

Youth Religious Education Volunteer Positions!!

Youth Religious Education (YRE) Program Volunteer Positions

Our YRE program is cooperative and depends largely on volunteer leadership and support! The 2007-2008 programs will require the participation of some 240 volunteers! Our expectation is that all parents in families with children enrolled in YRE will select volunteer positions after six months of registration in the program. Generally volunteer positions require between 15-35 hours of service per year.

It is our mission to match all volunteers with positions that will be rewarding and to support you as well as we can in your work.

***Parents who serve on the Board of Directors or as chairs of other committees are exempt from YRE volunteer commitments. Parents who have extenuating circumstances may also be considered for service exemption by contacting the DRE.*

The following job descriptions will provide you with basic information about job responsibilities and time commitments. Position preference can be indicated on YRE registration forms. For additional information please contact Tryst Chagnon, Director of Religious Education, at dre@uufr.org.

How do I sign up??

For non-teaching positions:

-write your name on the slot you want and include your position title on your YRE registration form.

-If you do not have children in YRE, write your name on the slot you want and email Tryst Chagnon, at dre@uufr.org.

For teaching positions:

-Please contact Tryst Chagnon at dre@uufr.org

Teaching and Advising Positions

Sunday Morning Teaching Positions:

General information:

Our Lead Teachers are responsible for the preparation of Lessons for Sunday Classes (curriculum and resources are provided). They are asked to attend a general teacher training and are offered optional trainings on topics relevant to class leadership and management. Class assistants do not prepare lessons but do oversee class attendance, visitor and registration form completion, and class behavior management. We encourage teachers to meet together as teams periodically in order to form relationships with the teachers they will work with and to work toward providing cohesive programming for our children and youth. Lead and assistant teachers may choose to volunteer in blocks or monthly; they coordinate teaching schedules with their class parent.

Nursery Assistants (4)

Nursery assistants support our nanny, Shin Yiing, on Sunday mornings in her work nurturing our youngest UUs (0-24 months). They volunteer an average of once per month.

Preschool Lead Teachers (4)

Lead teachers in our preschool classes volunteer twice per month during our program year (about 20 Sundays).

Preschool Class Assistants (6)

Preschool class assistants volunteer about twice per month during our program year (about 20 Sundays). We schedule one assistant per week in our 2s class and two per week in our 3s class.

Spiritplay Storytellers (12)

Storytellers lead our spiritplay classes about once per month (10 Sundays per year), and introduce story materials as part of each Sunday session. Storytellers are encouraged to attend a Spiritplay training led by Nita Penfold, developer of the Spiritplay model, which is offered once per year. The Spiritplay model is a Montessori-based religious education model.

Spiritplay Doorkeepers (12)

Doorkeepers assist in our spiritplay classes about once per month (10 Sundays per year), and introduce story materials as part of each Sunday session; they are encouraged to attend a Spiritplay training led by Nita Penfold, developer of the Spiritplay model, which is offered once per year. The Spiritplay model is a Montessori-based religious education model.

2nd Grade Lead Teachers (3)

Next year's 2nd grade class will use the curriculum, Stories About God, which introduces many different ways that people think about the meaning of 'God'. These teachers volunteer about once per month (10 Sundays) per year.

2nd Grade Assistants (3)

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3rd and 4th Grade Lead Teachers (6)

Next year's 3rd and 4th grade class will explore Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. This large class will have frequent 'break out' work, so we are scheduling two lead teachers per week that will coordinate together to oversee large group and breakout time. These teachers volunteer about once per month (10 Sundays) during our program year.

3rd and 4th Grade Class Assistants (6)

Next year's 3rd and 4th grade class will explore Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. This large class will have frequent 'break out' work, so we are scheduling two lead teachers per week that will coordinate together to oversee large group and breakout time. These teachers volunteer about once per month (10 Sundays) during our program year.

5th and 6th Grade Lead Teachers (3)

Next year's 5th and 6th grade class will explore the life of Jesus and discuss the difference between views of Jesus as a historical or spiritual figure. Class teachers will volunteer about once per month (10 Sundays per year).

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Middle School Lead Teachers (3)

Next year's middle school class will use the curriculum, Neighboring Faiths, which explores the world's religions. Each unit will spend three weeks exploring a tradition and will end with a field trip to a house of worship in that tradition. This class will coordinate field trips with students from the Peace Fellowship in North Raleigh. Teachers volunteer an average of 10 Sundays (with a preference for consistent leadership during each block).

Middle School Class Assistants (3)

Next year's middle school class will use the curriculum, *Neighboring Faiths*, which explores the world's religions. Each unit will spend three weeks exploring a tradition and will end with a field trip to a house of worship in that tradition. This class will coordinate field trips with students from the Peace Fellowship in North Raleigh. Teachers volunteer an average of one time per month 10 Sundays (with a preference for consistent leadership during each block).

9th-10th Grade Lead Teachers (2)

Next year's Senior High classes will use two discussion-based curricula: *The Gospel According to Simpsons* and one based on Bill Moyer's series on the World's Religions. Lead teachers will facilitate these discussions. The class will rotate between months of class sessions and months of participation in services. Teachers volunteer about 10 Sundays per year.

9th-10th Grade Class Assistants (2)

Next year's Senior High classes will use two discussion-based curricula: *The Gospel According to Simpsons* and one based on Bill Moyer's series on the World's Religions. Lead teachers will facilitate these discussions. The class will rotate between months of class sessions and months of participation in services. Teachers volunteer about 10 Sundays per year.

11th-12th Grade Lead Teachers (2)

Next year's Senior High classes will use two discussion-based curricula: *The Gospel According to Simpsons* and one based on Bill Moyer's series on the World's Religions. Lead teachers will facilitate these discussions. The class will rotate between months of class sessions and months of participation in services. Teachers volunteer about 10 Sundays per year.

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Substitutes 'On Call' (4)

Substitutes on call get to be angels every week they volunteer! They check in with the YRE staff on one Sunday per month to see if they are needed in order to cover for absent teachers. Substitutes on call must be ready to fill-in for lead or assistant teachers in any age group. If there are no teacher absences, substitutes on call may attend the service.

Summer Preschool Class Assistants (2)

Each summer session this year will be a unique activity. Summer assistants are asked to assist on at least six weeks during the summer session, and will help our lead preschool teacher with the 2s and 3s.

Summer Elementary Class Assistants (8)

Each summer session this year will be a unique activity. Summer assistants are asked to assist on at least six weeks during the summer session. We hope to schedule four assistants to work with our lead teacher each Sunday during the summer.

Youth (teen) Ministry Positions:

General Information:

Adults working with youth are encouraged to attend an adviser training during the summer. While these positions are for leadership opportunities that take place outside of regular YRE class times, we do encourage all adults working with youth to work as a team with the other teachers and advisors that work within the same age range. Advisors may choose to occasionally serve as substitute teachers in the classes offered to their students, and may also participate in youth leadership team meeting periodically during the year.

Middle School Youth Advisor (~2)

Middle school advisors co-lead monthly youth group activities, which are supported by a middle school youth group coordinator. They are expected to attend one activity per month, usually held on Friday nights.

High School Youth Advisor (~6)

High School Advisors co-lead weekly (except on Second Sundays, when youth participate in the Soulful Sundown services) High School youth group meetings, which are supported by a high school youth group coordinator. They are expected to attend one meeting per month, currently held on Sunday nights.

Coming of Age Mentor (~8)

Coming of Age mentors participate in monthly meetings with a committed group of Sr. High students enrolled in the coming of age program. They will attend educational sessions and discussions with their mentees.

Coming of Age Advisor (2)

Coming of Age advisors lead session at UUFR with the youth enrolled in Coming of age and their mentors and co-lead three overnight retreats with our Coming of age youth (and coming of age youth in other area congregations). This is a wonderful opportunity to greatly impact a group of committed youth, and requires a commitment to participate in and help plan about 5 Sunday morning sessions and two overnight retreats. Advisors may also assist in the planning and implementation of a year long social action or fundraising project.

Coming of Age Trip (and trip fund-raising) Planner (1)

Typically the youth in the coming of age class go on a big trip at the end of the year. They raise money through the year to help diffuse the cost of the trip. We want for the coming of age trip planner to help the youth plan and oversee their fundraising projects and to assist them in the planning of their final trip.

Our Whole Lives Positions:

Elementary OWL Facilitators (8)

This year we will offer Elementary OWL programs over the summer. Facilitators are required to attend a UUA sponsored training on June 1-2nd. The Elementary OWL programs meet for 4-5 sessions (4th-6th grade classes will also attend a weekend retreat at Shelterneck in Aug.)

Middle School OWL Facilitators (3)

Middle School OWL is an intense commitment, both for participants and for facilitators. Facilitators are required to attend a UUA sponsored weekend training and lead 27 90-minute sessions over the course of the year. OWL facilitators in this age group are exempt from volunteer positions in the 2008-2009 year.

