

May 2, 2010

Welcome to a new religious education (RE) program year for our children and youth!

Here are some highlights of the 2010-2011 program year:

Rites of Passage: Children entering Kindergarten and 7th grade (youth programming age) will be acknowledged in the worship service on Sept. 19th, when teaching/advising/childcare volunteers will also be celebrated in a ceremony of dedication. The year will end with a Bridging worship service for high school seniors, as well as a special recognition ceremony for the first class of youth completing the Coming of Age program (see below). Chalice Keeper training to light the chalice in worship services and Child Dedications will continue to be offered.

Tapestry of Faith: This is a new series of programs and resources for all ages that nurture Unitarian Universalist identity, spiritual growth and transformation, and vital communities of justice and love. It will debut at UUCM beginning in the fall. Being a free on-line resource you can learn all about it at www.uua.org.

Coming of Age (COA): Coming of Age programs and ceremonies, marking the transition from childhood to young adulthood, are transformative for the youth (and families) involved. Comparable to the symbolism of protestant confirmation, COA has youth explore theology, spirituality and history through a variety of activities with peers and mentors. This Sunday morning program concludes in the spring with a special dinner and recognition ceremony with families and mentors at which the youth present statements of faith. [Note: In future years, COA will be offered to 8th/9th graders only. For 2010-2011, however, it is open to all youth in 8th grade and up, so that all have opportunity to take part.]

Senior High Youth Class: This is the alternative program for youth not taking part in the COA program. It is a youth/adult-led Sunday morning program of learning, worship and service.

“Youth Group” Revisioning: Still in transition, the former Wed. evening youth group program is in a revisioning process to become more fulfilling and meaningful for our youth. In the works is a program of less frequent but more engaging fellowship and service activities through which youth will bond and build leadership skills.

Multigenerational Worship Services: Collaboratively, the Lifespan RE and Worship Arts ministries are planning monthly worship services in which everyone may find meaning and spiritual depth. With more variety and interactive elements this worship style is open to multiple layers of personal growth and meaning. There will be no RE classes on these Sundays, so that teaching volunteers, children and youth may take active part with the whole worship community.

We are looking forward to joining with you in making this exciting program a reality. Please begin by returning registration materials by **May 23rd** so that preparation may commence. After May 23rd, returning families are asked to pay a \$15 per child late fee. Thanks very much for your cooperation and support!

Yours, in faith,

Andrea Purdy Heier

**UUCM Religious Education (RE) Program
Child and Youth Registration Form 2010-2011**

11:00 am Childcare & Classes from Birth through 12th Grade

Please be sure to check all 4 pages.

Today's Date: _____

Child #1: First Name _____ Last Name _____

Nickname(or preferred name) _____ Birth Date _____

Gender: Male Female Grade/Class _____

Child/Youth Personal Phone _____ and E-mail _____

Allergies: _____

Special Needs (chronic conditions/ behavioral health/diet): _____

Child/Youth Musical Interests (Voice or Instrument): _____

<p>**7th – 12th Graders' Help Requested**</p> <p>_____ Sunday Morning Class or Child Care Assistant. (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> <p>Which age groups? _____</p> <p>_____ Event Child Care Provider (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p>

~~~~~

**Child #2:** First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname(or preferred name) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female Grade/Class \_\_\_\_\_

Child/Youth Personal Phone \_\_\_\_\_ and E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (chronic conditions/ behavioral health/diet): \_\_\_\_\_

Child/Youth Musical Interests (Voice or Instrument): \_\_\_\_\_

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>**7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders' Help Requested **</b></p> <p>_____ Sunday Morning Class or Child Care Assistant. (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> <p>Which age groups? _____</p> <p>_____ Event Child Care Provider (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Child #3:** First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Nickname(or preferred name) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Gender:  Male  Female Grade/Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Child/Youth Personal Phone \_\_\_\_\_ and E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Needs (chronic conditions/ behavioral health/diet): \_\_\_\_\_

Child/Youth Musical Interests (Voice or Instrument): \_\_\_\_\_

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>**7th – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders’ Help Requested**</b></p> <p>_____ Sunday Morning Class or Child Care Assistant. (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> <p>Which age groups? _____</p> <p>_____ Event Child Care Provider (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

