

Our Seven Principles

We believe:

- that each and every person is important;
- that all people should be treated fairly;
- that our churches are places where all people are accepted and where we keep on learning together;
- that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life;
- that everyone should have a vote about things that concern them;
- in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world;
- in caring for our planet earth.

The Sources of Our Faith

Our living tradition draws from:

- Our direct experience of mystery and wonder;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men;
- Wisdom from the world's religions;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call on us to love our neighbor;
- Humanistic teachings which guide us in the use of reason and science; *and*
- Spiritual teachings which celebrate the circle of life.

Unitarian Universalist Society
of the Daytona Beach Area
56 N. Halifax Drive
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Unitarian Universalist
Society of the Daytona
Beach Area (UUSDBA)

Religious Education for our Children & Youth

A unique
opportunity for
children to develop
spiritually

Join us as we learn about
Unitarian Universalism and journey
on a free and responsible search
for truth and meaning in life...

Sunday Services and Religious Education Classes

We offer something for everyone in your family...

Sunday morning for parents...

Services begin at 10:30 a.m. Sundays. Pastor Bud Murphy is in the pulpit on the first, second, and third Sundays of most months with some exceptions for major holidays. Guest speakers address current topics on other Sundays. The service is followed by "Coffee, Cookies and Conversation". This is a time for fellowship with others in the Unitarian Universalist Society.

Prior to the service, The Discussion Group meets at 9:15 a.m. Topics vary each week and are chosen by the participants. Following the service there is a "Talk About" at noon. Participants are invited to discuss the sermon.

Childcare & Religious Education (RE) classes are offered during the service (from 10:15 to 12:00).

Class for all of our children begins at 10:30 with a chalice lighting and reading. We then allow time for our students to share their joys and concerns before proceeding with the lesson.

Sunday morning for children under six...

"Chalice Children" are those students who are preschool & kindergarteners, ages 3-5 years old. These children meet in RE classroom #3. Lessons include stories, songs, activities, and games from curricula recommended by the UUA, including *Chalice Children* & *My UU ABC's*.

"Nursery Children" are those children who are under three years old. They are cared for in our Nursery by a qualified caregiver. There they enjoy free play, but may also join the Chalice Children for their lessons when appropriate.

Sunday morning for children over six...

Generally we are able to divide the children into three age groups. This is dependent upon student attendance and our volunteer participation, and includes the following:

- "Star Kids"/Primary students (ages 6-9)
- "Cosmos Kids"/Intermediate students (ages 9-11)
- "Galactic Girls & Guys"/Youth (students 12 & over)

These groups meet in RE classroom #2, the minister's office, and outdoors when the weather is pleasant. Adaptations are made to meet the needs of all who participate. Participants who are over 12 years of age may choose to attend the Sunday service, join in the RE lesson, &/or serve as a VIP (Volunteer In Practice). Lessons in Religious Education class include stories, songs, activities, and games adapted from UU curricula. This year our program continues with sessions from the UUA's *Tapestry of Faith: Living the Faith*. Lessons from this series are designed to "nurture Unitarian Universalist identity, spiritual growth, a transforming faith, and vital communities of justice and love". Through the related activities school-age children and youth engage their "minds, hearts, and hands... learn faith by doing faith".

Also, this fall we will offer these two unique paths of exploration:

- For children, ages 6-9/ The UUA's "The Haunting House" This is an active curriculum designed to help children feel at home in their world through learning about the places that all creatures call home. It involves exploration of animal homes, building homes for themselves, creating connections to their church home, & developing an awareness of their place in the largest home of all, the earth,
- For children, ages 10-13/ The UUA's "Toolbox of Faith" This is a curriculum where children use actual tools to create their own "toolbox of faith". It involves exploration the life's challenges, & discovery of the aspects of UU faith that are helpful both personally to each participant and collectively to their peers.

We encourage new students to join us as we continue on our journey to more fully understand UU identity, world religions and our Jewish Christian heritage. At UUSDBA we emphasize the importance of peace and social justice, and offer opportunities for service. Together we work for a "peaceful, fair, and free world... and care for our planet".

Snack and outdoor playtime...

During our RE class time children enjoy a snack and, weather permitting, after class they have social time together on our playground. Children under age 12 *must* stay with our teachers until their parents arrive. Youth over age 12 may visit the adult coffee hour, if given parental permission. However, *unless they are 16 or older*, youth *must* have adult supervision when visiting coffee hour.



*Love is the spirit of this Society
and service is its aim.
To dwell together in peace
and freedom, to seek the truth,
and to help one another.
This is our goal.*

Philosophy of Religious Education

We strive to stir the minds of our children to search for what quickens their spirit, and while overcoming prejudice, impartially and conscientiously choose their own path. Unburdened by the imposition of arbitrary rules and rote memorization, we hope to strengthen their powers of thought and awaken their conscience to moral discernment.

Based on the thoughts of William Ellery Channing

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