

Community Activities

We have the opportunity to serve at LINK (Lawrence Interdenominational Nutrition Kitchen), Just Food (collecting for local food pantries), and Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice Saturday Peace Vigils at the Douglas County Courthouse. These events are advertised in our weekly newsletter, and listed online at:

<http://www.uufl.net/newsletters.htm>

Our Mission

At the Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence, the mission of our religious education program is to provide a safe, healthy learning environment that promotes a philosophical and spiritual foundation for our young people.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the soul of our program. The Religious Education Committee relies on them to staff the program. The contributions of their time and talents guarantee quality programming for children and youth and the continuation of our Unitarian Universalist legacy. Adults can help mentor the children of our community. Those with a concern for the future of liberal religion should contact Sherry Warren, Director of Religious Education, to discover how they can participate in this meaningful and rewarding effort.



THE UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF LAWRENCE

Religious Education for Children and Young People

2008 -- 2009

The Unitarian Fellowship of Lawrence aspires to be a welcoming, intergenerational community that respects individual differences and beliefs. Together, we share the joys and milestones of life as we foster intellectual inquiry and spiritual understanding. In the larger community, we promote social action and environmental responsibility.



Contact information:

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Sunday Morning

9:00 a.m. to noon: Nursery attendants are available for infants, toddlers, and young children.

9:15 a.m.: Sunday School for children from preschool through 6th grade runs from 9:15 to 10:15. Children start the morning with their parents in the Spiritual Celebration. After story time, they leave with their teachers for class in the Religious Education wing. They join their parents again at 10:15 for snacks in the Social Hall. Several times a year, children of all ages join the older members for the entire Spiritual Celebration for a multigenerational service created with our younger UUs in mind.

10:45 a.m.: Adults and children join together for the beginning of the Program. After Joys and Concerns, children leave with their teachers for a multi-age activity, either in the Religious Education wing or outside. The activities are designed to promote our principles, teach cooperation and create a sense of community among our children. They join their parents again at 11:45 for snacks or time on the playground.

Parents are always welcome to join their child(ren) for any of their class sessions.

Curriculum: Our 9:15 sessions are based on Helen Zidowecki's timeless UU Alphabet curriculum, modified to meet the different needs of the age-specific classes. Our "A, B, C's of Unitarian Universalism" focus on one letter of the alphabet each week to learn about a famous Unitarian, Universalist, or Unitarian Universalist whose name can be associated with the letter of the day. The sessions also incorporate our UU Principles through the use of the letters A, B, and C. *A* is used to discuss animals that begin with the letter and our relationships with those animals. *B* reminds us about our bodies, their parts and functions, and that we must take proper care of our bodies to remain healthy and vital. Lastly, *C* brings us to the calendar, where we note important events in our communities and special celebrations. This brings awareness to our membership in various communities and acknowledges our inclusion in special events.

Because we have more Sundays than letters of the alphabet, we supplement with a curriculum that uses the delightful stories of Dr. Seuss to learn (in an age-appropriate way) about the hidden messages in Seuss' work. From standing up for others (*Horton Hears a Who*) to understanding the human impact on the environment (*The Lorax*), we can learn many lessons from the whimsical

characters created in these classics of children's literature.

Classroom Organization:

Sundays at 9:15

Nursery	Birth – 3
Preschool	Pre-Kindergarten
Primary	Grades K-2
Upper Elementary	Grades 3-6

Sundays at 10:45

Nursery	birth – age 4~5
Group Session	Age ~5 – Grade 6

Wednesday Evening

Families are invited to participate in Wednesday evening programming. A meal is served at 5:30 for a small contribution. Childcare is available from 6:30 to 8:30. Class offerings vary throughout the year and family-oriented classes are offered periodically.

Youth: Young people in grades 7-12 are invited to join our youth group which meets from 6:30 to 8:00 on Wednesday evening. Youth help prepare the meal on the second Wednesday of each month with supervision from youth advisers. Other activities may include watching socially relevant films, planning outings in our community, and participating in Sunday morning programs.