



Register for 2017-2018 Religious Education today!

Registration for next year's classes is open now and available online! Scan the appropriate QR code below to register and join us for a year of growing, learning, and fun! Links to registration can also be found on our website at uuschenectady.org/learning

If you are new to UU Schenectady and have never registered your child before, please use our [New Family Form](#).

If you are returning for another year of RE, please use the [Returning Family Form](#).



Religious Education at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady

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Coming of Age for 8th and 9th grade

The Coming of Age program at Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady offers eighth and ninth graders an engaging and structured atmosphere in which to explore significant issues at this transitional stage of life. It is comparable to a confirmation or bar/bat mitzvah.

There are three components to the Coming of Age program:

- Mentored learning that acknowledges and engages multiple learning styles
- Values clarification through hypotheticals and expansion of thought process,
- Ritual for both group and individual celebration

Some highlights of the program:

Community building time such as overnights, development of a personal belief statement, learning about UU history, working with a mentor, end of the year celebration/party for the youth and their friends, and Boston heritage trip in the spring including a trip to the UUA headquarters and Walden Pond.

Our 2017-18 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.

PreK- Kindergarten— *Love Surrounds Us*

At the core of our Unitarian Universalist community are our seven Principles. The Principles encompass all the ingredients of a good and faith-filled life based on equality, freedom, peace, acceptance, truth, care, and love. This program explores all the Principles in the context of Beloved Community of family/ home, school, neighborhood. Participants engage in activities that emphasize the love they feel in community.



Rev. Wendy, Rev. Lynn, and Julie, Director of Lifespan Religious Education, telling a story during a multigenerational worship service.



Prayer Flags made by children in our RE program.

1st-2nd Grade- *Keepers of the Earth*

This environmental curriculum teaches children respect and stewardship of the Earth and all living things. Beginning with Native American stories, this curriculum provides our children with an abundance of hands-on activities that will inspire them to understand and appreciate Native American cultures and the Earth.

3rd Grade- *Faithful Journey*

Participants embark on a pilgrimage of faith, exploring how Unitarian Universalism translates into life choices and everyday actions. In each session, they hear historic or contemporary examples of Unitarian Universalist faith in action. Through sessions structured around the Unitarian Universalist Principles, Faithful Journeys demonstrates that our Principles are not a dogma, but a credo that individuals can affirm with many kinds of action. Over the course of the program, children discover a unity of faith in the many different ways Unitarian Universalists, including themselves, can act on our beliefs.

4th-5th 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.

6th-7th Grade- *Neighboring Faiths*

This world religions program deepens our children’s understanding of the dynamic, fascinating, and varied world in which they live. The youth will have field trips to nearby religious communities.

See first page for info on our 8th-9th Grade Coming of Age program.

10th-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 outside of Sunday morning and has weekend events with other UU youth groups for spiritual reflection and communal living.

