



**Religious
Education
at the Unitarian
Universalist Society of
Schenectady**
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**A VISION FOR
LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF SCHENECTADY
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL**

Intentionality

Our mission-based curriculum uses clear communication and information-sharing with a network of committed teachers and facilitators, who receive supportive training so that they understand the expectations of their role within the program and feel accountable to it.

Community

Our curriculum and activities reinforce the concept of an inclusive and non-judgmental community that encompasses, among other things, intergenerational interactions.

Spiritual Growth

We facilitate spiritual growth in the congregation by providing structure and materials that create opportunities to explore in a safe environment, building on each individual's unique potential, in a way that engages participants and facilitators with acceptance, flexibility and faith in the possibility for each individual to grow in their own way.

Our Whole Lives
Sexuality Education Program

Honest, accurate, developmentally appropriate 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. For these reasons and more, we are proud to offer Our Whole Lives, a comprehensive, lifespan sexuality education curricula in our congregation.

Interactive workshops and lessons engage participants, while step-by-step instructions for program planners and facilitators help ensure success.

Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. With a holistic approach, Our Whole Lives provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality.

This year we are proud to offer OWL to our K-1 and 5-6 classes on Sunday morning, and to our 7-8 and 11-12 classes on Wednesday nights.

Our 2016-2017 Curriculum

Nursery- *Rainbow Children*

Our trained nursery staff create a welcoming, inviting place for children in PreK and below. In the nursery, children are introduced to our values of love and kindness through modeled behavior, sharing, and fun activities.

Kindergarten/1st Grade- *Wonderful Welcome*

In this program, children identify intangible gifts central to Unitarian Universalism such as friendship, hospitality and fairness, and share these gifts with others.



[Click here](#) to register early online through the Breeze database!

Julie Rigano

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2nd/3rd Grade- *Signs of Our Faith: Being UU Every Day*

Signs of Our Faith presents fourteen traits or values that most Unitarian Universalist love, including the quest for knowledge, reverence for life, supporting one another on our faith journeys, and public witness. Children examine how their lives do and can exhibit these traits and values, and come to understand that their faith is a living faith.

4th Grade- *Toolbox of Faith*

This program invites participants to reflect on qualities of our Unitarian Universalist faith, such as integrity, courage and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith.

Don't forget to [register your child for OWL](#) as well as for their regular religious education class!

5th/6th Grade- *Bibleodeon*

This curriculum introduces biblical scriptures by presenting the best-known Hebrew and Christian stories with fun and interactive games, such as investigating the Cain and Abel crime scene and solving the "Mystery of the Day." The children explore connections between biblical events and UU principles, between biblical ideas and their own lives.

7th/8th Grade- *Amazing Grace*

This program guides our students through ways to determine right from wrong with a Unitarian Universalist perspective, and act on their new understandings.

9th-12th Grade- *Senior Youth Group*

We promote youth empowerment as our youth choose their own curriculum based on social justice, worship, fellowship, learning, and leadership opportunities. This group also meets at other times and has weekend events with other UU youth groups for spiritual reflection and communal living.



These Buddhist prayer flags were made by our 3rd-5th grade Sing to the Power class as they learned how to be agents of positive change.

