

All Souls Religious Education 2018-2019

From Nursery through High School

Infant and Toddler Childcare, 9:30 a.m.

Childcare for children under 3 is available during the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday mornings. The nursery is located just outside Unity Hall. Two adults are present with the children for supervised play. Should you need a private place to be with your infant or toddler during the worship service, please use the *Calming Room* located just across from the nursery outside Unity Hall. From this room, you can see and listen to the worship service.

Pre-K / Kindergarten: “Big Ideas for Little People,” 9:30 a.m.

This year, in our youngest learning community, we will explore matters of the spirit and heart through sharing storybooks and Spirit Play boxes. Spirit Play is ritualized storytelling that uses colorful objects and symbols to share tales that speak to our Unitarian Universalist principles. The stories planned for this year come from secular and World Religions sources. They speak to themes such as New Beginnings, Change, Being a Friend, Holidays, Looking Inside Ourselves, Awe/Goose Bumps, Care of the Earth, Being Yourself, and Creativity. Perhaps the most important part of exploring these stories is the “wondering questions” that follow. They plant the seeds of religious thinking and spiritual development for these young Souls.



1st-2nd Grade: “Moral Tales,” 9:30 a.m.



“Moral Tales,” written by Rev. Alice Anacheka-Nasemann and Elisa Davy Pearmain, invites children to explore spiritual and ethical tools to make choices that honor their Unitarian Universalist beliefs and values. Before sharing each story, we will show the children where on the globe the story comes from. As the year unfolds, we will add tools to our classroom’s moral compass: conscience, intuition, empathy, generosity, welcome, nonviolence, faith, forgiveness, and spiritual teachers. Together, we will discern what is right and true, and how we might live by this learning.

3rd-4th Grade: “Windows & Mirrors,” 9:30 a.m.

Written by Gabrielle Farrel, Natalie Fenimore and Dr. Jenice View, “Windows & Mirrors,” invites children to identify their experiences and beliefs related to a number of topics, such as “faith heritage, public service, anti-racism and prayer.” The class also invites children to hear and care about other people’s perspectives on these same issues. Hence, the metaphor of the mirror to view the self and the window to view others. The course involves an ongoing art project of personalized window/mirror panels that the children add to from week to week. It is a way for them to symbolize how they view themselves and what they see in the small and large communities of which they are a part. We look forward to sharing these panels with the congregation when they are completed.

5th-6th Grade: “Compass Points” & “Amazing Grace,” 9:30 a.m.

Our middle schoolers will explore ethical themes using material from two UUA curricula: “Compass Points” by Gaia Brown and Michelle Richards, and “Amazing Grace,” by Richard Kimball. The course will move through themes such as Virtues and Vices, Unitarianism, Universalism, Concepts of the Divine, Temptation, Free Will, and Accessing One’s Best Self.



7th-8th Grade: “Building Bridges,” 9:30 a.m.

“Building Bridges,” written by Mary Isaacs, is a World Religions curriculum for youth. The class will build together a Religions time line and map to show how religions have arisen and grown around the world. We will explore beliefs and rituals within different faiths, and how they meet universal human needs. When circumstances allow, the class will visit a variety of faith communities to have a more direct sense of particular religious perspectives. Through these visits and through the messaging in the curriculum, we will encourage students to see the meaning and diversity that lies within every faith.

High School Youth Group, 11:15 a.m.

The All Souls Youth Group for 9th-12th graders is an opportunity to check in with one another, experience worship, engage the “Big Questions” of the day, and build community in a safe and fun environment. Our year will include Small Group Ministry discussions on topics that the youth choose, as well as outings for service and just for fun!

