



June, 2010

Dear North Parish Parents,

The Religious Education (RE) Committee is currently planning the RE programming for the 2010-2011 year. An important part of that planning is, of course, registering our students. While parents with enrolled children are expected to volunteer, we hope that the opportunity to serve the children and youth of our congregation will also be a wonderful, deepening experience. **Please review the information below and on the attached forms, decide how you would like to be involved next year, and complete the form(s) and return it by the end of June** (online to [dre@northparish.org](mailto:dre@northparish.org) or via mail to 3 Great Pond Road). If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Danielle Gerrior ([dre@northparish.org](mailto:dre@northparish.org)).

Programming for next year includes the following components. The program descriptions and volunteer commitment are detailed on the back of this form.

### Grades preK-5

Each Sunday, students and teachers begin in the sanctuary for the first fifteen minutes or so of worship. On most Sundays, everyone will then go to their classrooms on the second floor of the RE wing for age-specific programming. On weeks where low attendance is expected (long weekends and school vacations, for example), the children will go all together to the first floor of the RE wing to have children's chapel together. On those Sundays, regular RE teachers do not have responsibilities.

### Middle School

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: *Neighboring Faiths* for grades 6-8 will meet from 11:00-12:30 to explore other faiths and beliefs, including field trips to other faith communities, led by teachers and supported by visit and transportation coordinators.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Junior Youth Group for grades 6-8 will meet from 11:00-12:30. Youth will participate in social action and community-building projects under the guidance of co-leaders and with the support of assistants.

Sundays (January through June): *Our Whole Lives* for grade 8 will meet from 6:00-8:30 pm. Trained facilitators lead sessions that help youth make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior.

### High School

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month: *Coming of Age* for 9<sup>th</sup> graders will meet from 11:00-12:30. Youth will investigate their personal spirituality and develop a greater sense of what they believe through the program, with the support of adult mentors.

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month: Senior Youth Group for grades 9-12 will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:00. Youth will participate in social action and community-building projects under the guidance of co-leaders and with the support of assistants.

## Descriptions of Programs and Volunteer Commitment

### Teaching Grades PreK - K Sunday Morning

**6 teachers**

Classes meet on the middle weeks of each month at 9 and 11 in three sessions (fall, winter, and spring). This year's curriculum, *Chalice Children*, will be provided to the teachers. Two teachers are needed for each session 8-9 Sundays per session).

### Teaching Grades 1 - 5 Sunday Morning

**12 teachers**

Classes meet on most weeks of each month at 9 and 11 in three sessions (fall, winter, and spring). This year's curriculum will focus on Judaism and Christianity. Two teachers for each grade group (e.g. 1-3 and 4-5, depending on enrollment numbers) for each session (8-9 Sundays per session). Teaching responsibilities include preparing materials for each class, finding substitutes when needed, and alerting the DRE of problems as they arise.

### Neighboring Faiths Transportation Coordinator

**1 coordinator**

Organize transportation (most likely carpools) for each of the five visits to neighboring faith communities in the Merrimack Valley and Greater Boston areas. Must attend a summer planning meeting with the teachers, visit coordinator and liaison to the DRE.

### Junior Youth Group Co-leader

**1 more co-leader needed**

Four leaders divide responsibilities for the year, leading youth in grades 6-8 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month in a variety of social action and community building activities. Returning co-leaders Alison Sparks and Sandy and Dave Bishop have already outlined plans for the year.

### Junior Youth Group Assistant

**7 assistants**

Assistants help implement and chaperone the activities for JYG. Three assistants needed for fall, two for winter, and two for spring.

### Senior Youth Group Co-leader

**3 co-leaders**

Two leaders lead youth in grades 9-12 on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday evenings of the month in a variety of social action and community building activities.

### OWL Facilitator

**2 facilitators**

Three trained facilitators teach *Our Whole Lives* curriculum to 8<sup>th</sup> graders on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. Teachers will rotate so that two will attend each session. Training is available and mandatory. *Our Whole Lives* helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. Volunteers must not be parents of youth in the class.

### COA Mentor

**4 mentors**

Two male and two female mentors are needed to work with COA 9<sup>th</sup> graders in a small group format. Commitment will likely include a fall and a spring retreat and meetings on two Sundays each month. Mentors must not be parents of youth in the class.

### Children's Chapel Presenter

**3-5 presenters**

Adults from the congregation are sought to make one-time presentations to the children during children's chapel on spiritual or religious topics of their own interest, such as meditation, drumming, mandalas, or prayer shawls.

