



# Welcome!

**To UUMAN's Ministry with Children & Youth**

**We are delighted that you are interested in UUMAN's Ministry with Children & Youth (MCY). We serve a diverse community of families with young people from birth through high school.**

**We hope that you will find your experience with us meaningful. We appreciate the time that we will spend together & look forward to hearing your feedback.**

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# Join us!

If your family participates regularly in our MCY, we ask that you complete a ***Family Enrollment Form***. This is one way in which we enter into an agreement with one another as we build our shared ministry together.

We believe that the faith development of our children and youth is the responsibility of the entire congregation. *Whilst we request a voluntary donation of \$40 or more per child for MCY enrollment, we encourage families to provide strong financial support to UUMAN through their annual pledge.* With the support of our entire community we are able to provide professional staff, training, clean and attractive meeting spaces, meaningful curricula and general program supplies.

All financial contributions to UUMAN (501C) are tax deductible.

*Please see the **Director of our MCY** if you are interested in hearing about our scholarship or 'payment plan' options.*

# MCY Vision & Mission

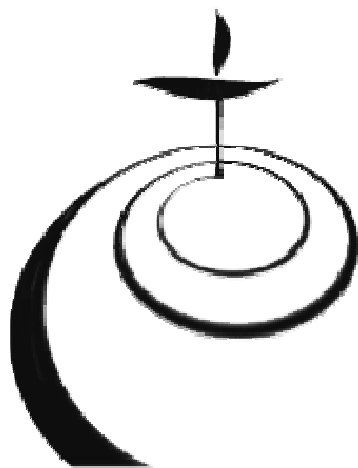
*Within UUMAN's MCY, we have articulated a vision of an inclusive, intentional community of young people & adults journeying together on a path of faith development where our relationships allow for mutual transformation.*

*Our mission is to join one another in a shared ministry that affirms the inherent human dignity of each member of our community.*

*Our goal is to build a relational ministry that supports & celebrates the development of each person's unique personality & gifts whilst being responsive to the needs of the ministry as well as those of the larger community. The diverse programs & activities that we offer provide many choices & opportunities for growth & transformation.*

*We are committed to a process that allows for the creation of a physically and emotionally safe environment where our UU Principles can be both lived and demonstrated.*

*UUMAN's MCY actively seeks & welcomes the input & participation of the entire congregation as we share the mutual benefits of worshipping, playing, serving, learning & growing together.*



# MCYC Council & Leadership

*One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.*

Chinese Proverb

The UUMAN Ministry with Children & Youth Council (MCYC) works in close partnership with the Director of Ministry with Children & Youth (DMCY). The MCYC meets monthly to review, coordinate, plan and implement the many components of our Ministry with Children & Youth (MCY).

The responsibilities of the **MCYC** include; recruiting, supporting & training volunteers, curriculum selection & evaluation, developing & implementing program goals, policies and procedures, coordinating & supporting Religious Exploration (RE) & Youth Program (YRUU) events and activities for our Young People, their Families, and our whole religious community. The MCYC members also serve as advocates for RE & YRUU Programming within the congregation & the wider community.

*Contact the DMCY for meeting location and times. All **meetings** are open visitors welcome!*

## MCYC Portfolios/Committees:

- **Chairperson**
- **Secretary**
- **Early Childhood Coordinator (DMCY)**
- **Vision Team Coordinator**
- **RE Associate Coordinator**
- **'Family Ministry Team' & Special Events Coordinator**
- **Curriculum Coordinator & Classroom Support**
- **Social Action Coordinator**
- **Worship Coordinator**

*All positions are 'staffed' by dedicated volunteers who serve 2 year terms. We welcome new members and new ideas! If you are interested in learning more about serving on the MCYC please contact **Toniann Read** or **Matthew Elliott**.*

# Religious Exploration



*"The great end in Religious Education is not to stamp our minds upon the young, but to stir up their own. Not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly with their own...not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules, but to awaken the conscience, the moral discernment. In a word, the great end is to awaken the soul, to excite and cherish spiritual life."*

William Ellery Channing

**Religious Exploration (RE) Teams** (young people & adults) meet in groups on Sunday mornings where they share experiences designed to build community whilst offering support for their relationships & faith development. We use age appropriate curricula and materials that have been thoughtfully developed by both established UU Religious Educators & other independent authors.

