Oppression.

Classes will be held in the Cathy Schepps Space (YRUU room), next to the upper parking lot.

Summer Programs

At the end of June, our congregation reverts to a 10:00 am service only. During the RE “off-season” we offer a one room schoolhouse curriculum for the kids and youth. Class is held in Founders’ Hall, or if inclement weather, in the Library. Students enjoy activities such as stories, art, music, drama, food or dance. Nursery care is provided during the summer as usual.