

Where is my child's classroom?

The Religious Education wing can be accessed by using the Wall street entrance, or by going through the doors to the left of the front of the sanctuary (as you face the pulpit), or by going through the doors in the first floor community room to the left of the stage.

The upper elementary and middle school classes
5th/6th grade class meets in room 308
7th/8th grade meets in room 304

These classrooms are on the third floor (one flight above the sanctuary level). Go through the double doors at the top of the stairs and down the hall to room 308. To get to room 312, make a right and go down the hall.

The nursery and elementary grades

The nursery is in room 204
PreK/K meet in room 210
Grades 1/2 meet in room 208
Grades 3/4 meet in room 212

These classrooms are on the second floor (one flight below sanctuary level). Go through the double doors. The nursery is straight ahead down the hallway. To find the elementary grade classrooms, turn right and go to the end of that hallway.

The high school class

Grades 9-12 meet in room 100

Room 100 is at the half-basement level (one flight below the Wall street lobby).

The Gymnasium is located on the basement level, two flights below the Wall street lobby. We occasionally use that space for RE activities and Festivals (all-age one room classroom).

Bathrooms are located in the second floor hallway

The Mission of the RE Committee

“The Religious Education Committee for Children is dedicated to offering religious education through cooperative commitments from RE families, church members and staff in order to provide comprehensive, developmentally appropriate exploration of UU History, faith and identity as well as the application of this learning through social action projects in each age group.”

Our Goals

- To foster the development of relationships across generations, colors, cultures and genders.
- To create a safe and sacred space to explore life's questions and mysteries, and to nurture the spirit.
- To embrace our Unitarian Universalist heritage and to embody Unitarian Universalist values in our own lives and in the larger world.
- To encourage the life-long quest for religious truth and meaning.



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Visitors and Newcomers Guide for Parents of infants, children, and youth



Produced by
the Youth Religious Education Committee
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Frequently Asked Questions

What programs are available for my child?

We offer a comprehensive Religious Education program for all ages from infant through twelfth grade. Our classes provide a rich learning environment for children to explore and incorporate the following:

- The history and religious foundation of our Unitarian Universalist Faith, and the important people, events and tenets of the World Religions, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Earth-Based religions, as well as Humanism.
- Groundbreaking programs for our youth: Neighboring Faiths, Coming of Age, and Our Whole Lives, our faith-based sexuality course.
- The development of their own spiritual growth with a special emphasis on our seven principles:

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

Who teaches the classes?

Classes are taught by volunteer members and friends of the congregation who have a commitment to the spiritual growth of young people..

When does my child go to the classroom?

On most Sundays, elementary-grade children stay with their parents/guardian for the first fifteen or so minutes. There is usually a Story for All Ages. Children (and their parents) are welcomed to come to the stage to listen and participate in the story. After the story, children and teachers exit the doors to the left of the stage to go to their classrooms. Any changes in the schedule will be announced on lobby signs and from the pulpit.

A few times a year, the children start their Sunday morning in a one-room classroom setting called a **Festival**. Several times a year, children remain in the sanctuary for the entire service, known as a **Multi-generational Service**. There will be announcements and lobby signs to indicate where and when to take your child.

Should I accompany my child to the classroom?

It is highly recommended that you accompany your child to the classroom initially and then from time to time so you can meet the teachers and get a feel for the classroom environment. If you have any concerns, you can leave a cell phone number with the teacher so that he/she can send a text message to you. Please remember to have your phone on silent.

You should pick up your child right after the adult service ends. Classes may at times run longer than the service. Teachers are not permitted to take children to their parents or leave the classroom until all children are picked up.

Do I need to fill out a registration form?

Yes. Our form is used to let the teacher and coordinator know about your child - his/her name, date of birth, medical or behavioral issues or just what you would like us to know about him/her. We also use that form so that the coordinator can reach you. There is a check box on the form if you are visiting or just checking out the program.

Do you have a nursery for my infant or toddler?

Our Nursery provides loving care and supervision for children 6 months - 4 years of age during worship from 10:15- 12 pm. Our goal is provide a safe environment that respects the child's needs for attention, play and discovery. We provide arts and crafts, snacks and free play to occupy and stimulate even the youngest of children. We are staffed with 2 child care aides and one Adult Supervisor on each Sunday morning.

For your child's safety, we ask that you fill out a registration form and sign in your children from the nursery and sign them out when you pick the children in person. Please change your infant's diaper before putting him/her in our care.

How do I find out more about the program?

- There is an RE welcome table in the community room (below the sanctuary) that is manned during the coffee hour after the service. Please take an RE pamphlet that gives a more detailed overview and lists the curriculum and themes and goals for the current year.
- Go to the church web site (www.uuclvpa.org) and click on the Religious Education button, which will link you with the RE web site.
- Contact Jansen Wendell, the Lifespan Education Coordinator: send an e-mail to lec@uuclvpa.org or leave a message in his voice mail box by calling 610-866-7652. He is in the office on Wednesdays and Sundays to return calls.
- Take a copy of the RE newsletter The Explorer.

We hope you will find the Religious Education program fun and engaging for you and your child.