

Registration Information

A \$25 donation per child/youth (\$50 max per family) is requested at the time of registration; scholarships are available. Names are added to class rosters, and name tags are made after registration is complete. The actual cost of the RE program is approximately \$300 per child. Please keep this in mind when considering the amount of your annual pledge.

Registrations and fees are accepted throughout the year at the RE Table in the Small Hall. Visitors are welcome to attend four Sundays before registering.

RE Assistants

An RE Assistant is available every Sunday at the RE Table in the Small Hall to answer questions and provide direction.

Religious Education Team

Karen Meadows, Chair
Marcy Diller, Treasurer
Debbie Warner-May, Secretary
Melanie Marsden, Nursery Coordinator
Jenn Basta
Tristen Faith
Deedle Murray
Christine Sermini
Contact Information

Director of Religious Education

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Angela@asuuc.net



Religious Education 2009-2010 Program Guide for Children and Youth

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719-633-7717 www.asuuc.net

Welcome



Angela Sullivan, Director of Religious Education

After moving to Colorado Springs from San Francisco, Angela and her husband, Paul, were looking for a liberal, progressive community and fortunately found All Souls. They have been members for 11 years. Angela quickly became involved at the church, volunteering within the Religious Education program. She served on the RE Team for seven years and was the Team Chair two different times. She became the Director of Religious Education (DRE) for Children and Youth in June 2009. She is excited about spending more time with the wonderful volunteers and staff at All Souls to create a welcoming, nurturing place for our children and youth to grow and develop spiritually.

Angela and her husband live in the Colorado Springs Cohousing Community and have four children. Their oldest son is in high school, their daughter is in middle school and the two younger boys are both in elementary school.

Contact Angela at church 719-633-7717 or on her cell 719-930-7914.

Programming for Our Youth

8th and 9th Grades: "Coming of Age"

8th and 9th graders meet following the service to delve deeper into their own spirituality and Unitarian Universalism. The youth will explore theology, spirituality, and history through discussion, drama, music, writing, and art. The youth will share their own credos in a final Coming of Age Ceremony.

YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists)

Youth in grades 9-12 are encouraged to attend the Worship Service each Sunday. We will be holding an YRUU organizational meeting in early October. This year's YRUU program will depend highly on the number of registered high schoolers.

9th Grade Trip

The 9th Grade Trip is an annual Coming of Age program for Front Range 9th Grade UU's that culminates in a ten day trip to Hopi and Navajo reservations. Prior to the trip, 9th graders participate in several workshops and retreats learning about Hopi and Navajo spirituality, fundraising and building community.

Mountain Desert District Youth Conferences

District Youth Conferences (CONS) are held throughout the year. CONS are held at different churches and are wonderful opportunities for youth worship, community building, and self-discovery. All Souls youth will become part of the larger UU community when they participate in these MDD sponsored overnights. Youth must be active at All Souls to participate in the District CONS.

OWL

OWL is a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate sexuality education program developed by the UUA. OWL promotes informed and responsible decision-making, and sexual and emotional health in our communities. It fosters meaningful dialogue and parent-child communication. Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, Our Whole Lives provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality. **This year our trained OWL facilitators will lead K-1st grade and 7th-9th grade OWL, beginning in January.**

Curriculum for Our Children

Preschool: “Chalice Children”

This early childhood curriculum is based on the premise that children learn best through experience. The curriculum nurtures children’s spiritual growth, creativity and connection to their UU community through imaginative activities such as rhymes, finger plays, crafts and games.

Kindergarten/1st/2nd: “Picture Book UU”

By using picture books, young children are introduced to the UU faith in a fun and friendly manner. With 36 books to read, games to play and hands-on activities, children are exposed to our seven principles and six sources with an added seventh source, UU Heritage.



