

RE Staff and Committee

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*Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of the
Emerald Coast*

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION PROGRAM

*Unitarian Universalist
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UUFEC RE Program

The mission of the UUEC Religious Exploration Program is to teach Unitarian Universalist principles through interactive lessons, create opportunities for children and youth to participate in social justice projects, and provide a safe place for children to explore. We provide classroom as well as play opportunities for children to be themselves in a nurturing environment

Volunteering

The UUFEC RE Program is actively seeking volunteers for a variety of activities:

- Teachers for Second Hour curricula
- Special program coordinators (ex. Holidays and Beach Con)
- Summer Sunday volunteers
- Committee Members
- Substitutes during First and Second Hour

Classes

The RE program offers classes for the children and youth of the UUFEC during First and Second Hours. Children should remain with their parents until the Story for All Ages, then proceed to the front of the sanctuary. After the story, children will be led out by their teachers.

Nursery (Birth-Age 4)

Nursery services are offered during both First and Second Hour. The nursery is staffed with two attendants who supervise constructive play. Parents are welcome in the nursery with their children. A small playground is available in good weather. Parents are requested to pick up their children promptly during the break.

Chalice Children (Ages 5-8)

During First Hour in Chalice Children we explore the UU 7 principles through books, stories, games, and song that encourage an understanding of compassion, kindness, and respect for one another and the world around us. Second Hour activities include crafts, special projects, and supervised play.

Elementary Program (Ages 9-12)

During First Hour, the children participate in a check-in discussing what's been happening in their lives over the past week with their teachers. They then participate in guided play. First Hour also provides an opportunity for special crafts and activities. During Second Hour, through interactive programs, the elementary children have an opportunity to learn and practice UU principles. Second Hour provides small group studies in which each child has a chance to share life experiences. The activities of each lesson are geared to age and interest levels.

Youth/Teens (Ages 13-18)

Currently, the youth are attending the adult First and Second Hour programs. However, the youth do come together for special projects such as Beach Con and homeless outreach.

Parenting Group

The parenting group meets monthly during Second Hour to discuss topics related to bringing up UU kids.

Special Programs

Holidays

The RE program offers special events for holidays throughout the year. We celebrate Halloween by trick-or-treating for UNICEF. We learn about the many holidays that celebrate winter and family. The kids enjoy a yearly Easter egg hunt.

Beach Con

We sponsor the last youth con each school year. Youth Conferences take place in UU Congregations in our four state district. The Youth Adult Caucus plans program and activities at these youth led conferences.

Summer Program

During the summer (1st Sunday in June to last Sunday in August), UUFEC members and friends volunteer to share their special talents with the children. Examples of past activities include sea life and dolphins, bridge building, music and crafts.

Social Justice Projects

The children and youth of UUFEC have participated in a number of social justice projects and new projects are initiated every year. We sent over 100 boxes of clothing and other needed items to the poor of Afghanistan. The youth organize themselves weekly to participate in the Homeless Services offered by the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Child Dedication

The UU Fellowship welcomes young children in a naming ceremony with flowers. The entire congregation dedicates ourselves to the child's care and nurture.