

+ Be a Religious Education (RE) Teacher



Providing a well-rounded program of religious education for our children and youth is an important aspect of our church community. Our program is made possible each year with adult volunteers who choose to be part of a teaching team with a particular age class. RE parents and caregivers are the primary sources of volunteers but they can't do it all. We strongly encourage adults without children in the program to also serve as teachers. Teaching in the RE program is both a privilege and a responsibility, and every effort is made to seek our volunteers who may be looking for a new opportunity to serve the church. The RE committee and Director of Religious Education (DRE) can offer assistance to make teaching a fun, soul searching, and keep you young, experience.

If you are interested in serving as a teacher volunteer please contact Director of Religious Education, Cindy Wakeland at re-director@uucuc.org or call 217-791-2787

TEACHING CAN ALSO GIVE YOU:

An opportunity: to share your gifts

Contribute to building an intergenerational church

Work with a team
Make new friends

Receive training and support

Experience Joy & Fun



The Classes

Our Pre-school class will be using the **Rainbow Connection** curriculum that uses storybooks for preschoolers to discuss the values inherent in the Principles and UUism.

Kindergarten-first grade will share **World of Wonder**. This class program delves deep into our Unitarian Universalist seventh Principle. It instills respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part, and appreciation of its beauty, excitement, and mystery. This class has a full teaching team.

Second-third graders will discuss **Moral Tales** and learn about the spiritual and ethical tools to make wise choices and take action that reflect their UU values.

Our fourth and fifth graders will be using a new curriculum **UU Harry Potter**. These books offer important moral and social values for children guiding them toward making the right choices. The curriculum will use fun wizarding activities as the basis for discussion about values, social action and the seven principles. The class will also learn and work on seven real world social action projects, referred to as "Horcruxes." Harry Potter Fans this is for YOU.

Our sixth and seventh graders will be using **Traditions in a Wink** that teaches an understanding of UU faith that can replace the vague "anything we want to" statement with: "We come from a long tradition of questioning and searching. We come from a long tradition of loving kindness and good works." Teachers will be sharing powerful stories of UU hope as the young teens begin to shape their faith.

Our eighth graders will be engaging in the OWL class. This teacher team is full. They will help young teens make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It helps to clarify the values of the youth and build their interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional and social aspects of sexuality.

Our YRUU (9-12 graders) The class will use the **Be the Change** curriculum that engages the youth in conversations about racism and social justice issues. This will be inter-changed with the variety of other self-lead topics they discuss. The group usually attends one CON (A regional wide retreat), a ski trip if there is snow, a Lock-in, and plans a worship service for the congregation in the spring.

What is Your Choice?

To teach is to touch the life of a child. To teach Religious Education is to touch the heart of a community.



Job Description For Volunteer Teacher

The volunteer works closely with the DRE and the Religious Education Committee. The position requires approximately about two hours on Sunday morning when RE classes are in session. In addition, you may spend up to an hour in planning a lesson.

Specific duties include:

- Along with your team, plan the entire year before it even starts.
- Implement weekly program with other teachers on your team. Plan will include when you teach and what Sundays you rotate off for a week.
- Attend Teacher Team Building on Saturday, August 19th, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Come learn, play, think and have fun.
- Participate in the very short year-end evaluation of the RE program.
- The curriculum is a guide to help you tell the story. Use your own creativity.
- Director of Religious Education will help to find and gather supplies and materials.
- Be you, act natural.