Children's Chapel Assitants

**2 assistants**

Attend and assist with activities planned and led by DRE on designated Sundays. Volunteers have little to no organizational responsibilities, but help with classroom management and are expected to join in enthusiastically.

Nursery Assistants

**6 assistants**

Extra hands are needed to assist our Nursery Supervisor and Nursery Aide at the 9am and 11am services in the fall, winter and spring terms. Patience and playfulness are required, planning and diaper-changing are not.



THE NORTH PARISH OF NORTH ANDOVER UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
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**Step 5 - Indicate Your Volunteer Preference:**

For the collaborative nature of the Religious Education program to succeed, we ask all parents with children enrolled in the RE Program to sign up for some volunteer commitment, after being involved at the church for six months. **We also welcome and encourage the volunteer participation of other adults or teens in the congregation.** Please indicate the area(s) you are interested in assisting in below. Please keep in mind that, although our primary need is for classroom teachers, all of our programs require volunteer support in order to succeed, and we hope you will find a role that fits your skills, interests and schedule. The RE Committee will be contacting you in August with greater details about the program year ahead and the commitment we will be asking of you.

Volunteer #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching Grades PreK-5 Sunday Morning 9AM

Teaching Grades PreK-5 Sunday Morning 9AM

Teaching Grades PreK-5 Sunday Morning 11AM

Teaching Grades PreK-5 Sunday Morning 11AM

Neighboring Faiths Visit Coordinator

Neighboring Faiths Visit Coordinator

Junior Youth Group Co-leader

Junior Youth Group Co-leader

Junior Youth Group Assistant

Junior Youth Group Assistant

Senior Youth Group Co-leader

Senior Youth Group Co-leader

OWL Facilitator

OWL Facilitator

COA Mentor

COA Mentor

Children's Chapel Volunteer Coordinator

Children's Chapel Volunteer Coordinator

Children's Chapel Assistant

Children's Chapel Assistant

Nursery Assistant

Nursery Assistant

Children's Chapel Presenter  
This year's examples included:

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- \* Meditation
- \* Drumming
- \* Music
- \* Storytelling
- \* Social Action (Birthday in a Box)

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- \* Drumming
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- \* Storytelling
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I am interested in:  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in:  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**Step 1 - Select Your Child(ren)'s Program(s):**

We are registering for (check all that apply):

- Nursery (ages 0-3 years)  9:00 service  11:00 service
- Sunday Morning Program (Grades PreK-5)  9:00 service  11:00 service
- Neighboring Faiths Program (Grades 6-8; 11:00 service only - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month)
- OWL Sexuality Education Program (Grade 8; three Sundays per month, January through June)
- Junior Youth Group (Grades 6-8; 11:00 service only - two Sundays each month)
- Senior Youth Group (Grades 9-12; 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday evenings of the month)
- Coming Of Age Program (Grade 9; Sunday mornings, 11:00 service only)

Parent #1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD (REN)'S NAMES		AGE	DATE OF	NURSERY/PRE-
FIRST	LAST	(as of 9/2010)	BIRTH	K/SCHOOL GRADE
				(as of 9/2010)

**Step 2 - Pay:**

Registration fee for ALL programs is \$30 per child (maximum \$60 per family).

Checks are made payable to *North Parish*; please indicate "RE Registration" on memo line.

While we benefit greatly from family support of our programs, we never want inability or difficulty in paying to keep someone from registering their child(ren). If for any reason you cannot pay the registration fee, please contact Danielle Gerrior ([dre@northparish.org](mailto:dre@northparish.org)) for a waiver. All requests will be kept confidential.

Registration fee is attached

**Step 3 - Tell Us about Your Child(ren)**

At North Parish, we know that each child is unique and has his or her own needs. We can serve each child best when we have some information about who that child is. We will use this information only to provide the best possible experience for each child.

Does your child have any health or dietary problems/concerns we should be aware of (especially allergies)?

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Should we be aware of any learning challenges your child faces?

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Is there anything else you want us to know about your child?

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**Step 4 - Sign Permission Form**

I hereby give North Parish staff or volunteers permission to obtain medical treatment when I cannot be reached or when a delay would be dangerous to my child's health.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child(ren) to take walks within the church vicinity with their teachers. I understand that a special permission form will be provided to me for all other field trips.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for photographs of my children to be displayed on the walls at North Parish

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for photographs of my children to be displayed on brochures or the North Parish website (without children's names)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_