

Children's Chapel: Each Sunday begins with a time of worship, involving children as active participants. We seek to introduce our children to a variety of worship styles and liturgical traditions. Each week, we learn a new spiritual song to sing, and we share our joys and concerns.

Nursery: Child care is provided for children up to 4 years of age.

Spirit Play: Our Montessori-based *Spirit Play* curriculum introduces children 4-7 to stories from the world's religions. Trained adult storytellers lead children through wondering questions and creative arts activities.

People, Places and Things: Children age 8-10 work directly under the Director of Religious Education on a more discussion-based curriculum, centered around the "People, Places and Things" that inform our religious and spiritual inheritance.

Neighboring Faiths: For our 10-13 year olds, we offer a more experiential curriculum which will allow children to encounter various faith traditions in context: we will visit local mosques, synagogues and temples.

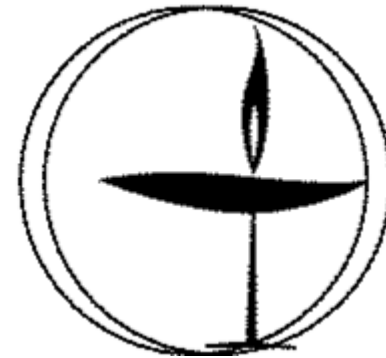
Youth: Our youth group partners with other local Unitarian Universalist youth groups to watch and discuss films, play games, go on outings to local museums, and participate in social justice projects.

Yearly Special Events: Throughout the year we offer family worship services, a Blessing of the Animals (and stuffed animals!), an Easter Egg Hunt and a Christmas Pageant, among other fun activities.

For more information contact:
Mick Hirsch, M.Div.
Director of Religious Education
mchirsch@hotmail.com, or (508) 488-7116 [cell]
CHURCH PHONE: (617) 524-1634

First Church in Jamaica Plain Unitarian Universalist

On Centre Street,
at the Monument



Children's Religious Education Program Winter/Spring 2012

First Church is a welcoming congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association. We welcome all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons and their families.

Are you and your children looking for a spiritual community in Jamaica Plain?

Do you believe religious education should be open-minded and affirming of diverse points of view, as well as be committed to social justice and peace?

Would you like to meet other like-minded families with whom to fellowship?

First Church invites you to join us in worship, creative play and learning.

On Sunday mornings we engage in a journey of storytelling, questioning, and creative expressionism with our children. Rooted in the Unitarian Universalist tradition, we celebrate a non-creedal approach to faith that encourages personal exploration in religious and spiritual matters. We teach with open minds and hearts, aiming to foster lifelong spiritual development in our children.

Services and Church School classes take place at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday from September through June.

The Religious Education Program at First Church is open to all interested families at no cost. Families make financial gifts to the church according to their means, as do all other congregational members and visitors.

RE Program Goals for our Children

- 1. Learn about the Judeo-Christian cultural and religious heritage, with special emphasis on biblical narratives and historical events;**
- 2. Understand UU values and principles, and foster a sense of UU identity;**
- 3. Develop an understanding of the world's major religions;**
- 4. Develop a sense of social responsibility and a commitment to social action;**
- 5. Appreciate both the majesty and fragility of our natural world;**
- 6. Wrestle with difficult spiritual and ethical questions, encouraging each child to develop a uniquely personal understanding of religion and the world;**
- 7. Have a sense of belonging to an inclusive, caring church community;**
- 8. Experience and participate in a multiplicity of worship styles and methods of prayer, including weekly exposure to singing spiritual songs.**