

All Souls Indianapolis Unitarian Universalist Church Program Guide 2020-2021



How to use this Guide

Hi there! Welcome to the All Souls Indy Program guide. This is a base calendar for core programming happening at All Souls Indy: That means the weekly, or monthly programs that repeat throughout the year. That doesn't mean there isn't more happening, it just means that this is our center. This year we are running Soul Matters as our main curriculum. Each month Soul Matters provides us with a different theme to gather around in various areas of our church life. We use this theme as inspiration for our Sunday worship, as well as RE and adult programming.

Meet the Programming Staff

Sarah Cannon is our DCCP. She handles most programming having to do with children, youth, and families.

Nasreen Khan is our Communications and Adult Programming Staff member. She plans much of the programming targeted at adults as well as provides staff support for projects brought forward by congregants.

Rev. Joel Miller is our Interim Minister. He facilitates Sunday services and provides guidance and oversight for programming staff.

Greg Sanders is our Music Director. He oversees the choir and all music-related programs and needs.

*Our Pedagogical statements are included in the last pages of this document. We have some strong thoughts on what education can be.

FAQs

Have Program Ideas?

Fantastic! You have program ideas. *Insert happy dance here* We are always so thrilled when congregants have ideas of programs that would help meet a congregational need, or just be plain old fun. Contact Nasreen Khan at weekly@allsoulsindy.org to share your thoughts—chances are that she can help find you the support needed to make your event happen.

How to Register your kids for Children's Programming? Everything RE related is [here on our Families page](#). If your question can't be answered there contact families@allsoulsindy.org and Sarah Cannon, our fabulous Director of Children's and Community Programming will be happy to answer your query.

Where do I find info on other programming not included in this guide?

A good place to start is our website allsoulsindy.org. There you will find info on one-off events or special programming that might not be listed in this guide. Additionally, our newsletter *In the Know* is emailed out every Wednesday with information. We are also active on social media. Our Facebook and Instagram pages often have info on events happening at All Souls.

NOVEMBER 2020 - Healing

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
1 Makerspace 9:30-10:15	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Age Grouped sessions	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Makerspace	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Youth Hike and Adult Hike	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Age Grouped sessions	30	1	2	3	4	5

Notes:

Nov 11	Veterans Day
Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day
Nov 29	Launch day celebration. Ollie Howe and Nasreen Khan will facilitate the first session of soul matters small group together
Nov 22	Youth Hike at Noon Adult Hike at 2:30pm
Makerspace is 1/3/5 th Sundays of the Month	Makerspace is an intergenerational space where we put our faith in action by learning practical skills that help us create something beautiful or useful or mend what is broken and share those skills with others.
Age Grouped sessions are 2 nd and 4 th Sunday's of the month	These are spaces for youth to engage in spiritual exploration and small group ministry with their peers and adult mentors. This means that we pursue our fourth principle of a free and responsible search for meaning at a developmentally appropriate level.
Youth Group is 1/4 th Sundays 12-1:30pm/ 12-2pm	This is fundamentally a time for social and service projects for our middle and high school youth.

DECEMBER 2020-Stillness

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6 Adult Forum Returns! 9-10am -Makerspace -Youth Group Soul matters	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 -Age Grouped Session	14	15	16	17	18	19 Untangling Conversatio n
20 -Makerspace Soul Matters Small Group	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Soul matters Small Group -Youth Group	28	29	30	31		

Notes:

Dec 25	Christmas
Dec 6	Adult Forum 9-10am Adult Forum is a conversation group guided by UU values. Introduce Crossing Paths - What does religious pluralism mean in a UU context? Soul Matters-Lectio Divina
Makerspace is 1/3/5 th Sundays of the Month	Makerspace is an intergenerational space where we put our faith in action by learning practical skills that help us create something beautiful or useful or mend what is broken and share those skills with others.
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JANUARY 2021-Imagination

Sun	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 New Year's Hike
3 Adult Forum 9-10am Makerspace	4	5	6	7 Soul Matters Group	8	9
10 Soul Matters Group Age Grouped Session	11	12	13	14	15 Jubilee Weekend	16
17 Makerspace	18	19	20	21 Soul Matters Group	22	23 Adult Hike
24 Soul Matters Group Age Grouped Session	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Makerspace Soul Matters Group						

