

*Religious Education
Programs
Winchester
Unitarian Society
Children and Youth*



January—June 2016

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Dear Friends,

Whether you are currently seeking, or believe you have found your church home, welcome to this liberal faith community at the Winchester Unitarian Society. Our welcome is extended to all regardless of religious background or current affiliations.

Age specific programs are offered for children, ages 6mos through High School and everyone is welcome to join our Growth and Learning Programs for adults and various age groupings. We invite you to visit weekdays or Sundays, to call or to visit the church website to learn more.* We'd love to have you join us in worship and community!

Read on for more information about children and youth programs.

Rebecca Kelley Morgan

Religious Educator

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 Family Worship (Chapel)

10:20 Nursery opens

10:30 Worship Begins (Sanctuary)

10:45 Children depart for classrooms

11:30 Fellowship hour begins

11:45 Classes end

11:45 Community Fellowship

4:30 PM WUSYG, OWL, F8th

(*groups may also meet other times)

WINTER & SPRING CALENDAR

January 3 Jan Fest Begins

January 10 Jan Fest

January 17 Jan Fest

January 24 Jan Fest

January 31 Religious Education

February 7 Religious Education

February 14 Religious Education

February 21 Religious Education

February 28 Religious Education

March 6 Religious Education

March 13 Religious Education

March 20 Religious Education

March 27 Easter Multiage Worship

No Children's classes

April 3 Religious Education

April 10 Religious Education

April 17 Religious Education

April 24 Religious Education

May 1 Religious Education

Installation Sunday PM service

May 8 Religious Education

May 15 Religious Education

May 22 Religious Education

May 29 Religious Education

June 5 Religious Education

June 12 Program Year Celebration

FAMILY WORSHIP

Every Sunday, we share an opportunity with families of all ages to worship in this short (20 minute) intimate service. If you are looking for a place to explore religion, worship and spirit, through the eyes of a child **or** with your own children, please join us in the chapel **Sundays at 10:00 AM in the chapel.**

PLAYFUL PEOPLE

6mos to 3 years (inclusive) Juanita Simms, teacher

Our care providers create a safe and loving environment, as we welcome our smallest members and the occasional adult who wish to stay with them. We consider the playroom experience to be children's first encounter with the faith community as safe and welcoming using guided play and caring interactions. What a great way to spend a Sunday morning!

CHALICE CHILDREN

Pre-K—Kindergarten Deena Corany, teacher

We learn a lot in the these early preschool years. Every Sunday we have an opportunity to come together in a community of friends, to discover, to play, to cooperate, to share feelings and to participate in our own special form of worship. Chalice Children brings church to the heart and soul of young children through our triad of early childhood curricula, "Chalice Children", "Celebrating me and my World", "We are Many, We are One".

Additional Program staff:

Aides: Eleanor Sharon, Georgia Hoffman, Helena Colbert.

RE Assistant: Kate McPhee

STORIES ABOUT GOD

First & Second Grades Sarah Hawn, teacher

As children begin to encounter images of the holy, we encourage them to consider all the ways in which the holy (which many of us know as "God") appears in the world and in the human heart. God is a religious shorthand for many aspects of the holy and we invite, through story and questioning, an open minded exploration among the very young. We use the "Stories about God" curriculum as well as other sources.

WE BELIEVE

Third & Fourth Grades Jill Pylkkanen, teacher

We believe in the open mind. We also believe in shared values, in our search for truth and meaning, from many sources. With our "Bibleodeon" curriculum we explore beliefs about the Bible, and the values and ethics which inform a "good" life and a more just world.

WISDOM SEEKERS

Fifth & Sixth Grades Teacher, Jodi Tharan

As religious pluralists, we believe that inspiration, wisdom and meaning can come from every-where and anywhere. In the two year cycle, we explore through our own reflections and questions, visits from guest speakers and off site trips to participate in the rituals and practices meaningful to other faith traditions. We deliver content through two primary curricula, Bridge Builders and Neighboring Faiths.

OUR WHOLE LIVES

Seventh Grade, OWL TEAM

As Unitarian Universalists we affirm our adolescents as whole people in this comprehensive sexuality education program. The course offers clear and factual information concerning biology, health, STD's, sexual decision-making, the possibilities of human sexual expression. There are many opportunities for values reflection, values clarification, and peer dialogue. This year, the group meets **September through May** Sunday 4:30– 6:00 pm

F8TH IN ACTION

Eighth Grade

The "F8th" year is one of inquiry, challenge, service and worship. In preparation for the high school years, we begin to taking responsibility for our religious lives, clarifying our understandings of what it means to be religious, to be human, and to be a Unitarian Universalist. This year the group meets Sunday afternoons with offsite outings and retreats at other times as arranged in advance.

September through June. *Kye Flannery and Rebecca Kelley Morgan lead the group*

WUSYG

Winchester Unitarian Society High School Youth Group

For all 9th-12th graders who are looking for something different, a community in which to find comfort, and challenge; and a place to find meaningful engagement with the world. The group meets most **Sundays 4:30-6:30 PM.** *Inquires may be directed to Sam Wilson, Director of Youth Ministries.*