

Pre-School/Pre-K
RE Calendar 2016-2017

9/11	Intergenerational-RE Open House & Registration
9/18	#1 Welcome
9/25	#2 Inside our Congregation/Church
10/2	#3 Outside our Congregation/Church
10/9	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
10/16	PK-5th World Religion workshop
10/23	#4 Making Chalices
10/30	#5 All Around Us
11/6	#6 Chalice Necklaces
11/13	Intergenerational: Leaf Raking Sunday
11/20	PK-5th Holiday Lesson- Thanksgiving
11/27	PK-5th Holiday Lesson- Advent Wreaths
12/4	#7 The Beauty of Nature
12/11	#8 Fruit Chalices
12/18	Intergenerational- Christmas Pageant
12/25	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
1/1	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
1/8	#9 Chalice Flannel Board
1/15	#10 Helping Others
1/22	#11 A Special Jigsaw Puzzle
1/29	PK-5th Social Justice workshop
2/5	#12 Feeling Sad
2/12	#13 Babies
2/19	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
2/26	#14 Imagination
3/5	#15 My Shadow
3/12	PK-5th Holiday Lesson: Purim/Spring
3/19	#16 Friendship (teddy bear Sunday)
3/26	Intergenerational: RE Spring Sign-Ups
4/2	#17 Sick! (teddy bear Sunday)
4/9	PK-5th Holiday Lesson: Passover
4/16	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
4/23	#18 Lost! (teddy bear Sunday)
4/30	#19 Teddy Bear Party!!
5/7	Intergenerational: Music Sunday
5/14	Intergenerational: Affirmation
5/21	PK-5th World Religion workshop 2
5/28	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
6/4	RE Sunday Prep
6/11	Intergenerational: RE Sunday & Picnic Clbrtn

Discipline Policy

Participants in the Religious Education (RE) program are notably respectful, attentive and positive contributors to activities. Occasionally, however, discipline problems arise. In response to several requests, the RE Committee has discussed policies with a number of parents and teachers; the following policy is now in effect.

"Discipline problems" are defined as:

***Any violent act**

(hitting, throwing objects)

***Ongoing repeated behavior**

(swearing, constant disruption/disrespect)

A sequential pattern is recommended for handling discipline in the classroom: Ignore, Eye Contact, Gently Call the Child's Name, Involve them in the lesson, Remind them of Rules, Move Closer to them, Pause the Lesson to Redirect. If the child continues to misbehave, the RE Director will be called to assist in the classroom; If the child needs to leave the classroom, he/she will sit with the RE Director and parents will be notified of behavior.

RE Committee

Bethany Knoettner

Megan Kane

Andrea Flaherty

Jen Scarano

Lynn Neild

Jenn Smagula

Erin Nielson

Nicole Tracey (RE Director)

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Religious
Education

First Parish Church United
Westford, MA

Pre-School
Pre-K

2016-2017

2 Volunteer Teachers needed each Sunday

PK lesson folders are located in Room #2

Lessons can also be viewed on-line

[http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/chalice children](http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/chalice%20children)

<http://firstparishwestford.org/religious-education/>

Pre-School & Pre-K Curriculum

New this year... Pre-School & Pre-K students will be using the UU curriculum *Chalice Children: A Tapestry of Faith Program for Children*. This curriculum will introduce the basic tenets of our UU faith to young children and their families. Those tenets are our love, our covenantal community, our celebration of diversity, a personal sense of wonder and awe, and our hope and work for a better world.

Chalice Children is based on the belief that preschool children gain a sense of belonging to their religious community and the Unitarian Universalist faith when they have concrete experiences with its people and places. In *Chalice Children*, young children learn about their congregation's people and explore the physical building and surroundings that the congregation calls "home."

Chalice Children is based on the philosophy that a child's spiritual development is related to the child's own direct experiences. A playroom at home or school is the laboratory for living. Children's toys are their schoolbooks. Their paints and modeling clay are their pens and pencils. Young children discuss problems by reliving them in dramatic play. They question and wonder most vividly when in contact with real phenomena through touch, sight, or sound. Children learn the worth of other people when they encounter other children, experience conflicts in play, and discover that others have feelings, too.

The lessons in *Chalice Children* will:

- Nurture children's sense of wonder and respect for the world around us
- Grow children's sense of belonging to the congregation
- Celebrate the diversity of families, of individuals, and of ways of being in the world
- Build children's identity with a Unitarian Universalist congregation
- Teach to the importance of sharing and expressing love
- Support parents and caregivers in their search for a meaningful family life
- Nurture hope for a just and fair world.