Notes:

Jan 01	New Year's Day
Jan 18	M L King Day
Jan 3	Adult Forum 9-10am Adult Forum is a conversation group guided by UU values.
Makerspace is 1/3/5 th Sundays of the Month	Makerspace is an intergenerational space where we put our faith in action by learning practical skills that help us create something beautiful or useful or mend what is broken and share those skills with others.
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Youth Group is 1/4 th Sundays 12-1:30pm/ 12-2pm	This is fundamentally a time for social and service projects for our middle and high school youth.
Adult Hikes	These are opportunities for congregants to live embodied spirituality through connection with the natural world in support of the 7 th

principle

FEBRUARY 2021-Beloved Community

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Adult Forum 9-10am Makerspace Soul Matters group	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Soul Matters Group	19	20
21 Makerspace Soul Matters group	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Adult Hike	1	2	3	4 Soul Matters Group	5	6

Notes:

Feb 14 Valentine's Day

Feb 15 Presidents' Day

Feb 7
Adult Forum
9-10am
Adult Forum is a
conversation group
guided by UU
values.

Makerspace is an
intergenerational space
where we put our faith in
action by learning
practical skills that help
us create something
beautiful or useful or
mend what is broken and
share those skills with
others.

Age Grouped
sessions are
2nd and 4th
Sunday's of
the month
These are spaces for
youth to engage in
spiritual exploration and
small group ministry
with their peers and adult
mentors. This means that
we pursue our fourth
principle of a free and
responsible search for
meaning at a
developmentally
appropriate level.

Youth Group
is 1/4th
Sundays 12-
1:30pm/ 12-
2pm
This is fundamentally a
time for social and
service projects for our
middle and high school
youth.

MARCH 2021-Committment

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sa
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Adult Forum 9-10 Adult Hike	8	9	10	11 Soul Matters	12	13
14 Soul Matters	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Adult Hike	22	23	24	25 Soul Matters	26	27
28 Soul Matters	29	30	31	1	2	3

Notes:

March 7	Adult Forum 9-10am Adult Forum is a conversation group guided by UU values.
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Youth Group is 1/4 th Sundays 12-1:30pm/ 12-2pm	This is fundamentally a time for social and service projects for our middle and high school youth.
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APRIL 2021-Becoming						
Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1 Soul Matters	2	3 Adult Hike
4 Adult Forum 9-10am	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Adult Hike	12	13	14	15 Soul Matters	16	17
18 Soul Matters	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Soul Matters	30	1

Notes:	
Apr 02	Good Friday
Apr 04	Easter Sunday
Makerspace is 1/3/5 th Sundays of the Month	Makerspace is an intergenerational space where we put our faith in action by learning practical skills that help us create something beautiful or useful or mend what is broken and share those skills with others.
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MAY 2021-Story

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Adult Forum 9-10am Soul Matters	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Adult Hike	10	11	12	13 Soul Matters	14	15
16 Soul Matters	17	18	19	20	21	22
Adult Hike	24	25	26	27 Soul Matters	28	29
30 Soul Matters	31	1	2	3	4	5

Notes:

May 09 Mother's Day

May 31 Memorial Day

May 2 Adult Forum
9-10am

Makerspace is 1/3/5th
Sundays of the Month

Makerspace is an intergenerational space where we put our faith in action by learning practical skills that help us create something beautiful or useful or mend what is broken and share those skills with others.

Age Grouped sessions are 2nd and 4th
Sunday's of the month

These are spaces for youth to engage in spiritual exploration and small group ministry with their peers and adult mentors. This means that we pursue our fourth principle of a free and responsible search for meaning at a developmentally appropriate level.

Youth Group is 1/4th
Sundays 12-1:30pm/ 12-2pm

This is fundamentally a time for social and service projects for our middle and high school youth.

