

Unitarian Universalist Religious Education

Our Religious Education program for children and youth consists of classes and activities designed to create a safe and nurturing place for our young people to learn, grow and flourish.

Children and youth are a vital and valued part of this unique intergenerational community of free thinkers. We value gathering together in community to seek truth and understanding as well as to work for justice.

We strive to create a safe and accepting atmosphere where questions are encouraged and respect is fostered for a variety of different ideas and perspectives.



"The great end in religious instruction is not to stamp our minds irresistibly on the young, but to stir up their own;

Not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own;

Not to form an outward regularity but to touch inward springs;

Not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules, but to awaken the conscience, the moral discernment;

so that they may discern for themselves what is everlasting, right and good."

~William Ellery Channing

People's Church

1758 N. 10th Street

Kalamazoo, MI 49009

peopleschurch.net

269-375-3262

Reverend Rachel Lonberg

minister@peopleschurch.net

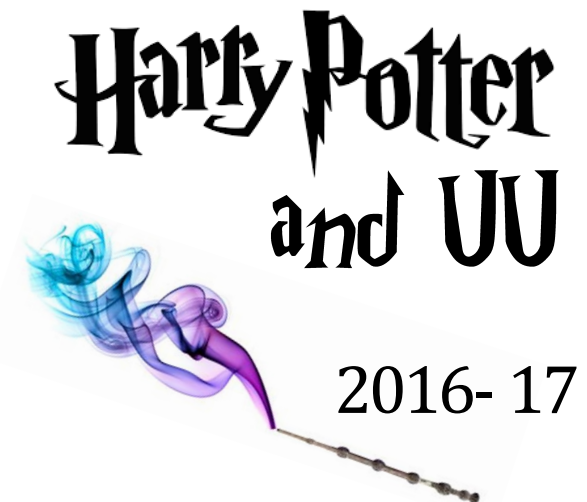
Diane Melvin, Director of Religious Education
re@peopleschurch.net

Nicole Gates, Religious Education Assistant

re_assist@peopleschurch.net



Religious Education for Children and Youth



Religious Education Classes

Nursery Care - Our babies and toddlers are lovingly cared for during the Sunday service each week in Room 12. Nursery care is available from 10:00-12:30 every Sunday.



Preschool - *Celebrating Me and My World* is the name of the curriculum our 3, 4 and 5 year olds will explore this year. As they enjoy circle time & introduction to UU rituals such as lighting the chalice, they are encouraged to express their innate wonder and awe together each week in a



safe and loving environment in Room 10.

Kindergarten/1st Grade - *Creating Home* is the curriculum this class will use as a basis for religious exploration and growth this church year. This program introduces the idea of having a "faith home" in addition to a "family home" and a "classroom home". Meaningful stories and activities are sure to be enjoyed by all in Room 3.

Harry and UU

Our 2nd/3rd, 4th/5th, 6-8th and 9-12th grade classes will be using a Social Justice curriculum based on the Harry Potter book series by J. K. Rowling.

While enjoying fun lessons on Potions, Transfiguration, Charms, Herbology, Divination and the Care of Magical Creatures, our children and youth will also be learning about many of the injustices present in our world today.

While working to create change, our children and youth will be learning about poverty, hunger, illiteracy, animal cruelty, child labor and environmental issues.

As in the Harry Potter books, when Harry and his friends are fighting "horcruxes," our children will be fighting these horcruxes of oppression while working to create a more fair and just world.

Check out our website, People's Church facebook page and join our People's Church Religious Education Parents facebook group to keep abreast of which "Horcrux" we are fighting each month and how you can help.

Our middle and high school students will have the opportunity to engage in additional social justice work together each month as well.



SPECIALTY CLASSES

A favorite among the children, the first Sunday of most months, K-5th graders can choose a specialty class when they arrive to church in the morning. These classes are designed to combine various age groups together with different adult leaders from the congregation while engaging in fun activities.

The subjects of these classes vary widely each month from sports, crafts, games and baking to dance, drama, yoga, art and music. Please let us know if you would like to help with a Specialty class one month!