~~~~~

Child #4: First Name _____ Last Name _____
Nickname(or preferred name) _____ Birth Date _____
Gender: Male Female Grade/Class _____
Child/Youth Personal Phone _____ and E-mail _____
Allergies: _____
Special Needs (chronic conditions/ behavioral health/diet): _____

Child/Youth Musical Interests (Voice or Instrument): _____

<p>**7th – 12th Graders’ Help Requested**</p> <p>_____ Sunday Morning Class or Child Care Assistant. (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p> <p>Which age groups? _____</p> <p>_____ Event Child Care Provider (Circle preference – Volunteer or Paid)</p>
--

UUCM Religious Education Program

Adult Name(s)	Cell Phone	Work Phone	Work E-mail	Occupation

Home Mailing Address

Household Phone _____ **Household E-mail** _____

UUCM's RE program is fee-free thanks to adult and youth help. Please note that every registered family that has been attending for 6 months or more is asked to fill at least one term of teaching/advising/childcare per family each year. Most classes require a team of three people per term with one Sunday off per month. Coming of Age and Senior High are year-long commitments with 1-2 Sundays off per month. Mark several preferences with your initials, and rank them if desired. Thank you for your support!

11 A.M. TEACHERS, ADVISORS AND CHILD CARE GIVERS (initial your preferences)

Fall/Winter Term

- _____ Nursery (0-2 years)
- _____ Preschool
- _____ Kind/1st Grade
- _____ 2nd & 3rd Grades
- _____ 4th & 5th Grades
- _____ 6th & 7th Grades

Winter/Spring Term

- _____ Nursery (0-2 years)
- _____ Preschool
- _____ Kind/1st Grade (*OWL**)
- _____ 2nd & 3rd Grades
- _____ 4th & 5th Grades
- _____ 6th & 7th Grades

Yearlong Teams (2 – 4 people)

- _____ Coming of Age (10:45am, 8th–12th gr.)
- _____ Senior High (10:45am, 9th – 12th gr.)

* *OWL* stands for *Our Whole Lives* sexuality education; teachers must have had *OWL* training.



Team of Two also needed for:

_____ 5th/6th Grade *OWL** Class (held 8 Sundays at 10:00 am, 9/19-11/14 only)

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

_____ **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**, mailings, copying

_____ **BIRTHDAY CARDS**, mail birthday postcards to children and youth

_____ **CLASS ASSISTANT** or **SUBSTITUTE**

_____ **CLEAN-UP DAYS** (watch newsletter for dates)

_____ **10:40 am GREETER**, welcome and sign-in RE program visitors prior to the start of Sunday services

LIFESPAN MINISTRY MEMBER, select team:

- _____ **RE Team** (Sunday classes and special events)
- _____ **Youth Adult Committee** (youth program planning)
- _____ **Adult Education**

_____ **MYSTERY FRIENDS**, help coordinate this mystery pen pal event (January - March)

_____ **RE SEXTONS**, help clean and organize RE classrooms and supplies 1x/month; decorate hallways and bulletin boards

_____ **SHARE A PASSION**, share a talent, interest, social service project or your faith journey. Explain:

_____ **TRAINING FOR *OUR WHOLE LIVES* (*OWL*) SEXUALITY EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

- _____ K/1
- _____ 5th /6th Grade
- _____ Youth (Jr. & Sr. High)
- _____ Young Adult
- _____ Adult

_____ **WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM** (December 19), help co-ordinate UUCM's traditional program

_____ **YOUTH GROUP SUPPORT CORPS** (drive, chaperone, fundraise for youth activities)

_____ **COMING OF AGE ADULT MENTOR**

_____ **COMING OF AGE ACTIVITY SUPPORT** (plan, drive, chaperone, fundraise for Coming of Age activities)

UUCM Religious Education Program Release and Consent

My child _____ has permission to participate in walking field trips in the neighborhood during regularly scheduled religious education (R.E.) classes (church yard, parks, coffee shops, lake front, area churches, etc.). Destination and departure/return times will be posted on the classroom door. I understand that the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka ("UUCM") will seek to have two adults present for RE classes and childcare whenever possible.

