

All religious education classes meet at our beautiful meeting house on 121 North Pleasant Street, in the Amherst town center.

Children in K–Grade 5 begin with the entire congregation in the sanctuary at 10:30, our Time for All Ages, before transitioning to the downstairs classrooms. Preschoolers are welcome to begin in the sanctuary or go directly to their teacher downstairs before the service begins. Youth Groups meet at different times depending on program needs and youth preferences.

There are no registration fees for Religious Education classes. Please consider pledging to the UUSA canvass. For more information talk to Rebecca Fricke, Director of Religious Education.

The mission of the Religious Education program is to encourage each child/youth to develop personal values based on Unitarian Universalist principles and the commitment to practice those values in daily living. While fostering a nurturing community, we honor the worth of religious thinking and celebrate the joy of spiritual exploration.



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# Lifespan Education for Children, Youth, and Adults

2019-2020

Unitarian  
Universalist  
Society of Amherst

Affirming and Promoting  
Spiritual Growth through  
Learning



# Lifespan Religious Education is all about building faith and community!

## Preschool

*Led by Jacy Armenti and Casey Flueckiger and a team of adult and youth volunteers*

The preschool, under Jacy's loving guidance, explores playing together with kindness and attention to the whole group.



## Grades K-6

*Led by Director of Religious Education (DRE), Rebecca Fricke, and a team of adult volunteers* Most Sundays children will start upstairs for the Opening Words, Chalice Lighting and first hymn. Children will then be sung downstairs to continue their own service. At least once a month children will stay upstairs for worship the whole time. Conversations and activities will nurture our Unitarian Universalist faith heritage of public service, anti-racism and anti-oppression activism.

## Grades 7-9: Coming of Age (COA) and Neighboring Faiths

*Facilitators: Rebecca Fricke and Jenn Chylack*

**Coming of Age:** Youth spend the year devoted to learning about a wide variety of spiritual practices. The year culminates in a "This I believe" ceremony.

**(Alternate years) Neighboring Faiths:** During the year the youth will visit faith communities in the area. The program reaffirms UU values and personal beliefs through a better understanding of the beliefs of others. Religions explored may include: UU, Judaism, Islam, Christianity (including: Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran), Hinduism, Buddhism, and Earth-based religions

## Our Whole Lives - OWL

Sexuality Education offers step-by-step, age-appropriate, lessons for children and youth facilitated by trained adults. Why is sexuality education important? Honest, accurate information about sexuality changes lives. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, improves decision making, and has the potential to save lives.

OWL classes are offered on a rotating basis for K-2, 4-6 and High School.



## Grades 10-12: Youth Group

Through volunteer work and open discussions, youth are given the opportunity to join the UUSA community where they feel most welcome.

## Adult Exploration

**Exploring UU** - Offered by UUSA Membership  
**Parent Workshops**- Led by RE  
**Book Discussions** - Congregant led  
**One Night Stands and Afternoon Delights**- Explorations of faith and important topics led by congregants.  
Please look at our monthly bulletin for special events.