

October / 2011

# What's What in R.E.

## Who is Deanna Greenstein, you ask?

Deanna Greenstein is our new Coordinator of Religious Education. Some of you may already know her. She has been a member of Unity Church and lives in Brockton.

When I asked Deanna to give me a few things about her, this is what she said.

One word to describe myself would be empathic. I can barely get through the news some days!

My first job was as a ballet teacher. I moved on to obtain a degree in dance (specializing in creative movement), and taught elementary physical education for a number of years before deciding to stay at home with my children.

If I were to visit one place anywhere, I would love to go back into my grandmother's home. I grew up playing in

the fields, and would love to see what changes the new owners have made since my grandmother passed away and the home was sold.

As for hobbies, I have many! I love to play with my children, and walk my dog, Henry. I also love photography (my husband has nicknamed me the "Mama-razzi", I take so many pictures of our children!) We have also started an attempt at gardening this year, and I spend quite a bit of time in my vegetable garden.

As for other things about myself - I work as a freelance writer for a number of websites. Currently, I am contracted to write about pregnancy and early motherhood for the Pampers website. I am a mentor mother through the Parent Connection at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medi-



cal Center in Boston, assisting and supporting new mothers for the first three months of their babies lives. I am also a teacher for Boston Baby Beginnings (which also runs through the Beth Israel Deaconess) teaching a class for children who are about to welcome a new sibling in order to make the transition a bit easier for them.

**WELCOME DEANNA!!!**

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### Special points of interest:

- Nov 27th—Kids make Prayer Placemats
- Coming of Age!!
- OWL starts in January!
- March 25th—Children's Chapel Service

## Fall Curriculum

### Chalice Children (ages 4-6 prek/K)

Lead by Jean & Kathie

*My Church & Holidays*

The children will learn about the chalice, their feeling, and some of the Winter holidays.

### Superman (grades 1 &2)

Lead by Andy & