

Religious Education for Children and Youth



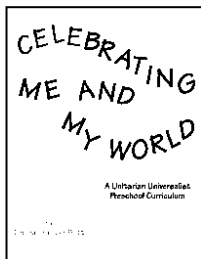
Mission Peak has a three year theme rotation for the direction of our religious education offerings for children: one year of Judaism and Christianity, one year of Unitarian Universalism, and one year of World Religions.

This rotation is repeated every three years providing a broad educational experience for a student as he or she moves through the program.

This year's theme is *Unitarian Universalism*, and this is how we are addressing this theme:



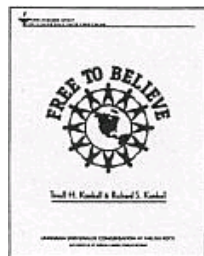
Preschool



Preschoolers will be using the standard UU preschool curriculum "Celebrating Me and My World", which uses picture books to illustrate lessons such as "I Have Two Hands", "I Can Share", and

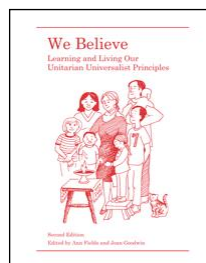
"My World Has Air".

Grades K-2



For these students, we will be using "Free to Believe", a UU Identity curriculum developed by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, New York. This curriculum utilizes various learning styles and each lesson includes a movement activity. It explores UU principles through hands-on activities, stories, games, songs and discussions.

Grades 3-5



Our 3 - 5 class will be using the UUA curriculum "We Believe" for most of the year, supplemented by "Worth and Dignity of All People", by Marjory Donn of the Paint Branch UU Church in Adelphi, MD. Since UUs often state what we do not believe, the first curriculum builds on the seven principles to develop a positive statement of what we do believe. The activities in the curriculum encourage participants to incorporate the Principles into their lives. The supplemental curriculum, based on the first UU principle, explores issues such as building a caring group, understanding people with disabilities, and learning about racism, ageism, sexism, and homophobia.

Grades 6-8



For the middle-school students, we have selected a curriculum called "Mythology for Muggles", written by Jamie Gross in 2005, based on the Harry Potter books. It identifies the references to ancient Greek and Roman myths included in the first five books of the series and teaches the story of each myth. After learning about the myth, the students discuss possible connections to UU principles and sources.

Senior High Youth Group

The Senior High Youth Group will be advised by Justine Burt and Robert Madden-Watson. The group will be meeting approximately every other Sunday during the service to discuss issues that impact their lives. The group also provides an egg hunt for younger children after the Easter service and develops a worship service for the congregation in the spring.





Sally Ahnger became our Director of Religious Education in August, 2003. She brings an extensive management background from a 20 year career in software

engineering management, along with three years of experience coordinating children's religious education at the UU Church of Palo Alto.

Our Director of Religious Education is always happy to discuss our curricula choices with anyone who is interested. Please contact Sally Ahnger at sahnger@yahoo.com if you have any questions or feedback.



The MPUUC Children and Youth Religious Exploration (CaYRE) Committee meets with the Director of Religious Education three times a year to plan and coordinate the children's religious education program. If you would like more information, please contact one of our members:

Laurie Fiatal, CaYRE Committee Chair

Steve Wallcave, Jay Steele, and Janelle Hargrove



Mission Peak

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Children and Youth Religious Exploration Programs

Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Our Guiding Principles:

