

# Religious Education Programs Winchester Unitarian Society

September-December 2011



*Winchester Unitarian Society  
Reverends John and Sarah Millsbaugh  
Parish Ministers  
Rebecca Kelley-Morgan  
Religious Educator*

*487 Main Street  
Winchester MA, 01890  
781-729-0949  
Winchesteruu.org*

## FALL/EARLY WINTER CALENDAR

**September 11 Intergenerational  
Worship Morning**  
**September 18 Religious Education  
Church Search/Start Up**  
**September 25 Religious Education**  
**October 2 Religious Education**  
**October 9 Religious Education**  
**October 16 Religious Education**  
**October 23 Religious Education**  
**October 30 Religious Education**  
**November 6 Religious Education**  
**November 13 Religious Education**  
**November 20 Intergenerational  
Worship Morning**  
**November 27 Religious Education**  
**December 4 Religious Education**  
**December 11 Religious Education**  
**December 18 Intergenerational  
Worship Morning**  
**December 24 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM  
Christmas Eve Services**  
**December 25 program hiatus**  
**January 1 2012 Program hiatus**

**WELCOME BACK**

**January 8 Jan Fest Begins**

*Dear Members and Friends,*

*Welcome to this Unitarian Universalist Congregation! As a living, growing community we believe that the role of the church is to nurture and support each other as companions on this mystery we call "life". We believe in and support the spiritual, intellectual and social lives of children, youth and adults. We believe .*

*In communal worship and in small groups, we find ways to question, engage with each other and form some ideas about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. There are also programs—F8th in Action and Our Whole Lives which inform and challenge our youth as they take ownership of their religious lives. In our parents teaching cooperative we are blessed with and by each other as we serve in this ministry to all our children.*

*These pages describe groups and classes for children; babes in arms through eight grade meeting this winter and spring. We welcome questions, please direct them to Rebecca Kelley-Morgan, or to any member of the Religious Education Committee.*

*You can also contact the Religious Education office at 781-729-0949 or visit our website at [www.winchesteruu.org](http://www.winchesteruu.org). Whether you have been here for an hour or a lifetime, we welcome your family's companionship on the faith journey.*

*Welcome to church, and welcome home!*

*Rebecca Kelley Morgan  
Religious Educator*

## SUNDAY PROGRAMS

### NURSERY

*Children: six months to three years*

Our care providers create a safe and loving environment for children 6 months to three years. We welcome all of our smallest members and the occasional parents who need to stay with them. We consider the nursery experience to be our children's first encounter with the faith community as safe and welcoming. What a great way to spend a Sunday!

### CHALICE CHILDREN

*Pre-K—Kindergarten*

We learn a lot in these early pre-school years. We learn to look, to listen, to be aware of others, and to celebrate our own sacred self. 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.

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

**10:20** Nursery opens

**10:30** Worship Begins

**10:45** Children depart for classrooms

**11:30** Fellowship hour begins

**11:45** Religious Education Classes end \*

**11:45** Community Fellowship

*\*Parents of children younger than third grade are expected to collect their children at the classroom. Older children are dismissed.*

### SPIRIT PLAY

*First & Second Grades*

Our congregation was one of the pioneers of this Montessori style of religious exploration. The Spirit Play classroom is a place where through the use of story and child guided "work" we explore the promises we make to and with each other. In this special place, we take time to wonder together about personal values and religious questions.

### WE BELIEVE

*Third & Fourth Grades*

Unitarian Universalists of the past generation, have used a short hand, "Our Seven Principles" to represent our commonly held beliefs. This group will be playing with the principles—bringing them off the page and seeing them in lives lived, in stories told, in social justice efforts in our world, in creativity and connection to all life. Along with reflection, personal sharing and books, we learn through adventure and challenge. Sunday mornings, with this active curriculum, our third and fourth graders will discover a little more about how we are UU!

### NEIGHBORING FAITHS

*Fifth & Sixth Grades*

As religious pluralists, we believe that inspiration wisdom and meaning can come from everywhere and anywhere. We seek understanding to go with the myriad faces of God, forms of religious expression, sacred myths and faith origins throughout the world. This year, we will explore through our own reflections and questions, visits from guest speakers and off site trips to participate in the rituals and practices which make meaning for other faith traditions. We also plan to exchange visits with our faith neighborhood in Winchester and environs.

### OUR WHOLE LIVES

*Seventh Grade*

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. The participants will have many opportunities for values reflection, values clarification, and peer dialogue. This year, the group meets most Sunday afternoons, October through April.

### F8TH IN ACTION

*Eighth Grade*

The "F8th" year is one of inquiry, challenge, service and worship. As we prepare for our high school years in Winchester Unitarian Society Youth Group (WUSYG), we learn to work and play together. We bring our history to life, and faith becomes hands on! We begin to take responsibility for our religious lives as active participants in this faith community. We will engage each other around a variety of questions and activities this year, 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 other outings and retreats as arranged in advance.

### FAMILY WORSHIP

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