

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair



Religious Education Program  
2009-2010

# Message from the RE Committee Chairs

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We, Peter Arian and Judith Rew, Co-Chairs of the Religious Education Committee, are excited about beginning the 2009-2010 RE program year and would like to welcome back returning children and youth, families, and teachers. For those congregants that are returning, but especially anyone who is new to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair (UUCM) or our Religious Education program we want you to know that Rev. Judy Tomlinson and every member of the Committee are available and eager to answer any questions, address any issues, and receive any accolades you may have.

Our curriculum this year continues to add brand new lessons plans and some “tried and true” courses of study. We will also be continuing our February Focus Month for the 4th year and we will focus on food and sustainability related topics. This will coincide once again with our Parish Minister’s, Rev. Charlie Ortman’s, sermons on the same theme.

We will also be embarking on an “RE Listening Campaign.” The intent of this campaign will be to help understand what our congregation thinks, expects, wants, and needs from our youth’s religious education. We will then try to pick a topic or two that the congregation has identified where we, as a Committee, feel able to create some actionable and realistic changes. You will be asked to participate, so please find the time as you are able to take part. If there are particular topics that you feel strongly about let Judy or one of us know.

We want you to know that our goal is to partner with you to create an excellent RE program. Last year some parents of children in the Nursery expressed concerns about the physical condition of the nursery room and toys. Parents wanted an enhanced program for our toddlers. We took this issue very seriously and, for those of you who haven’t seen the changes in the Nursery, we encourage you to do so. The room is clean and friendly and young childhood specialists have designed an engaging program. The response has been very positive. We need the feedback and contributions from parents who let us know how we can do better.

Our committee meets monthly and we have a very strong and dedicated group. Some of the committee members are returning and some are new. That being said we can always use more help.

For those of you who are teaching, we will see you on Start-up Saturday and for others, we hope to see you soon as well.

Regards,

Peter Arian and Judith Rew  
Co-Chairs RE Committee

# Message from the Parish Minister

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"That's all I really need to know," said the African-American mother, as she signed the membership book, officially becoming a Unitarian Universalist. She had only recently arrived with her 10-year-old son, before contacting the UU minister of the small California town where she now lived.

She'd called him on the phone to say that she wanted to join. "Come in," he said. "We'll get a chance to visit and know each other, and you can sign the book." "Where were you a Unitarian Universalist before moving here?" he asked as a conversation starter, when she arrived.

"I wasn't," she answered.

"How did you learn about us?" He asked, "Do you already know about our history, or maybe some of the more famous people that are a part of that history?"

"No," she said. "I never heard of you before moving here just a few weeks ago. And I haven't been to any of your services yet either, but that will change starting this Sunday."

"If you don't mind my asking," the minister asked uncertainly, "if you don't know anything about us, how could you already know that you want to be a member here?"

"I didn't say that I don't know anything about you. I really know all that I need to know," she answered confidently. "My 10-year-old son is the only black child in the fifth grade class at his new school. For his first two days he sat all alone at a table during lunchtime. On the third day another little boy joined him and they sat together. It was only the two of them for about a week, and finally some of the other kids started to sit with them...just a couple of days ago. Well, I asked my son to get that other boy's number, and I called his mother on the telephone. After I told her what a fine son she has, I asked her where she went to church. This is her family's church and that's good enough for me. Where else would that boy or his family have learned how to stand up for what's right like that? This is the kind of church I want for my son and for me, too – a church that teaches people and helps them to be the way they ought to be. And...that's all I really need to know," she said as she smiled and signed the membership book.

This true story shows well how important the values are as they are provided to our children through our religious education programs.

The Principles of Unitarian Universalism, when we learn and understand them, can help us all to know how to be and what to do in the world. From affirming and promoting 'the inherent worth and dignity of every person' to affirming and promoting 'the interdependent web of existence,' the Seven Principles – the building blocks of Unitarian Universalism and of our Religious Education Program – can serve as guiding lights along our way.

What we do here, with our children in religious education and throughout the church, really does matter – for each of us and for the world. Here, we all have the opportunity and the expectation to be both teacher and student along the way. That's how religious education works; that's how our faith community works—and by sharing in the process. Who knows, maybe that is all we really need to know, too!

—Rev. Charles Blustein Ortman

# Message from the Minister of Religious Education

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“What images of transcendence will our children have? They will have them one way or another.” – Rabbi Sandy Sasso

The Fahs Lecture at the UU General Assembly this past June was given by Rabbi and author Sandy Sasso. Let me sum up her message to us. Rabbi Sasso quoted from a 2008 study that found that the vast majority of children and youth believe in a spiritual dimension to life but that only 14% feel that their religious communities are helping them connect with that larger dimension. She said that the messages that we all receive from the culture around us are: “What you have is not enough; you are entitled to anything you want; and fit it in at all costs.”

As adults in religious community, it is not enough to give our children and youth information about religion and ritual, we need to give them something of our soul.

Perhaps you have come to our congregation because you know that you cannot provide a compelling counter-balancing message to these messages alone. That you need a religious community and tradition to partner with you in helping you and your family connect and explore the spiritual dimension of life, help reinforce the values that each person is inherently worthy, and that most of us in this community do have quite enough – and in fact, enough to spare and share. We need to let them know that we have pushed the limits of the Earth and our global community relationships by striving for more and ever more. That we need to listen to our own internal voices that often take us on a less traveled path; one that challenges the prevailing norms but are never-the-less healthier for ourselves and our planet.

You may have come here because you are struggling to define you own beliefs, or because you have rejected the faith tradition of your childhood. Or because, consumed by life demands, you may not be attending to your own spiritual life. It is pretty hard to answer the large questions about life and death that our children have if we have not been paying attention to them ourselves.

Now is the time to start to slow down and attend to that still small voice. It takes courage to do so. There are so many things at work and at home to distract us and compete for our attention. The Sufi poet Rumi encourages us to put away all those distractions:

Come, take a pick axe  
And break apart  
Your stony self.  
The heart's matrix  
Is glutted with rubies.  
Springs of laughter  
Are buried in your breast.  
Unstop the wine jar  
Batter down the door  
To the treasury of nonexistence.

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### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Peter Arian, *Co-Chair*  
Judith Rew, *Co-Chair*  
Ed Boyle

Francesca Elms  
Linda Henigin  
Carol Anne Holland

Chris McHugh  
Chris Wallace  
Eric Williams

Photos by: Colleen North, Judith Rew



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair offers you and your family a volunteer-led religious education program. We work together to create a warm and welcoming environment where our children can explore their feelings and beliefs about the religious aspects of life.

Our Religious Education program is a high priority for our congregation and is funded out of our general operating budget. Accordingly, families are encouraged to support the program financially through their annual pledges, in accordance with their resources and the value of the program to them. (If you are new to our congregation, see one of the ministers to learn about Unitarian Universalism, membership and pledging through our New UU program.) We do, also, charge a nominal registration fee that covers the cost of our supplies. If this fee presents a hardship for your family please feel free to talk to one of the ministers. We do not exclude anyone on the basis of the fee.

- Register your children/youth in the Religious Education program.
- Children must be either in their classes or with a parent during Sunday services.
- If you drop off your children they must be left with a designated adult.
- Please pick up your children at 10:30 or 12:00, respectively. This allows the volunteer teachers to enjoy some time at the Coffee Hour to visit with adult friends.
- Get involved.

## **FAMILY WORSHIP**

Most weeks we join together to celebrate and worship as a community at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Our Parish Minister, Rev. Charles Ortman and Minister of Religious Education, Rev. Judy Tomlinson, create a whole-congregation 15 minute worship experience at the beginning of the service. Children and youth sit with their parents. After the offertory, children and youth proceed with their group leaders to their own classes. Once a month, Children's Chapel begins the Sunday morning experience for children from Kindergarten to those in the 5th grade. We join together in the Rotunda for about 15 minutes and then proceed to class. Check the calendar and watch for posted signs when you arrive on Sunday morning. Occasionally we stay together for the whole service: Homecoming Sunday, Winter Holiday Celebration, Easter, and the final Sunday of the program year. Note that there are some Sundays with one 10:00 a.m. service and holiday Sundays where there is childcare only.

## **MULTIGENERATION WORSHIP**

At least three times per year we ask children, youth and adults to deliver some portion of the message for the morning's service. These usually take place during the Winter Holiday Celebration (December), Easter (Spring), and Religious Education Sunday (June), where each class is asked to present their learnings for the year.

## **CHILD NAMINGS AND DEDICATIONS**

This is the Unitarian Universalist rite for welcoming a baby or child into our religious community. We celebrate the mystery of life; share in the joy, care and concern of the child's life. We dedicate ourselves and the child to a life of meaning, upholding our highest values. This ceremony can be done privately but, for congregation members, is usually part of the Sunday service, including the wider religious community. These are held one Sunday per month. Please contact our Parish Minister, Rev. Charles Ortman.

## **GET INVOLVED!**

- There are many ways for you to get involved.
- Become a team teacher
- Join the Religious Education Committee
- Help with social activities or the Undoing Racism library

When you fill out the registration form, tell us how you can help.

You can also assist in creating a meaningful program for your children by bringing them regularly, getting to know the teachers, learning about the curriculum, sharing your own interests in the congregation with them, and participating in all-congregation activities.



The curriculum is based on themes gleaned from the Religious Education Program's mission statement and supported by the Unitarian Universalist Association Principles and Purposes and the Mission and Covenant statement of this congregation:

- Discovering and honoring an individual's spirituality and developing it to its fullest potential
- Learning the history and heritage of Unitarian Universalism and its impact on the world
- Exposure to the stories and the beliefs of other world religions
- Development of patterns of a life of social service.

## **NURSERY FOR SIX MONTH OLDS THROUGH AGE 3**

9:30 and 11:00 AM Classes

**LOCATION:** Basement Joseph Priestley Room

Babies are kept happy and comfortable with loving childcare from our experienced staff and parent volunteers. As toddlers play in a welcoming environment cared for by loving adults, they begin to form an awareness that they are a part of our congregational family. A volunteer will lead the children in circle time with stories and songs. The children will have the opportunity for free play as well.

## WE ARE MANY, WE ARE ONE

3.5-4.5 years, 9:30 and 11:00

**LOCATION:** Basement Susan B. Anthony Room

We Are Many, We Are One offers young children the opportunity to learn about their religious community and tradition, as well as the freedom to discover and express their uniqueness. It encourages children to use their minds, bodies and emotions to develop their sense of identity within our community and our world. It is a curriculum based on the philosophy that young children learn about religion through relationships. It asks the questions, "Who am I? How am I related to others? How do I treat other people? What are my responsibilities? What kind of a world do I live in?" The children learn the answers to these questions by being in relationship with significant adults in their lives: watching, listening, imitating.

The goals of this curriculum are for the children to be affirmed in their individuality and enhance their self-esteem, to affirm the uniqueness of others and value diversity, to feel a sense of belonging and importance as part of our congregation, to help make their class a peaceable, friendly and caring place where all aspects of life can be discussed, and to learn how we Unitarian Universalists celebrate holidays.

## TREASURE HUNTING

Kindergarten/1st grade, 9:30 and 11:00

**LOCATION:** Basement: John Murray Room (and 9:30 William Ellery Channing)

The Treasure Hunting lesson plans focus on the following themes: ourselves and others, our congregation, our religion, our neighbors, and our planet home. Each week the children explore the deep meaning of our Unitarian Universalist principles through games, crafts, songs, and stories. These lessons bring a concrete understanding of our UU principles to this age group. The world is full of treasures: our friends, our feelings, our heritage and the harmony of nature. If we open our eyes and hearts to others with love and respect we find a multitude of treasures abide within us and beyond us.

The goals of this program are for the children to understand and celebrate each person's uniqueness and feelings, to learn about our congregation, to learn about Unitarian Universalism, and to gain an awareness and appreciation of the community and the world around them.



## **FAITHFUL JOURNEYS AND RAINBOW CHILDREN**

2nd/3rd grades, 9:30 and 11:00

**LOCATION:** Annex: Peierls Room (and 9:30 Wiers Room in the basement beneath the Narthex)

This class will use two different curricula this year. Faithful Journeys participants embark on a pilgrimage of faith, exploring how Unitarian Universalism translates into life choices and everyday actions. In each session, they hear historic or contemporary examples of UU faith in action. Stories about real people model how participants can activate their own personal agency—their capacity to act faithfully as UUs—in their own lives, and children have regular opportunities to share and affirm their own stories of faithful action. Through sessions structured around the Unitarian Universalist Principles, Faithful Journeys demonstrates that our Principles are a credo that individuals can affirm with many kinds of action. Over the course of the program, children discover a unity of faith in the many different ways UUs, including themselves, can act on our beliefs.

Rainbow Children's goals are for the children to see themselves and others as members of one "rainbow race" with the same human rights and needs, to understand the concepts of prejudice, racism, and racial justice, to know that society is multiracial and multicultural, to develop positive attitudes toward all people different from themselves, to affirm a diversity of families and finally to feel good about themselves and others as loving, creative, and competent people.

### **TOOLBOX OF FAITH**

4th/5th grades, 9:30 and 11:00

**LOCATION:** Annex Basement:

Toolbox of Faith invites fourth and fifth graders to reflect on the qualities of our Unitarian Universalist faith, such as integrity, courage, and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith. Each session uses a tool as a metaphor for an important quality of our faith. In the lesson on reflection we use a mirror, the lesson on flexibility uses duct tape as a metaphor and for justice the symbol is a flashlight. The goals of this program are to have each participant reflect on the qualities, or tools, of our faith. Children and leaders gain insight into what makes our faith important in their lives and how they can grow in our Unitarian Universalist faith.,

### **OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)**

OWL, as the name implies, is a lifespan curriculum. Its focus is sexuality education in the context of a values and spiritual community. The 4th/5th grade segment is 8 sessions and will be held on Sunday mornings starting in March. This is an optional program with parent orientation a must. Participants will read *It's Perfectly Normal* by Robie Harris and examine topics such as values and sexuality, communication and decision making. The course also covers the physical and emotional changes of

puberty. Each session includes a homework activity for parents and children to complete together. The goals are to answer the questions children already have about sexuality, prepare them for the changes adolescents will bring, to help keep our children safe from abuse and disease and, help facilitate child/parent communication on this topic.

## **NEIGHBORING FAITHS**

6th/7th grades, 9:30 and 11:00

**LOCATION:** Annex: Mortenson Room

Neighboring Faiths is a world religions curriculum. Our world and our neighborhood include people of many faith traditions. It is exciting to find out what others believe and how they put those beliefs into practice. It is important when deciding on one's own religious path, that one is doing it fully informed of the options. Being thus informed strengthens one's own convictions. Youth learn the history, beliefs and rituals of 10 faith groups, take field trips to visit houses of worship and compare those faith traditions with Unitarian Universalism and the youth's own beliefs.

The goals, while visiting other houses of worship, are for the youth to not simply go as observers but to experience the spirituality of that religion, to share experiences, ideas and beliefs with people of different faiths, to reflect on the unique and universal of religious experience and to explore their own values and beliefs. We want the youth to see the connection between Unitarian Universalism and other faith traditions so as to increase their understanding and appreciation of religious diversity and to strengthen their commitment to Unitarian Universalism and our community.

## **8TH GRADE PROGRAM**

**FAMILIES**, 8th grade, 9:30, September-December

**LOCATION:** Annex basement: Sub-Peierls

This program explores families through values that are based in the central tenets of our Unitarian Universalist faith. The focus is on what matters to and about families. The program first examines the composition of families and then moves on to how they function. This shift sets the stage for participants' project work—a photo documentary of our congregation, which will facilitate their understanding of families in our congregation, their complexity and diversity. By thinking about family function, participants move beyond accepting simple appearances toward empathic inquiry. Focusing on family function and respecting families as matters of the heart will empower youth to ask the people they photograph more about what they think and feel about their families.

The goals of this program are for the youth to collaborate with peers and thus build their own classroom community. To broaden and deepen their understandings and definitions of families, to understand and appreciate the emotional, affective, and spiritual dimensions of families, to grow and deepen their naturally compassionate souls, and to understand how the living tradition of the UU faith and its Principles interprets and guides families.

**OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)**, 8th grade, 9:30, December-June

**LOCATION:** Annex basement: Sub-Peierls

As we all face the challenge of creating an environment that supports and nurtures sexual health we offer young people a needed sexuality education program that models and teaches caring, compassion, respect, and justice. This program is holistic, moving beyond the intellect to address the attitudes, values, and feelings that youth have about themselves and the world. Unlike many other sexuality curricula OWL is comprehensive and progressive. In an inclusive and developmentally appropriate way it addresses a full range of sensitive topics typically excluded from most sexuality curricula.

The goals of the curriculum are: to help young adolescents affirm and respect themselves as sexual persons and respect the sexuality of others; increase comfort and skills for discussing and negotiating sexuality issues with peers, romantic partners, and people of other generations; explore, develop, and articulate values, attitudes and feelings about their own sexuality and the sexuality of others; identify and live according to their values; increase motivation and skills for developing a just sexual morality; acquire knowledge and skill for developing and maintaining mutually enhancing relationships, avoid unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, express and enjoy their sexuality; and to assess the impact of messages received from all sources on sexual thoughts, feelings, values and behaviors.

## **9TH GRADE PROGRAM, 11:00**

**LOCATION:** Annex basement: Sub-Peierls

### **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HISTORY AND HERITAGE, SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER**

This curriculum combines in-class historical information and innovative ways to strengthen our youth's Unitarian Universalist identity through social action projects and tying those actions to UU principles and historical persons. This curriculum is experiential, often taking the youth outside the classroom and inviting members of the congregation and wider community in.

The goals are for the youth to become familiar with Unitarian Universalist history and heritage and to make that history and heritage come alive in today's world and in the lives of the participants; for them to understand our UU principles intellectually and spiritually by putting the principles to work in their lives, the congregation, and the community; and, for them to claim and grow their UU identity.

### **COMING OF AGE, DECEMBER-MAY, 11:00**

**LOCATION:** Annex Rotunda and Alliance Room

After 14 or 15 years of watching, learning and living, our 9th graders have an intensive four months in which to bring their life experience to the conscious level. They will articulate their learning, values and beliefs to themselves and to the entire congregation. COA is a comprehensive learning model that includes classroom discussion and individual mentored learning as well as conversations with the

ministers, congregation and family members, service to the community and congregation, and participation in worship. It begins with a retreat and fieldtrip to Unitarian Universalist headquarters in Boston and culminates in their Sunday service in May. This initiation process is important to the whole congregation because the integration of our young people keeps our religious community vital.

Goals for the youth are to understand Unitarian Universalism, to articulate their own beliefs, to trust in the experience of their own spiritual lives, to claim our faith tradition, to understand the inner workings of the congregation, to begin to make the transition into Sr. Youth Group, and to be initiated into what it means to be an adult member of a religious community.

## **SENIOR YOUTH GROUP: 10TH-12TH GRADES, 11:00**

**LOCATION:** Samantha Smith Room

The Sr. Youth, with the support of their adult advisors, design their own program. Within the basic framework of a well balanced program of learning, worship, community building, social justice and leadership development and the limits of adult energy, the youth discuss topics of interest, plan overnights, engage in community service, go on retreats and attend Metro NY District youth conferences. As they plan and engage in their activities they ask: Will it build community? Will it deepen my spirituality? Will it help me or others grow and become more competent as we live in the world around us?