**RE Team Leaders** at UUMAN are **volunteers**. We are fortunate to be part of a community that supports Lifespan Faith Development with a special commitment to our young people and families. MCY volunteers are supported by an MCY Council and **Toniann Read**, Director of our MCY.

*"The teacher [parent, person] who listens and hears, who affirms and challenges, who questions and encourages questioning is at the heart of our programs...We must make manifest the miracle that we know happens when teacher-guides engage with young people, co-leaders and themselves. They become co-creators of a pilgrimage that goes ever deeper and feeds souls."*

*The Teacher as Spiritual Guide, Roberta Nelson*



# Religious Exploration Teams

## Fall 2009

### Nursery/Toddler

(Newborn – potty trained)

Sue Hagood (Professional childcare provider)

No formal curriculum

### Preschool & Pre-K

(3+ – 5 yrs)

Chalice Children

*This yearlong preschool curriculum helps young children learn what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. Using a chalice theme, children learn about their religious community, engage in sharing with others, and explore a sense of belonging.*

Kindergarten, Early Elementary (Grades 1-2), Upper Elementary (Grades 3-5) and Jr Youth (Grades 6-8)

Connected & Respected

*We will use curricula developed for each grade level that focus on making connections with emotional awareness and social responsibility. RE Teams are engaged in building a caring, respectful community affirming our **UU Principles**. Activities involve games, role-plays, songs and cooperative learning.*

### 'Coming of Age' (Grades 8&9)

*A year long journey where young people begin the transition from childhood to youth including an acknowledgment of the privileges and responsibilities that go along with it. The group will participate in activities that will help them to formulate their own views of faith, service and spirituality.*

### Sr Youth (Grades 9-12)

Popcorn Theology

*This year's curriculum uses popular films such as Star Trek and The Lord of the Rings as jumping off points for meaningful discussions about life, values and theology.*



# Volunteers

*"Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve"  
Dr Martin Luther King Jr.*

UUMAN's Ministry With Children & Youth (MCY) requires the support & commitment of our entire community. Here are some areas where your interests & needs might be met by serving our MCY. Click here for an [application form](#) & [volunteer resources](#).

## **RE Team Leader**

Participation as a member of a *Religious Exploration Team* (Sunday mornings)

## **Youth Advisor**

Youth Advisors participate in Youth Programming providing partnership & guidance while supporting Youth leadership at UUMAN & beyond.

## **Childcare**

For those interested in assisting our childcare providers in the Nursery/Toddler room or providing childcare for UUMAN activities/events.

## **MCY Council**

Participates in the workings of the MCY Council which provides ongoing Coordination & leadership for the operations component of UUMAN's RE & MCY programming.

## **Worship**

Work with the MCY Worship Coordinators to help integrate our Worship component into MCY activities including developing a 'Children's Chapel' Program.

## **Family Ministry Team (FMT) Leader**

Work with the MCY Family Ministry Team Coordinator to help build community by keeping folks connected, convening meetings & coordinating the activities of your FMT.

## **Social Justice**

Work with the MCY Social Action Coordinator to help integrate the Social Justice Component throughout our MCY with events such as 'Kids Together Days'.

## **Curriculum Team**

Work with the MCY Curriculum Team Coordinator to maintain the curriculum library & resources that serve our MCY. You will explore available curricula & make recommendations to the MCY Council.

## **MCY Associates**

Serve as greeters & represent the MCY on Sunday mornings. Associates welcome families & orient visitors. Associates ensure that Team Leaders are present & engage substitutes as needed. Associates also coordinate our Annual Registration process.

## **Special Events Volunteer**

Assist with events such as Teacher Recognition, Holiday Parties & 'Secret Friends'

## **Other**

Including data entry, photocopying, filing,  
Special Needs Resource, help maintain supplies, *your original idea!* (Please specify)