

**What are you doing this year in service for your religious home?
You could lead and learn and grow with creative and exciting
young people in the USNF RE program for children and youth!!**

This congregation has a rich and complex program that provides for a formal religious education experience for our children and youth. We are committed to a quality of community-based spiritual enrichment of our children. This means that we provide the most consistent, safe and sacred experience possible, attending to minute details such as pre-planning classroom spaces through planning more complex social action projects, to collectively hearing COAers into speech during the credo service. It is all of a piece, and the program belongs to the whole congregation. There is something special, when worshipping in the Great Hall with COAers or the YRUU group, to having memories of working with these young people when they were younger, being able to identify moments that something you did personally mattered to them.

These are some of the service opportunities that are available in the RE Program this year. All of our positions are collaborative, working with at least one other adult.

- Teaching K-5th grade at the 9:15 service.
- Teaching 7th grade at the 11:00 service. (The 7th grade curriculum is Neighboring Faiths, an experiential curriculum of world religions that features many fieldtrips as well as classroom learning.)
- Teaching 8th grade/COA at the 11:00 service. The COA class needs four more members on the leadership team. (We especially invite men to join this team.) (See details below.)
- The YRUU youth group needs three or four more Youth Advisors. (We especially invite men to join this team.) (See details below.)

- Serve on the RE Action Team – a pilot project to support social action in the classroom – particularly aimed at bringing teachers and classes together with various social action projects in the congregation.

- Collaborate with others to create and lead one of the two lay-led children's worship Sundays in the Social Room.

COMING OF AGE

Our COA program is state of the art. It is a carefully choreographed series of classes and activities — learning opportunities for experience and growth, explicit and implicit faith-building experiences, fun, introspection, social action, and worship. The wild card in this program each year is the investment of the adult leadership, the skills, talents, personality, and energy they bring to the young people. We have been blessed over the years with incredible adults who partner with one another to join with the COAers in this incredible year of exploration. Please consider helping us extend that blessing this year.

The Core Leadership team consists of 5-6 people, who take responsibility for different sections of the curriculum, and different Sundays. In addition, there are always 3 or 4 support positions. As of August 23, there is only one core teacher signed up. We are well staffed for support positions, but cannot begin the program until there are at least 3 more adults to join Kim Henrichon in this endeavor. Because of the support team of Sallie Lawton, Suzan Seymour and Patti McGuinness, much of the administration and chaperoning duties will come off the shoulders of the core week-to-week leadership team.

YOUNG RELIGIOUS UUS

Our YRUU group, anticipated to be 30-35 strong this year, is extraordinary. Last year these incredible young people committed time and effort to send four of their members to Transylvania (a highly successful trip you'll be hearing more about later). They worship together, share, lead, grow, play, listen, learn, and serve and are truly phenomenal group of young Unitarian Universalists.

The youth still need three or four more adults to join the Advisor Team. The four current volunteer youth advisors are parents of young children and can only support approximately 1/2 of the activities and events the YRUU group does in a year. Until the paid Youth Director position is filled, the advisors will be supporting basic youth functions, that is, Sunday afternoon meetings. Once a YD is on board, the leadership team, with the youth, will plan out their year — activities, leadership development opportunities, social action, worship, and fun in a way that works for all. Please Consider Joining them!

YOUTH ADVISOR TRAINING

Clara Barton District Senior High and Middle School Youth Advisor Training is scheduled for September 8 in Groton, MA. The RE program is funding all our YRUU advisors, any 6-8th grade teachers who would like to attend, and one youth from each high school grade, but still need volunteers in 10th and 11th grade.

This training is designed for new high school advisors and middle school teachers looking for the basics, as well as seasoned leaders looking for more. Topics covered include empowering and equipping youth, community building, balanced programming, liability issues, involvement in the congregation, and more. There will be an opportunity for large group work as well as break-out groups specific middle-school and high school. Preregistration is required for this single day intensive. Please plan to arrive on time and stay until the completion of the training. Youth attending **MUST** be sponsored by their local UU congregation and attend with an adult sponsor who is also taking the training. Contact Cindy Beal to discuss this and to be preregistered, attendees will carpool.

More USNF Jobs That Need Doing

Please consider volunteering for one of these two volunteer tasks which are both important to our religious community. If you can assist with either one, please contact Cathie Brown at 584-5521 or cathiebrown@comcast.net.

CHILDCARE COORDINATOR

This volunteer would obtain a list of trained child care providers from Cindy Beal, DRE, at the beginning of the year. The job would entail calling these youth and engaging them for childcare when society events or meetings are held that will need childcare, making sure the childcare workers are available for the event, setting up a sign-up sheet for parents in case of

emergency, and submitting vouchers to get the youth paid following the event.

COFFEE HOUR COORDINATOR(S)

Every Sunday we have a coffee hour between the two morning services. This volunteer or volunteer team would sign up members and friends to host the weekly coffee hour, coordinate supplies for coffee hour with the administrator, and remind people who volunteered to host the week before hand. You do not have to serve the coffee yourself every week. If this position is not filled the coffee hour will be replaced with a simple social hour (no coffee or tea) instead.