

TOOLBOX OF FAITH – (2nd - 6th GRADE)

This class will meet from September to December 1st. The goal of this program is to develop the children's Unitarian Universalist identity with the purpose of encouraging ethical, spiritual and faith development. Toolbox of Faith is an opportunity to nurture a child's identity with themes, stories and activities that are linked with particular ideas such as questioning, integrity, and expression.

Teachers: Donna Wise, Elisabeth Strachan, also an extra helper

OWL – OUR WHOLE LIVES is a curriculum written by the UUA, which is based on the guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education. OWL covers subject areas such as: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior and health, religious values, along with society and cultural values, which are specifically designed for Middle School age youth ages 12-15. Because we have a small group we are in process of collaborating with another UU faith community, yet to be determined. If you are new to UFPC in September and would like to participate in OWL, please see Nan Moore (DRE) as soon as possible. With that said, we also have other interesting crossover opportunities for teens to learn and grow in our faith tradition.

Teachers: OWL teachers are CORI checked, and trained by the UUA.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (9th

-12th grades) The overall theme is Learning UU Principles in Youth Community based on the 6 Components of a Balanced Youth Program: Social Justice, Social Activities, Worship, Learning, Leadership, and Youth Adult Relations. At the beginning of each month there will be a **CROSS-OVER** group, Popcorn Theology, where the group will see movies and voice their understanding guided by the “BIG FOUR” Principles. To participate in youth activities parental permission and registration is required. **Teachers: Marie-Louise Jackson Miller, Erwin Schaareman, Sandy Hovey (sub)**

WINTER SESSION “CREATIVITY WITH PRINCIPLES”;

This year UFPC is field testing a new model of multi-age learning. The winter is a time of rest and reflection in the still season between the Solstices. The program from January to May will incorporate a model of learning where the children choose what they would like to do and learn: Music for Dignity, Cooking for Justice, Photography for Truth and Meaning, and Building a Web. The classroom will have 3 choices of participation including a Creative Table and Soul Collages. Each class will have two teachers as we support with our actions the Safe Church model of RE.

**UNITED FIRST
PARISH CHURCH
Unitarian
Universalist
Principle Church
School**

1306 Hancock Street
Quincy, MA 02169
617-773-1290



**Children and Youth
Ministries**

2013-2014

Written by Nan E. C. Moore/DRE- August 2013

WELCOME TO FAMILY AND CHILDREN MINISTRIES AT UFPC

The Religious Education Committee (REC) and Director of Religious Education (DRE) are very excited about this year! We are a creative community and our active REC consists of members who are both parents and non-parents. The first half of the year curriculum is provided by independents and the Ministry Faith and Development Department of Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

Over the last two years, the REC has contemplated a more innovated approach to UU Principle Church School. Our goal at UFPC is to offer classes and experiences for children with the hope they will remember what they have learned from both their minds and hearts.

This year's theme "Creativity with Principles" will be guided by the "BIG FOUR" Principles: We affirm and promote: the inherent worth and dignity of all people (1); Justice, equity and compassion in human relations (2); free and responsible search for truth and meaning (4); respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part(7).

At UFPC the children are a valued part of the community and our ministry is to balance classroom learning, multi-age learning and community involvement.

We believe that children learn by experience and participation in the community is equally important as time spent in the classroom.

MESSAGES for ALL AGES: Sunday mornings, the children arrive to church with their families or guardians. Following the Affirmation of Faith the children are invited to come forward and sit in the front pews for a "message" that will speak directly to them. These messages take form in story, drama, music, or art with the intention of offering a time of inspiration for all ages.

CHILDCARE: Childcare is provided for toddlers Our young adult child care provider will offer care from 10:15-11:45 on Sunday mornings. Parents have a choice of bringing children to the Toddler Care room before church, or after the Message for All Ages.

SAFE CHURCH POLICY All teachers and childcare providers are required to fill out the Safe Church Packet, which includes the Code of Ethics and CORI Form. All adults who work with children at UFPC, in any context, are asked to abide by the Safe Church Policy

approved by the UFPC Board of Governance (BOG).

REGISTRATION : All families are required to register their children in our program. Please fill out the two sided pages of the entire registration packet. Packets are available out-side the RE office.

EVENTS: The church school calendar is inserted in the tri-fold brochure and updates posted outside the RE office.

SPIRIT PLAY CLASS (Pre-K to 1st) This class will meet from September to December 1st. We will explore the power of the story with the specific focus this year on wisdom from World Religions. The children are introduced to religious beliefs through UU, Christian, Moslem, Jewish, and Hindu stories. Following the story the children will engage in expressive art. **Teachers: Jo Morris, Kim Dangora, and a Doorkeeper**

NEW THIS YEAR! Mystery Grandparent pen-pal program will begin in January and end in May. Please see the November newsletter for details. In January there will be a UU parent discussion group with questions presented by parents. All are welcome who have children, youth, grandchildren, young adult, or adult children. The group will be facilitated by **Nan Moore (DRE)**