



CYRE Program Overview 2019-2020

The mission of the Children Youth Religious Education (CYRE) program is to inspire lifelong Unitarian Universalist faith formation in a spirit of wonder and with courageous love. We fulfill this mission through the development of...

- open minds, (grow)
- loving hearts, (connect), and
- helping hands (act).

Here is what's happening in CYRE during the 2019-20 program year:

Childcare: Childcare is generally open Sundays from 9:45-11:15am in the Spruce Room, for children birth-kindergarten. The predominant curriculum for this age group is love, security and safety. When preschoolers and kindergarteners attend, there will also be stories and activities from the theme-based Soul Matters curriculum.

Kindergarten – 12th grade students start in worship with their families. Around 10:15am the children are “sung out” of the service to head downstairs to their classrooms. Parents of younger students are invited to walk their children to class. RE classes are scheduled to go until 11:15am. Students 3rd grade and younger need to be picked up from their classroom by their parent/guardian.

Birth-Kindergarten: Theme-based Soul Matters curriculum &/or Chalice Children*

1st - 2nd Grades and 3rd - 4th Graders : Theme-based Soul Matters curriculum

5th & 6th Grades: Theme-based Soul Matters &/or Amazing Grace*

7th - 8th Grades: Coming of Age* (Julia Antonsen is contacting these families as she coordinates COA)

9th-12th Grades: Within the context of monthly themes, youth have chosen to learn about different philosophies and take part in service to others plus spiritual practice as they discern what it means for them as individuals to live life as a Unitarian Universalist. The 11th and 12th Graders will have a spring (date TBD) retreat on Our Whole Lives* curriculum.

*Read on for details regarding the curriculum.

TERMS:

Fall = 9/15/19 – 1/12/20

Spring = 1/19/20 – 5/10/20

MONTHLY SOUL MATTERS THEMES

September – Expectation

October – Belonging

November - Attention

December – Awe

January – Integrity

February – Resilience

March – Wisdom

April – Liberation

May – Thresholds

June - Play

TEACHERS

BIRTH - KINDERGARTEN

F: SARAH MARTIN/MARC HICKEY

F: MELISSA GREENWOOD

S: *VOLUNTEER NEEDED*

S: *VOLUNTEER NEEDED*

S: *VOLUNTEER NEEDED*

1ST – 2ND GRADE

F: TYLER GROSSHUESCH

F: LORI ARNOLD

F: KAREN HULTING

S: GRETCHEN MYERS

S: AMY SCHNEIDER

S: LINDSAY SCHOSTAG

3RD – 4TH GRADE

F: PD MATHUR
F: MICHELLE COLEMAN
F: SARA WILLIAMS
S: PATRICIA HEIM
S: *VOLUNTEER NEEDED*
S: *VOLUNTEER NEEDED*

5TH – 6TH GRADE

F: JIM PACE
F: MARGARET HOUSKA
F: RACHEL WILLIAMS
S: JESSICA SHOGREN-CARLSON
S: MARIA GEIGLE
S: MEGAN MUSTAFOFF-BRECHIN

7TH – 8TH GRADE

JULIA ANTONSEN
MARIE CALABRIA
MATT CHAPMAN
VOLUNTEER NEEDED

SENIOR HIGH

MARC & STACY DOEPNER-HOVE
MICHELLE SEETS
TIM JIRAK

Important 2019-2020 CYRE Dates:

Friday	Sept. 6 th	Teacher Training	6:30-8:30pm at UUCM
Sunday	Sept. 8 th	Ingathering Worship Service	Multigenerational—NO CYRE classes
Sunday	Sept. 15 th	Kickoff Sunday	First RE classes of the school year
		Rites of Passage	Honoring of 1 st , 6 th and 9 th graders in worship
		Teacher Dedication	Blessing those who have committed to teach RE
Sunday	Oct. 20 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Service
Sunday	Nov. 24 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Thanksgiving Service
Sunday	Dec. 1 st	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Service
Sunday	Dec. 15 th	Winter Holiday Pageant	RE classes participate
Sunday	Dec. 22 nd	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Service
Tuesday	Dec. 24 th	NO RE classes	Christmas Eve Service
Sunday	Dec. 29 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Service
Sunday	Jan. 5 th & 12 th	Last day of fall RE classes	
Sunday	Jan. 19 th	Spring RE session starts	
Sunday	Feb. 16 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Service
Sunday	March 15 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Music Sunday
Sunday	April 12 th	NO RE classes	Multigenerational Easter Sunday
Sunday	May 10 th	Last day of spring RE classes	
Sunday	May 17 th	Teacher Appreciation	Multigenerational Bridging Sunday

More about the Curriculum

Soul Matters (Birth-6th Grade)

Unitarian Universalists (UUs) are experiencing deeper connections between worship, religious education and other aspects of ministry through the integration of monthly themes, such as Expectation and Belonging. These themes are used for small groups in addition to worship and religious education. See on page 1 a list of the monthly themes for this year.

Chalice Children (Birth-Kindergarten)

This curriculum for birth-Kindergarten delves deep into our Unitarian Universalist faith. It strives not just to teach about our faith, but also to provide experiences around the strength of community, the wonder and awe that transcend everyday understanding, and life issues we all share. Early childhood (the years between ages 2 and 5) is filled with curiosity and wonder. In a group setting, with loving adult guides, young children can engage in spiritual seeking, develop their openness to sharing, and experience the benefit of a supportive community.

Their time in Chalice Children can set a pattern for the rest of their lives and bring lasting benefits. Some of the weekly topics include: A Tour of the Congregation, Making Chalices, Helping Others, Feeling Sad and Special Worship Services. You can access the curriculum at <https://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/chalicechildren>.

Amazing Grace (5th & 6th Grade)

Amazing Grace (or Tapestry of Faith) helps fifth and sixth graders understand right and wrong and act on their new understanding. It equips them for moving safely and productively through the middle and high school years, when they will be continually tugged toward both ends of the ethics continuum. Through their involvement in Amazing Grace, kids will come to recognize and depend on their Unitarian Universalist identity as they move toward understanding, independence, and fulfillment of personal promise.

Coming of Age (7th & 8th Grade)

The goal of our Coming of Age program is to help young people sort out their ethical and religious identity (recognizing that some young people do not feel religious at all), so that they may make rational decisions about the kind of person they want to become. We have three objectives that help us reach this broad goal:

- (1) We want participants to have fun, and to bond with a community of young people who share similar moral and spiritual values.
- (2) We want participants to articulate their own ethical and religious identity, to gain a deeper sense of identity and to present that identity through the arts, spoken word, etc.
- (3) We want participants to engage in direct experience, including social justice projects and the arts, so they can experience living out their religious and ethical values in the world.

This curriculum often includes a couple weekend retreats. Please watch for information from Julia Antonsen regarding retreats and other scheduled events for Coming of Age students and their families.

Our Whole Lives (11th-12th grade spring retreat)

OWL is a well-received lifespan sexuality curriculum. Honest, accurate information about sexuality changes lives. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, improves decision making, and has the potential to save lives. Please watch for information regarding the spring retreat that will be scheduled for 11th and 12th graders. Check out <https://www.uua.org/re/owl> to learn more.