On-going positions (non-teaching)

YRE Office Volunteer Positions:

General Information: Office volunteers may assist with a variety of duties that arise in the YRE office. They may include making phone calls, performing administrative duties, preparing materials for Sunday classes, making copies, and more! We ask that office volunteers sign up for one regular shift per month, which may be between 1-3 hours long. For example, these shifts may be on the 'first ____ of the month.' Office hours are: Tues and Thurs 10am-3pm, Wed. night 6-8pm, and Sunday morning 9:30-1pm.

YRE Thursday Office Assistants (4)

Wed. Evening Office Volunteers (4)

Tues. Office Volunteers (4)

Class Parents (10)

Each class has a 'class parent', a position we added last year and will emphasize even more in the fall. This volunteer serves as the 'information hub' for the class and is responsible for coordinating teacher schedules, communicating with parents about class lessons or plans each week, scheduling teaching team meetings, and organizing a parent meeting

at the start of the year. We also encourage class parents to organize one social gathering per year for the families in their class. In my opinion, strong class parent leadership can have one of the greatest impacts of any positions on the quality of our YRE classes.

Card Maker (1)

We strive to send hand-made cards to visitors. We seek someone who likes to make cards!

Card Writer (1)

We also seek someone who would like to write a monthly batch of cards--thank you notes, sympathy cards, etc.

Birthday Card Coordinator FILLED

In the past we sent children cards on their birthdays! This is no longer something the staff can support, but we would like to return to this practice. We would provide the Birthday Card Coordinator with cards, stamps, and a YRE registration list organized by birthday.

Storage Closet Organization (4)

We have four YRE storage areas....and we hope we can find someone to adopt each one! Adopting a closet will mean keeping it tidy over the course of the year.

Lending Library Librarian FILLED

This volunteer will oversee the database and check out procedures for our YRE lending library. They will also maintain the organization maintenance of library materials.

YRE Photographer FILLED

This person will take photographs of YRE classes and activities to be used in newsletters, publicity materials, and RE news emails. We are hopeful that a photographer will help us compile an end of year 'YRE Yearbook' in the form of a picture CD.

YRE Material Scanner (1)

This person will be given monthly scanning jobs. We often need readings scanned so they can be sent to class or workshop participants and we also want to scan-in more of the wonderful artwork our kids do so that we can include it in our end of year yearbook.

Kid's Social Hour Sponsors (4)

Social hour sponsors purchase, prepare, and clean-up kid's social hour refreshments once per month. Expenses will be reimbursed.

Children and Youth Care Liason (1)

This person will correspond with class parents in order to asses care needs for children and parents of children. Needs will be communicated with the care committee.

YRE REsearch Assistants (2)

Research assistants will be assigned topics to research as needed that are related to Religious Education topics relevant to our program.

Children's Worship Musician (1)

We plan just a few children's worship services per year, which are held for children ages 4 yrs. Through 6th grade. We are seeking someone to lead us in song during these services!

Volunteer Childcare (non-Sunday morning) Assistant (4-8)

We offer childcare when it is requested on Wed. evenings and during some events open to members of the congregation. Childcare is led by a paid nanny; frequently we can use volunteer assistance with childcare. In most cases childcare is offered on Wed. evenings, Saturday mornings, or Sunday afternoons.

Sunday Morning Greeters (with your kids!) (4)

This is a great job to do with your kids! We are hoping to have four sets of family greeters to assist the membership greeters on Sunday mornings. You may give a friendly hello to folks that visit with children and show them to the classrooms that their children will be in. It's always great for kids to make a friend right away....and for visiting parents to receive the care and attention that a special YRE greeter can provide them with! These volunteers would work about one Sunday per month.

Spiritplay Material Shopping Coordinator (1)

This volunteer will work closely with the Spiritplay Storymaker Coordinator, who will provide them with a list of the quirky items that are needed for story production!

Parent Education Class Facilitators (~4-8)

***When the 'parent support' portfolio on the YRE Committee is filled, that person will organize learning opportunities for parents. (S)he will need a team of facilitators that can lead one course of classes per year. Resources and facilitator training are available through the YRE staff.

Videographer (1)

This person would take video footage of YRE Events and worship services.

Spiritplay Storymakers (~6)

Spiritplay uses concrete materials to help children truly learn stories. Storytellers use these physical pieces to lay the story out for the children. Making story materials can be a LOT of fun...and can also take some time. This year we want to share the fun with a team of storymakers who will be organized by one central storymaking coordinator.

Spiritplay Storymaker Coordinator (1) FILLED

This person oversees the production of the year's Spiritplay stories.

Spiritplay Parent Communication Coordinator (1) FILLED

This new position will help communicate with parents of Spiritplay children, providing information about this model of RE.

Shoppers (4)

Each week Beth or I will call a designated shopper to convey our program shopping needs. We ask four 'shoppers' to commit to one week per month that they will be able to shop for us! All expenditures will be reimbursed.

Cleaning Crew (4)

We seek four folks to come in about four times per year (every two to three months) for special or routine cleaning projects.

Bulletin Board Artists (2)

Each artist is assigned a bulletin board (or an area of bulletin boards) to decorate and maintain through the year.

YRE Committee Members (~12)

***Linda Puertolas has prepared more detailed information about committee roles.

After Service Playground Supervisors (8)

We hope to begin supervised playground time following services next year, so that parents may enjoy social time during the coffee hour. Two adults must supervise each session. Volunteers will be on duty one Sunday per month from noon to 1pm, weather permitting, during the program year.

Kid's Social Hour Coordination (1)

The kid's social hour coordinator will supervise all aspects of the children's social hour including weekly social hour sponsors.

One Chunk of Work!!

Summer Workday Coordinator (1)

Organize our class room clean up and set up day! This means talking with teachers about what they need done and leading the workday volunteers in their efforts.

Summer Workday Worker (~6)!!

Join us for a day of class-room clean up and set up before the year starts!! This Summer's workday will be Aug. 18th.

Winter YRE Workday Coordinator

Set the date and organize the troops for a Saturday workday! Mid-year our rooms need some TLC!

Winter YRE Workday Volunteers (6)

Come help on a Saturday (tbd) mid-year to spruce up our facilities!

Upper playground update team (3)

We have long wanted to update our upper playground...join the team that will plan and execute this long-held dream!

Family Social Activities Committee and 'Folder Holders' (~8)

***Ann Cozzecrea can provide more detailed information about opportunities to sit on the committee for social activities for families with children or to organize social events.

Event Hospitality Coordinator (2)

Two or three times during the year, event hospitality coordinators will be asked to organize refreshments for a training, workshop, or class at UUFR.

Special Pals Coordinator (1)

At the beginning of the year we match adults with one child that they will send a special note to through the mail. This helps the kids to make a new connection! This is a short term project, but requires heavy participation for a few weeks.

Winter Break Activity Coordinator (1)

Each winter we have a two-week break from normal classes. This person focuses all their volunteer energy on planning fun multi-aged activities for these two weeks (and finding adult chaperones to assist with them.) In the past we have enjoyed movie days, pajama parties....it can be lots of fun!

YRE Newsletter Editor (2)

This pair would work together to edit and format two to three YRE newsletters next year!

Snack Supervisor!!

Keep our kitchenette tidy and stocked with snacks, napkins, and cups through the year!

Data Entry (2)

Occasionally we have a need for data entry volunteers who may assist in statistical compilation, entering the text of children's writing, or other similar projects. These are short-term, finite assignments.

REporters (4)

Next year we hope to begin running articles about our program, our volunteers, and religious education topics in the Chalice, the Sunday Times, the Newsgroup, and in a new YRE bi-annual newsletter. We are seeking four reporters to write articles on YRE news! We expect that Reporters will write about 3 articles during the year.

Registration Mailing~

Send out our summer RE mailing to all previously registered families who have not yet registered! Then you're done for the year!

Cooks!! (4)

Prepare something to eat for a training, workshop, appreciation event, or social event. We will pay for your ingredients, don't worry!

Teacher appreciation: May 20th, 2007:

YRE training event: First Sat. in July:

YRE training event: First Sat. In Aug.

Elem. OWL training: June 2; lunch

Brochure Formatting (2)

We will send you text and you turn it into something beautiful! We'd like one person to work on our Class brochures for next year and another to work on 'other' brochures~ about RE topics, special programs, and faith development.

Class Mailing Coordinator (1)

In August we encourage our teachers to send an introductory letter to their students! We are hoping that this year we can help them out by just asking them to write the letters~ and letting a coordinator take care of addressing and mailing them. This coordinator can make sure letters get out on time....and might even help teachers find something special to put inside (like some stickers).

Fire drill coordinator (1)

You might not have noticed, but UUFR has no fire procedure outlined. This person will work with the safe congregations committee to agree upon a procedure and to coordinate one fire drill!

Tornado Drill Coordinator (1)

UUFR also has no tornado procedure. This person will work with the safe congregations committee to agree upon a procedure and to coordinate one Tornado Drill.

First Aid Kit/emergency procedure Updates (1)

At the start of the year, all first aid kits must be re-stocked. As we do that this fall, we would like to add posted 'emergency procedures' in the event of serious injury. This person will develop emergency procedures and post them with first aid kits.