The goal of this program is youth empowerment within the context of a supportive and values based religious community. As our youth become young adults we want their experiences in Sr. Youth to prepare them for a life-long connection with Unitarian Universalism.





### **CROP WALK (OCTOBER 18, 2009)**

This is an interfaith community event sponsored by the Church World Service of the National Council of Churches. It involves people from all walks of life who help stop hunger around the block and around the world. We raise funds through pledges and we raise awareness and sensitivity in our children. We grow in them a sense that working for justice is part of what it means to be a responsible person and we empower them to make a difference.

### **DIA DE LOS MUERTOS (NOVEMBER 1, 2009)**

On Dia de los Muertos, one of Mexico's most important celebrations, we remember and honor our ancestors and begin to talk about death through the use of music, crafts, reflection and food. Ultimately, it is a celebration of life.

### **HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOP (DECEMBER 5, 2009)**

Everyone is invited to usher in the holiday season by making a wide variety of crafts and gifts. Young and old alike gather in Fletcher Hall on the first Saturday in December to have fun, be creative and join together in the spirit of the holidays. Then the crafts end and the lunch of soup and bread begins. Be sure to take part in this heart-warming seasonal event.

### **UNDOING RACISM ACTIVITY DAY (JANUARY 31, 2010)**

Though the RE Program works on dismantling racism, homophobia and all forms of oppression in a variety of ways, we devote the last Sunday in January to undoing racism. Volunteers create programs that awaken children and youth to the bias inherent in our culture. The children and youth acquire the tools that will help them fight oppression and stand up for justice. Together we work for a peaceful, fair, and free world.

## **FOCUS MONTH: ETHICAL EATING (FEBRUARY 2010)**

This is the fourth year of a new RE Program, Social Justice Month. Our theme as a congregation will be Ethical Eating. This theme will be our focus over the entire month of February. The children in K-5th grades will devote a month to age-appropriate study, field trips, and social service projects around the ethics of food: how it affects our bodies, our environment, and the lives of the people who grow, harvest, sell, and prepare the food we eat. We are in the process of developing a curriculum to guide the classes through this exciting initiative.

At the end of February we have a multigenerational service where our whole community focuses together on the same theme. Children and youth remain in the sanctuary with the adults for the whole service, and often take part in presenting the service.

## **BLUE JEAN SUNDAY (TBA)**

After both worship services the congregation, young and old, help care for our building and grounds by working on a list of chores the Buildings and Grounds Committees and our Facilities Manager have compiled, which usually includes raking leaves, trimming bushes, painting and planting—and lunch at noon. Sign up during Coffee Hour a few weeks before the event to volunteer to work on a chore or to bring a dish for lunch.

## **AFRICAN-AMERICAN DAY FESTIVAL (JUNE 5, 2010)**

The town of Montclair organizes this festival to be held on the first Saturday in June. Our Undoing Racism Committee takes an active role and hosts a table. The RE families and the whole congregation are invited. An uplifting community spirit fills the air.

## **ALL-CONGREGATION PICNIC (JUNE 20, 2010)**

We close the program year with an all-congregation picnic. It is a time to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends as we bid each other farewell for the summer. The food is good and the company is great.



# Religious Education Program Calendar 2009-10

## SEPTEMBER 2009

- 9/12 Start-Up Saturday Lead Teachers & Teaching Teams  
9/13 Homecoming Sunday, Multigen Water Communion, Teacher Dedication  
9/20 RE Classes begin K/1-Sr. Youth Group  
Children's Chapel K-5th

## OCTOBER

- 10/18 Children's Chapel K-5th  
Lead Teacher's meeting  
Crop Walk  
10/22-27 LREDA Fall Conf.

