



***“Building
a Foundation
for Life”***

**225 W. Calhoun
Woodstock, IL. 60014
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SPIRITUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

As a growing thriving spiritual youth community, our purpose is to provide a safe and supportive environment that draws forth the spiritual truth that already resides within each child and offers them experiences of who “I Am” as a spiritual being, who “We are” as a family and community, and the sacred nature of God.

What We Believe

Unity’s 5 Basic Principles (Adapted for Children and Teens)

- 1. God is all good and active in everything, everywhere.***
- 2. I am naturally good because God’s Divinity is in me and in everyone.***
- 3. I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.***
- 4. Through affirmative prayer and meditation, I connect with God and bring out the good in my life.***
- 5. I do and give my best by living the Truth I know***

SUNDAY LESSON FORMAT

(When your child/teen is in class)

Pre-session: Activities provided before the lesson begins that introduces the theme of the lesson.

Sacred Circle: A time of community building, with prayer, affirmations, meditation and re-connecting. A love offering is also accepted to develop the practice of giving and receiving.

Lesson Content: An experience that is used to relate a truth teaching to life through the use of story, music, video clip or life experience.

Discussion: An exploration of the lesson and how it reflects Unity principle, Truth teachings and relates to their life.

Snack: A light snack is provided.

Creative Experience: The students participate in activities that explore the ideas presented.

Closing: All classes go to the sanctuary and all children and Uniteens are signed out at this time.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Sacred Safety:

For the safety of the children, we inquire into personal references and perform a criminal background check on all volunteers who work with our youth.

Allergies:

Each child's allergies are taken into account.

Registration: Our Youth Ministry classes are available for all youth ages 3 thru 18 years old. A Youth Ministry Greeter will assist you in registering your child. All children must be re-registered each September.

Arrival:

To ensure the maximum safety for the children, a parent/guardian is required to sign the child into the classroom. The same person is required to sign them out immediately following the service.

Please try to arrive by 10:00 AM so your child will be able to take advantage of the pre-session activities, and they will be able to join us at the beginning of the experience rather than walk into an activity that has already started.

Accommodations for Small Children

Toys:

Please leave toys in the car. Our children are busy with the day's spiritual exploration, and toys distract them from the program and group bonding experiences of the class.

Bathroom:

If your child needs to use the bathroom during class, an assistant will stand outside the door of the restroom. If your child needs assistance in using the bathroom, an assistant will come up to the service and request your assistance.

Attire:

Please note, that while every precaution is taken, we sometimes do activities that may soil their clothing. Please dress preschool children so that trips to the bathroom are easy for them.

Well Room Policy:

If your child is working through a health challenge* he/she will have difficulty participating in class and needs the caring attention and healing atmosphere of their home.

****Health challenges include symptoms of fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rashes, and/or eye infections.***

UNITOTS: Children thru age 2

On the main floor in: LIFE

Our service is piped into this comfortable space designed for parents and small children.



Classes for Children & Teens

UNITIKES: Age 3 thru Kindergarten

Meet on main floor in: LOVE

The "TIKES" use Unity's "What a Wonderful World" curriculum, a masterpiece of stories (both the Bible and contemporary children's literature) activities and our Co-Co the Wonder Bear puppet, to facilitate the Tikes loving themselves and others, and letting their light shine as a sacred expression of God.

UNIKIDS: Grades 1st thru 3rd grade

Meet downstairs in: ORDER

The "KIDS" use a variety of wonderfully inspired Unity curriculums with a wide array of topics throughout the year. The program is experiential where they learn more about God, themselves and others.

UNITEES: Grades 4th and 5th grade
Meet downstairs in: ZEAL

The "TEES" expand upon ideas presented in the "KIDS" program and stretch into more depth, understanding and performing more sacred service.

UNITEENS: 6th thru 8th Grade
Meet downstairs in: FAITH

This fellowship of spiritual exploration, helps participants to discover their unique talents and purpose, to learn how to apply Truth principles in their lives, to perform service projects, to participate in social activities and have fun!

Y.O.U. (Youth of Unity) 9th thru 12th grade
Meet downstairs in: IMAGINATION

This group provides an opportunity for high school students to discover, explore and develop an inner Christ potential in a safe place: where they are heard and respected and where they are given the opportunity to stretch and to grow.

The Y.O.U. also participates in fun social activities and service projects. Y.O.U. provides an opportunity to attend Retreats and Rallies with other Unity youth from the region and even around the world.

Youth & Family Ministry Team

Our Youth and Family Ministry program is supported by a team of approximately 40 congregants as teachers, assistants or behind the scene angels.

*Each class is guided by a
Coordinator:*

*Jan Yee..... Unitikes Coordinator
Darlene Preikschat..... Unikids Coordinator
Holly Yee..... Unitees Coordinator
Karen Leparski..... Uniteen Coordinator
Sophie Gaziano.....YOU Coordinator*

The entire Youth and Family Ministry is supported by our

Youth Ministry Leadership Council:

*Barbara Hackel, Deb Hanneman
Tiffanie Jacobson, Jan Yee, Nancy Nott
and Marie Wendt*

Youth Ministry Director:

Marie Wendt

*Home phone: (847) 462-0267
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