3rd/4th/5th: “Toolbox of Faith”

Reflecting on the qualities or tools of our faith, children and leaders will gain insight into what makes our faith important in their lives and how they can grow in our faith. Each of the 16 sessions uses a tool as a metaphor for an important quality of our faith such as reflection (symbolized by a mirror), flexibility (duct tape), and justice (a flashlight).

6th and 7th Grades: “Riddle and Mystery”

"Is there a God?" "What happens after I die?" "Does my life have a purpose?" These are big questions we all voice. Though Unitarian Universalists espouse different theologies, we agree on many answers to these questions. This curriculum helps young people understand that our individual search for meaning in the universe is supported and strengthened when we come together as people of faith. Participants explore our shared UU beliefs and determine where their beliefs fit in the spectrum.

Getting the Most Out of RE



How can you help your child or youth to get the most out of the All Souls Religious Education Program?

Attend church regularly and arrive on time

This will help your child feel comfortable and have a sense of belonging. It also helps deepen relationships with their peers and develop them with adult congregants.

Model church involvement

Attend church services and activities with your child. Encourage your child to participate in the RE program and worship services. Reinforce the importance of church by getting involved yourself. Join the choir, teach a class, bake cookies for fellowship hour, or help organize a special event.

Explore Unitarian Universalism

Talk with your child about what they learned in their RE class. Ask questions and engage your child in discussions about spirituality and religion. Talk about your own spiritual growth. Participate in an Adult RE class.

Get Involved

The Religious Education program at All Souls would not happen without the dedication of many volunteers. The Religious Education Team, teachers, advisors, and helpers are all dedicated to sharing the UU Principles with your child. Volunteering is a wonderful way to develop relationships with some of the most interesting, thoughtful kids in town. Please contact any member of the RE Team or DRE Angela Sullivan to see how you can help.

What to Expect

All Souls Religious Education Mission

To create a warm and inclusive environment where all participants learn what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist, understand the principles of our faith, and have the opportunity to put those principles into practice.

Unitarian Universalist Principles In Young People's Language

1. Each and every person is important.
2. All people should be treated fairly and kindly.
3. We should accept one another and keep learning together.
4. Each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.
5. All persons should have a vote about the things that concern them.
6. We must work for a peaceful, fair, and free world.
7. We care for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things.



Milestones

The 2009-2010 is the kick-off year for our new Milestones. Each year, children and youth will work on learning some component of our religion. The RE Team and DRE will track these accomplishments and award a special All Souls UU award for success. We welcome suggestions to this new program.

2008-2009 Curriculum

This year's theme is Unitarian Universalism. We follow a three year curriculum map including World Religions, Life Issues, and Unitarian Universalism.

Sunday Mornings

Nursery Care is available for infants and toddlers from 9am to noon, September to May. Loving, experienced care is provided by our child care professionals and ASUUC volunteers. Parents and guardians are asked to supply labeled bottles, sippy cups, and diapers for their child. Sign in and out in the nursery.

Children and youth begin each Sunday, except Worship Circle Sundays, in the Great Hall at 10:30 am. They participate in the Worship Service for about fifteen minutes, and then they are "sung out" to go to their classrooms downstairs, where classes last until **11:45 am**.

Teachers take attendance upon reaching the classroom. If your child is registered, there is no need to sign in. If your child is not registered, please sign him/her in at the RE Table in the Small Hall. Children 3 years old through 1st Grade must be signed out in their classrooms at 11:45 am. 2nd Grade and above will be released to come upstairs on their own.

Worship Circle

We share in a special Children's Worship Circle several times during the year. After the Worship Circle, children engage in fellowship with Kindergarten through 5th graders (and occasionally middle schoolers). Activities include UU Games, music, working on Milestones, "coffee hour", and other opportunities for WOW moments. We think this is a great chance for the children and youth to make lasting bonds with each other, and it's a time when All Souls adults can volunteer and get to know our children better.

Worship Circle Sundays

Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Jan. 10, Feb. 7, Mar. 7, May 2