## NOVEMBER

- 11/1 Halloween/Dia de los Muertos celebration K-5th (Children's Chapel)  
Change Clocks  
11/22 Thanksgiving Service Shortened Classes K/1-4th/5th  
11/29 Thanksgiving Weekend One 10:00 Worship Committee Service – No RE

## DECEMBER

- 12/5 Holiday Craft Workshop  
12/6 Lead Teacher Lunch  
12/20 Winter Holiday Pageant Multigen K/1-Sr. Youth  
12/24 Two evening services  
5:00 Family and 7:30 Candle light  
12/27 One 10:00AM Fire Communion Service – No RE program

## JANUARY

- 1/3 RE Special Event K/1-7th grades  
1/10 Regular RE classes resume  
1/17 MLK weekend  
1/31 RE Undoing Racism Day K/1-Sr. Youth  
Children's Chapel K-5th

## FEBRUARY

- 2/7 Focus Month-Ethical Eating K-5th  
Children's Chapel  
2/28 Focus Month Multigen service  
K/1 –Sr. Youth

## MARCH

- 3/14 Change Clocks  
3/21 Lead Teacher Meeting  
3/28 Children's Chapel K-3rd  
3/29 All Congregation Passover Seder  
6:00PM

## APRIL

- 4/4 Easter Sunday Multigen Service  
K/1-Sr. Youth  
4/11 Registration and Recruitment begins  
(4/11, 18 & 25)  
4/18 Children's Chapel K-3rd  
RE Registration continues  
4/25 RE Registration continues

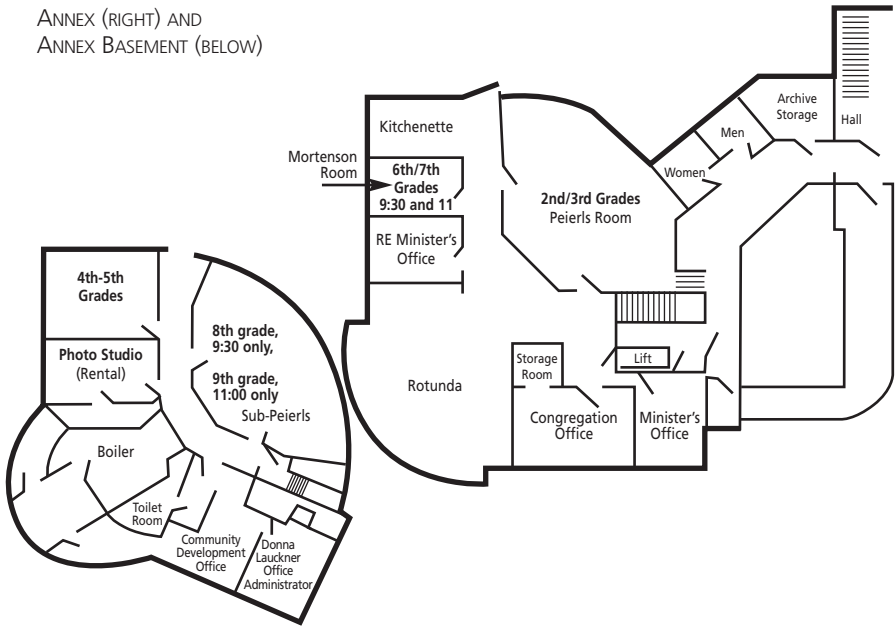
## MAY

- 5/1 Coming of Age rehearsal 1:00-3:00PM  
5/2 Coming of Age Service  
4th grade–Sr. Youth attend service  
5/16 Annual Meeting-One 10:00 service  
9:30 and 11:00 classes combined  
Children's Chapel K-3rd  
5/30 Memorial Day Weekend One 10:00AM  
Worship Committee Service – No RE

