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.

People's Church is a welcoming and affirming congregation. We appreciate the diversity each person brings.



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

Religious Education for Children and Youth

2017-18

Our Religious Education Classes

Nursery

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 PM every Sunday.



Preschool

Our 3, 4 and 5 year olds will explore an new curriculum this year entitled *The Rainbow Connection: An Introduction to the Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles for Preschoolers*. They are



encouraged to express their innate wonder and awe together each week in a loving environment.

Primary & Middle School

Kindergarten - 6th grade Classes

Our primary school aged children will be exploring World Religions this year. Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Nature Based Spiritual paths will be explored over the course of this year.

In addition to learning about the rituals, beliefs and traditions of various religions, the children will learn about other kids who practice these faith traditions. Our hope is that the seeds of understanding and



respect can be planted for different ways of seeing and believing in the world.

7 & 8th Grade - OWL

The goal of *Our Whole Lives* sexuality education class is to create a positive and comprehensive educational experience that provides middle school students with accurate information as well as life skills. Additionally we encourage them to apply the values of respect, responsibility and equity to their life choices.

High School

9th & 10th Grade - Coming of Age

Jedi Mindfulness Academy is the path our Coming of Age youth will travel this year. These youth are guided and encouraged to discern and articulate their deepest held beliefs and values about how they wish to live.



11th & 12th Grade - World Religions

Our juniors and seniors will enjoy field trips to a variety of houses of worship while studying World Religions this year. Making personal connections with people of other faiths in their religious homes will create opportunities for discourse and hopefully deepen understanding and interfaith relationships.

