



WESTSHORE
Unitarian Universalist Church

Class Descriptions 2022-23

Nursery (ages 0-2)

Our youngest children receive tender loving care in an environment that encourages imaginative and cooperative play. The nursery is regularly staffed with two paid helpers who strive to provide excellent care each Sunday morning.

Rainbow Connection (ages 3-5)

In this class, we begin to acquaint young learners with the ideas behind the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism. We focus on the values inherent in each - values that all parents wish to instill in their children, such as respect, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, responsibility and good citizenship.

The Rainbow Connection uses popular story books to discuss those values inherent in the Principles and in Unitarian Universalism. At the preschool age, children begin to understand the concepts of justice and fairness and begin to learn about what is “right” and “wrong”, or “good” and “bad”. Story books are chosen to help illustrate the values supported by parents and our Unitarian Universalist community.

Each class includes a chalice lighting, story, activity, and plenty of free play time.

Spirit Play (Grades K-2)

Spirit Play, a Unitarian Universalist curriculum and teaching model is based on the Montessori method. The curriculum is story-based and teaches our seven Unitarian Universalist principles, six sources, history of the church, and timeless themes. Each lesson includes a coming together time, a story that includes manipulative and visuals, some wondering questions, work time, a snack, and a goodbye. Spirit Play is taught with manipulative objects and every work time includes an array of choices for each child. Each child chooses what lesson they would like to focus on during their time for work. The class offers children a chance to slow down and appreciate stillness, so children can hear their inner voices.

Bibleodeon (Grades 3-5)

Participants experience some of the great stories of the Hebrew and Christian bibles from a UU perspective. They encounter a crime scene that tells the story of Cain and Abel. They face down the temptation of candy. They conduct a Bible Women’s Awards Night.

They construct masks of animals that didn’t make it onto the ark, and build living sculptures and much more. Lots of fun and dramatic encounters with this program while building essential biblical cultural literacy.

D'oh God, Book 2 (Grades 6-8)

This popular curriculum uses episodes of the animated series The Simpsons to spark discussion on important social justice topics such as ethical eating, the environment, LGBTQ+ rights, the death penalty, and much more. A full episode is shown each week followed by activity and discussion.

***On the Road Together** (Grades 9-12) *under consideration

Filled with creative, faith-based worship, games, mindfulness moments and discussion starters, this class uses monthly youth packets to provide plenty of options to customize lessons based on the needs of the group.

Youth, parents, and adult leaders will meet in late August or early September to discuss options for Sunday morning programming. Stay tuned for details!