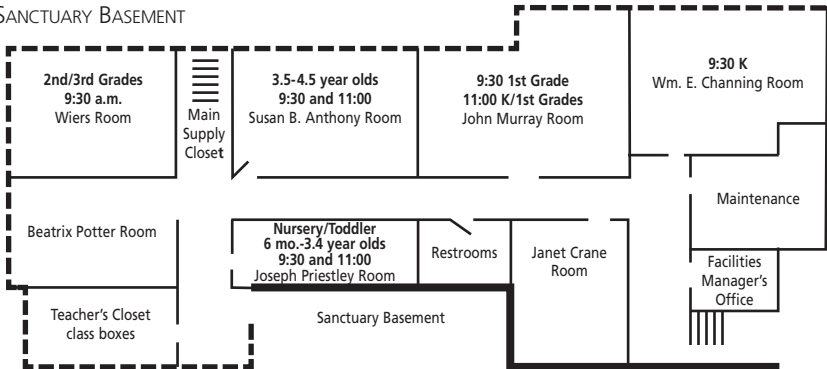
## JUNE

- 6/6 RE presentations in the service and  
Teacher Recognition  
6/13 Summer RE program begins  
6/20 Flower Communion Multigen  
K/1-Sr. Youth; All-Church Picnic  
6/23-27 UUA General Assembly  
Minneapolis, MN  
6/27 Summer Worship Services begin  
One 10:00AM through 9/5

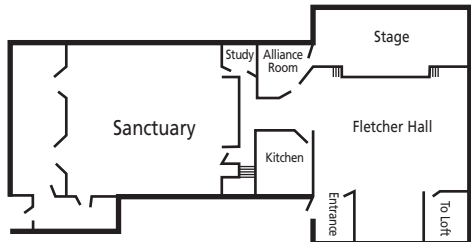
ANNEX (RIGHT) AND  
ANNEX BASEMENT (BELOW)



SANCTUARY BASEMENT



**Senior Youth Room**  
11:00 only  
(10-11-12th Grades)  
Senior High Youth Group  
(2nd floor room not shown on this map) meets in the Samantha Smith Room; use staircase adjacent to the congregation kitchen.



**“BEGINNING UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM”  
UUA PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES, CHILD & ADULT VERSIONS**

**Children: We believe that each and every person is important**

Adult: The inherent worth and dignity of every person.

**Children: We believe that all people should be treated fairly.**

Adult: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

**Children: We believe that our congregations are places where all people are accepted and where we keep on learning together.**

Adult: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregation.

**Children: We believe that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.**

Adult: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

**Children: We believe that everyone should have a vote about the things that concern them.**

Adult: The right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregation and the society at large.

**Children: We believe in working for a peaceful, fair and free world.**

Adult: The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

**Children: We believe in caring for our planet.**

Adult: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

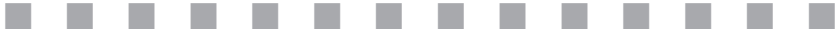
*(continued from page 2)*

The water in your jug  
Is brackish and low.  
Smash the jug and come to the river!

Remember, this is metaphor and a strong medicine; but look at the rewards—the rubies in your heart and those of your family and the springs of laughter. It sounds like a bit of paradise is right here, available to us right now. So, let us take some time for quiet in our lives so that we have some basis on which to answer these questions of faith.

Let me assure you that there are some questions to which no one has the answers. And, paradoxically, that fact can help to open us to the mystery, beauty and awe of life. Allow life to open your heart, spirit and mind and begin to share that wonder with your children. Our congregation is the place where we can all share it with others as we journey together. Welcome.

In the faith, Rev. Judy Tomlinson



**We are a liberal religious community seeking transformation in our hearts, our homes, our community and our world.**

We come together to:

Create a spiritual community that nurtures and inspires us as we search for meaning in our lives

Reach out and welcome all who wish to be a part of our community because diversity of race, culture, sexual orientation, and economic background enriches us all

Guide and challenge our children in their lifelong journey of discovery and spiritual growth

Explore religious and cultural traditions so that we may honor our differences and our common ground

Take responsibility for helping to solve the problems of our community

Promote social and economic justice, furthering our work to dismantle racism, homophobia, and all forms of oppression

Celebrate artistic creation as a spiritual element of life

Respect the beauty and mystery of nature by actively preserving our environment

Invest our personal resources to build and sustain this community of aspiration

Act together to keep this covenant alive.

**We are Unitarian Universalists, building upon our heritage as advocates for the rights and dignity of all.**



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