JUNE 2021-Play						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3 Soul Matters	4	5
6 Adult Forum 9-10am Soul Matters	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Adult Hike	14	15	16	17 Soul Matters	18	19
20 Soul Matters	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	July 1 Soul Matters		

Notes:	
Jun 04	National Donut Day
Jun 20	Father's Day
June 6	Adult Forum 9-10am
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Pedagogical statements

Sarah Cannon

Generational Integration

In a society where Sunday is the only day many families have to be together, our faith is calling us away from models that silo families at opposite ends of our churches on Sundays, and toward a more authentic ebb and flow between the worship service and the RE community, between our adult congregants and our youngest members. The goal of a vibrant religious education program should be to empower children at every point on their journey to becoming healthy Unitarian Universalists who are kind, caring, and looking for ways to be of service-- and when we develop authentic ways for adults and children to share learning and worship space, the fabric of the entire community is strengthened as a result. We should always be seeking paths to multigenerational worship, as well as opportunities to invite adults into RE experiences in ways that affirm their spiritual needs.

Time for Reflection, Opportunities for Action

Shared knowledge and scholarship are both important parts of any religious education program. Faith formation, however, is not limited to access to knowledge. Children need time to explore worship and music, so they can deeply and authentically engage in music, meditation, and intergenerational worship without self-consciousness or embarrassment. Whether they evolve to be theistic or atheistic, these moments of connection, centering, and renewal are vitally important.

Children and youth also need meaningful work to do. Whether making or repairing, growing or harvesting, serving others or reciprocating a kindness, they are empowered by putting their faith into action. There is a developmentally appropriate leadership role for all but the smallest children. We can each invest in the care and keeping of our surroundings, each other, and the other living creatures with whom we share space. This work should be visible and tangible, and should permeate our RE programming and faith practices. Adults, youth, and children should also have opportunities to share and facilitate each other's work through acts of mentorship and support.

Foundations for Right Relations

Children need opportunities to be in community with each other in meaningful ways. By engaging in cooperative work and play, navigating group discussions, and resolving interpersonal conflicts, they learn to act with justice and in covenant with others. Denominational Right Relations extend not only to the other, but to the self, calling us to focus on wellness and self-care, as we do in the Our Whole Lives program. When we teach these skills early and always, our children become adults with deeply nuanced understandings of what it is to be one human being in a diverse community.

Nasreen Khan

Teaching as a Spiritual Practice

I believe good teaching is a partnership. Prior to coming to All Souls I taught as a University Instructor and while the format of education here at All Souls is much less formal and I function less as instructor and more as support and facilitation, I still believe that in an educational space partnership is key to growth. In every programming situation I hope to achieve new knowledge of what it means to stay in right relationship, both for myself and for those I am working with. Right relationship does not mean to be conflict avoidant, but it does mean handling conflicting ideas with grace, forbearance and a willingness to be proven wrong. I also view my tasks in this role as a spiritual practice. This means that in holding strong and healthy boundaries, in active listening, and in relational ministry I find myself closer to what I would term the Sacred.

Program and Curriculum Decisions

Teachers tend to make choices about what programming to facilitate based on what my own passions, natural inclinations, and innate talents are. Because my background is in the liberal arts, the humanist and intellectual heritage of the Unitarian Universalists is my comfort zone. Programs that ask participants and facilitators to engage in the process of self-examination are particularly valuable in a Faith context. Meaning making is the core of a tradition that accepts religious pluralism. Meaning-

making is individual or group experience of a text, lived experience, or emotional reality that we can then use to reflect on our own collective spiritual journeys. Embodied spirituality is particularly valuable during a time of quarantine and distance, but particularly difficult to do. Curating a space that is fertile for both intellectual and embodied nourishment is the Work.

What is Success in Adult Faith Formation?

It can be hard to define what a successful program looks like. Certainly, attendance is a big part of what makes a specific session possible, but other lenses can be helpful. Because education in this format is a partnership, communication and frequent conversation is perhaps the most effective way of understanding whether a program has been nourishing to the life of a congregation or not. Another metric that provides a good understanding of how pain points shift, is running the same or similar program at various fence posts in congregational life to meet the new needs and curiosities that arise. Additionally, no congregation exists in a bubble. A successful Adult Faith Formation program connects congregants to, and provides relevant context for facing the challenges and questions of injustice and inequity in the wider local community as well as in the greater Unitarian Universalist denomination.