Volunteer Opportunities

Our RE program is a cooperative. That means we need YOU!

We request that every family with a child registered in the RE program make a 16-hour commitment to participate in the community each year. There are many ways you can help out, from occasional special events to classroom teaching with a teaching team. Every family is an important participant, and we value every minute that you dedicate to our program.

You need not be part of an RE family to participate! We value involvement from all parts of our community! Interested? Speak to any R.E. staff person or someone at the Connections Table in the Sanctuary.

Our RE Vision Statement

Through participating in the religious education program at First Unitarian, children and youth will:

- Develop social skills and connections that will make them a part of this church community.
- Participate in practical experiences that relate to Unitarian Universalist principles, and that will expand into their daily lives.
- Incorporate Unitarian Universalist beliefs into their own beliefs that they can articulate.
- Learn about, appreciate, and respect people of other faiths and beliefs.
- Develop a spiritual foundation that will provide perspective throughout their life journey.

First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque
3701 Carlisle Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Phone: 505-884-1801
Fax: 505-884-6425
firstunitarian@uuabq.org • www.uuabq.org
9/9/17

Religious Education for Children & Youth

First Unitarian
A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Albuquerque • Edgewood • Socorro

Welcome!

We're so glad you've brought your family to First Unitarian. Choosing a spiritual home for yourself and your children is an important decision. We hope you find that home here, and we look forward to getting to know you.

To register, ask questions, or find your child's classroom, come to the RE foyer - up the steps in the southwest corner of the central courtyard. Cheerful staff and volunteers will be there to help you.

Religious Education at First Unitarian

Unitarian Universalism (UU) is a liberal religion open to the wisdom of all the world's faiths. We affirm the worth of all beings, and encourage each other to be kind and responsible, embrace our individuality, and search for truth and meaning in our lives.

First Unitarian provides a warm, open, supportive community for our children and youth to learn and grow within. Our program teaches personal values, ethical living, UU principles, and the varied sources of our religious heritage. UU religious education gives children and youth a framework to develop their own spiritual selves among friends and caring adults.

We Are a Safe Congregation

We care about the safety and welfare of our children and youth. Our RE staff and volunteers undergo background checks in order to work with children, and we maintain a "two adults at all times" safe church policy during all RE activities and classes.

Sundays in RE

* **9:30 & 11:00 classes:** Nursery & preschool, Pre-K, K&1st grade, 2nd & 3rd grade; and 4th & 5th grade.

* **11:00 only:** Mid-high, High School, mixed during the summer.

Infants, toddlers, and preschoolers are cared for by trained and paid nursery staff; all other classes are co-operatively taught by volunteers from First Unitarian's community.

Faith formation and a connection between RE and the Sanctuary is fostered by Children's Chapel, a child-centered service held in the RE building once a month, and attendance in the Sanctuary for all-ages programming once a month.

There is no fee for the Religious Education program. However, registration is required for all participants. Registration allows us to properly plan, staff, and fund our RE and childcare programming. Information and registration forms are always available on Sunday mornings in the RE foyer.

Special RE Offerings

Coming of Age Classes

Each spring we offer Coming of Age classes to our eighth graders as they prepare for high school. Coming of Age students learn more about Unitarian Universalism and themselves as they prepare "This I Believe" statements and lead a service for the entire congregation in late Spring.

Our Whole Lives (OWL)

OWL is a nationally acclaimed, lifelong human-sexuality curriculum developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association in partnership with the United Church of Christ. First Unitarian OWL classes are taught by trained volunteers to age-appropriate groups of children, youth, and adults.

UU Summer Camp

Kids love Summer Camp; many remember it as a highlight of their youth. Our campers congregate for one week each July in the beautiful Sacramento Mountains near Cloudcroft.

Special Events

The annual holiday pageant, regional conferences for youth, social-justice activities, and other leadership and outreach opportunities round out First Unitarian's RE program.

Community Connections

We also have a strong program of community connections including family groups, Sunday Family picnics, an Annual R.E. BBQ, the Halloween Part, a pool party, Field Day, and more.