



# Family Tree

Morgan Watson  
Director of Religious Education  
dre@uuathensga.org  
www.uuathensga.org~ EDUCATION tab

Religious Education for Children & Youth

DECEMBER 2016

## FALL Schedule & Curricula

### Children's Religious Education (RE) PreK~5<sup>th</sup> Grade

RE classes for this age level take place during the 11am service. Children gather with their parents in the sanctuary to enjoy the first 15 minutes of worship together and then "sing out" to their religious education program from **11:15-12:15**. Parents are asked to please pick up promptly at 12:15.

There are no RE classes at 9am, though childcare is available as needed.

### Youth Group & Coming of Age (CoA) 6~12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Youth meet together on and the Second Sundays from 11-12:30 pm and on Fourth Sundays from 12:30-2pm.

Please visit these online links for schedule details:

[Children's RE Schedule](#) [Youth/CoA Schedule](#)

### Class Curricula

**Chalice Children (Gr. preK-1)** meets in the Forest Room for [World of Wonder](#) during second service.

**Seekers (Gr 2-5)** meets in the Ocean Room for the UUA's [Miracles](#) online curriculum, along with [Hands-On Nature](#), during second service.

**Youth Group/CoA (Gr 6-12)** meets in the Youth Room for the lessons from the [Coming of Age Handbook for Congregations](#), a UU Identity program.

### Nursery for children 3 & under

Our nursery caregivers, Erin Favre & Marcus Prince are happy to care for our youngest UUs during services. Children of all ages may join them during the forum or any other UUFA activities held between services. Children through age 4 may attend the nursery during all-ages services.

**Hours are 8:45-12:15 when there are two services.**

## December Sundays

### December 4~ CWS

Children & youth begin in the sanctuary, then dismiss to the Rainbow Room for our monthly 1st Sunday **Children's Worship Service (CWS)**. This Sunday, we introduce the monthly congregational theme of **Illumination**. We'll highlight various religious holiday candle-lighting rituals and discuss ways we can shine our inner light to brighten darkness, followed by chalice-making and Kindness Container activity stations. Children's Music Leader Paul Schliekelman will lead fun holiday songs. Youth in grades 6-12 are encouraged to sign up for leadership roles by contacting Morgan.

### December 11~ RE Classes

**Chalice Children & Seekers** ~ *Bioluminescence: Shining lights in nature; shining our human lights*  
**Youth**~ *Rituals & Spiritual Practice*, 11-12:30

### December 18~ All-Ages Worship Service

There are no religious education classes during All-Ages Worship Services, but childcare is available as needed. There will be opportunities for children and youth to participate in the worship service. Please let Morgan know if your child would like a role, including leading the congregation in singing "Jingle Bells".

### December 25; January 1

There are no religious education classes on these holidays, and children and youth are invited to join parents in the sanctuary for worship.

*One service at 11am only on these dates.*

## Children's Charity

Each Sunday during RE Class or the CWS, we pass an offering can to give children the opportunity to donate to our children's charity, [Food 2 Kids](#), which assists children who are at risk of hunger by sending them home from school with easy-to-prepare bags of food. Please encourage your children to bring their change or dollar bills for this love offering.

## Volunteer Corner



### Children's Religious Education Committee

This team partners with the Director of Religious Education to oversee all components of the Children's Religious Education program, including Sunday RE, All-Ages worship services, and special events. We meet on the **SECOND SUNDAY**, following the second service, in the Youth Room. You're welcomed to come by any time and see what we're up to! **12:30-2:00pm**

**Dec 11, Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 12**

### Children's Worship Service Assistant

The CWS Assistant helps Morgan as she leads the worship service that takes place on the first Sunday of each month. Children begin in the sanctuary and sing out to CWS from the 11am service.

**Needed Jan 8, Mar 5, and Apr 2**

### Classroom Monitors

Classroom monitors are needed for each RE room to help the DRE and teachers straighten and organize materials in both the rooms and in the RE Supply closet to help keep our materials easily accessible to teachers. Occasional table wiping, window washing, and floor shampooing would be plusses! Work on your own time, or coordinate with other monitors for more fun!

### Nifty Gifty Elves

UUFA elves are busy preparing for our holiday craft extravaganza! At Nifty Gifty, kids can make as many as 10 gifts from the heart to give to family and friends during the holiday season. We'll need lots of helper elves to make this event a hit.

Love to make crafts? Are you a creative gift wrapper? Love to decorate? Join the fun! [Sign up online](#) or in the Fellowship Hall.



## Upcoming Events

**Saturday,  
December 10~  
Nifty Gifty**



Get your jinglebells on and come on out for a day of holiday merriment! Children and adults will have the opportunity to make and wrap as many as 10 different gifts to give to loved ones with

pride in a festive atmosphere. Santa Claus brings his special brand of cheer from 11-12, and he'll offer his lap for family photo opportunities. There will be volunteer elves to help children so parents can sip cider and mingle with each other, or drop off children ages 7 and up to run errands if permission form is on file. An adult must enter the building on drop off and pick up to sign in and out. A suggested donation of \$3-5 helps offset costs. Advance sign ups are recommended, as we will limit participation to 40 gift-makers. Find [registration forms online](#) or as sign up sheets at UUFA.

**9am-12pm, Fellowship Hall**

## Down the Line...

**Monday, January 16~**

Martin Luther King "Day ON" family service time. Families can sign up to work at one of 18 locations around Athens from 9-12, then gather here at UUFA for a celebratory lunch. An [MLK Parade and Festival](#) will take place downtown from 3-6, hosted by Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement.



**Saturday, March 18~**

Spring Equinox Celebration

**Sunday, April 16~**

Easter Egg Hunt and festivities

PLEASE REMEMBER TO [REGISTER](#) CHILDREN AND YOUTH FOR RE!