

UCW Religious Education Volunteer Opportunities

RE Leadership Circles - Our RE leadership is divided into seven areas, allowing volunteers to focus on a particular area of ministry. Each circle works with the RE staff to envision the ministry and facilitate its programs. You may participate in one of these areas: curriculum, engagement, family care, social justice, special events, volunteer support, or worship. Join a circle that interests you and help everyone in our ministry feel heard, connected, supported, and cared for.

In the classroom...

Nursery Child Care – Teens help our littlest ones develop through play.

Pre-K Teacher – Easy to use lesson plans with complete instructions are provided. This class has a story, simple project, and playtime. Teach once or twice a month.

K-4th Grade Workshop Facilitator – Lead a project related to themes based on UU Principles, approximately once a month. We will provide you with a lesson plan and fun activities but there is always room for your creativity. This is a great way to share an interest of yours with the children. We can turn your hobby into a workshop.

K-4th Grade Group Guide – Accompany a small group of children through each workshop and assist the facilitator, once each month. Sign up for the Sunday of the month that works best for you.

5th-6th Grade Teacher – Be part of a team that teaches: 1) *Love Connects Us* which celebrates important ways Unitarian Universalists live our faith in covenanted community. Moved by love and gathered in spirit, we embrace our responsibility toward one another and the world at large; 2) *Amazing Grace* which helps 5th-6th graders understand right and wrong and act on their new understanding of the ethics continuum. Through their involvement in *Amazing Grace*, youth will come to recognize and depend on their Unitarian Universalist identity and resources as essential to their movement toward understanding, independence, and fulfillment of personal promise.

7th Grade Neighboring Faiths – Lead or assist a three-week unit on a particular world religion that includes a trip to that faith community. Past trips included Temple Israel (Judaism), Hindu Temple, Quaker Meeting House, Islamic Cultural Center of NY, Mormon Community in New Canaan, Buddhist Monastery, and Native American Sweat Lodge. This class also needs a **Faith Community Coordinator** who will keep the class on schedule.

Coming of Age Advisor – Help 8th-9th grade youth discover their evolving beliefs and create their personal credos, through meaningful discussions, exploration, and a heritage trip to Boston. This class also has a **mentor role** with a periodic commitment.

Our Whole Lives Advisor – *Our Whole Lives* (OWL) is the comprehensive sexuality education program developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association and United Church of Christ. We offer all levels of OWL:

1st Grade OWL – This is an eight-week curriculum offered once a year.

6th Grade OWL – This is an eight-week curriculum offered once a year.

8th Grade OWL – This is the keystone curriculum to the program and involves a year-long commitment each Sunday. The program focuses on providing accurate information on sexuality, relationships, and decision-making.

High School Youth Group Advisor – Assist with your presence on Sunday morning twice a month as the youth worship, discuss, and share.

Sunday Morning Assistant – Once or twice a month, Assist the D.R.E. in getting the Chapel ready, support classroom teachers during R.E., and help clean up.

Outside the classroom...

Children's Worship Music Leader/Accompanist – Lead the children in a hymn or play the piano once a month during Children's Chapel.

Children's Worship Storyteller – Tell a story during the K-4th grade Children's Chapel Service.

Administrative Assistant – Assist the Director of Religious Education with data entry, copying, organizing supplies, etc.

Thanksgiving Service Helper – Assist with preparing and distributing the cornbread and cider for the service.

Passover Seder Helper – Assist in planning the Seder, getting supplies, making food beforehand, serving food, signing guests in, and cleaning up.

Halloween Fun House Helper – Assist in planning and creating the children's Halloween haunted house in the Chapel.

Social Event Helper - Assist in getting supplies, organizing, setting up, and cleaning up after family social events such as Bingo Night and the Holiday Event.

RE Sunday Cook – Be a part of the fun during the family cookout.

High School Chaperone – Be a positive role model as you join the youth during district conferences, social justice opportunities, church sleepovers, and social outings such as kayaking. **Drivers and Food Runners** are also needed.

Social Justice Helper – Assist our social justice service projects with children of various ages.

Youth Outreach – Accompany high school youth on service/social justice trips and initiatives.

Intergenerational Project Helper – Assist with activities that create multi-generational connections, such as holiday cards & gifts for homebound congregants and the Special Friends pen pal program.

Supply Closet Organizer – Help us keep inventory and organize supplies to support teachers.

Librarian - Help sort our RE library, create a catalog list, and add new books.