On behalf of my child, I hereby release and discharge UUCM from any claims from incidents which may occur during R.E. program activities. In the case of a medical emergency, I, as parent or guardian of the minor child named above, shall be immediately contacted by UUCM if and to the extent such contact is practicable. I do hereby give permission to the R.E. staff and volunteers of UUCM to give first aid and/or take my child either to the nearest medical facility, or to:

Hospital _____ Phone _____, or to call,

Physician _____ Phone _____

I also give the physician and/or hospital permission for any and all procedures necessary for the treatment of my child. This release and consent shall be effective until revoked in writing by the undersigned.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Participation Agreement

Realizing that the RE program for children and youth is dependent on the time and efforts of many engaged people, I agree to provide at least one term of class leadership (teaching, childcare) per year. For my family to gain full benefit of the program, we will, additionally, take active part in church activities, model UU Principles in our lives and support further religious faith development at home.

I have read and understand the RE program's Behavioral Covenant and will do my best to ensure that family members comply with it. When my child cannot follow these guidelines, I may be asked to remove him or her from the RE activity.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Permission for Photography

I grant permission to UUCM to use photographs of my child without his/her name or other identifying information on the UUCM web site.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Thank you for registering for UUCM's Religious Education Program!

Please return this form to: RE Program, UUCM, 605 Rice Street, Wayzata, MN 55391
Questions? Contact Andrea Heier, Director of Religious Education, 952-473-0448 or dre@mtn.org



Religious Education Program Behavioral Covenant

The mission of the religious education program of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka is to help each individual develop a personal religious identity and a sense of belonging to our UUCM community. To foster such a climate, we have adopted this behavior covenant based on the values inherent in the Unitarian Universalist Association Principles. As a participating family of UUCM, we ask that you review and commit to this covenant:

As a Unitarian Universalist and as a congregant of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka, I strive to live my life according to the Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Therefore,

I covenant to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person;
I will treat all people with kindness and respect.

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
I will attend as regularly as possible, actively participate, and show care for all group members.

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
I will listen, share, make new friends and keep the old.

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
I agree to use my head and my heart as I explore what is true for me. I will make sure that others in my group are free to do the same.

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and society at large;
I will use my own good sense, follow UUCM's safety and health rules and honor my own classroom's covenant.

The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
I understand that my teachers will have me join my parents/guardians in the sanctuary if I am not able to abide by this covenant.

Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are all a part.
I agree to clean up after myself, wash my hands, use resources wisely, recycle, and respectfully maintain our meeting place and church.

Things that do not belong at UUCM R.E. program activities:

- Insults, name-calling
- Hurtful teasing, put-downs, interruption
- Hitting, pushing, tripping, kicking
- Making rude noises or faces
- Using profanity
- Ignoring someone who is talking to you
- Running, jumping, climbing on furniture, etc. without permission
- Throwing things without permission
- Complaining loudly and repeatedly about an activity
- Blaming others for your own behavior choices
- Refusing to participate in ways that make it difficult for others to do so
- Violent toys and games
- Toys from home that distract from what is happening in your class or group



Things that DO belong at UUCM R.E. program activities:

- Questions
- Sharing turns, thoughts, milestones
- Expressing feelings in a respectful way
- Staying with my parent/guardian when not in class
- Curiosity
- Making new friends
- Apologizing when I hurt someone or their feelings
- Taking time to think and have my own ideas
- Passing when I do not want to share
- Kindness
- Thinking about the feelings of others
- Taking care of our building, yard and furniture
- Offering help to others
- Cleaning up my own mess
- Laughing, crying, being quiet
- Walking inside the church and using an indoor voice
- Respect
- Taking responsibility for my own behavior choices
- Making mistakes and learning from them
- Trying something new
- With the help of my family, coming ready to do all these things!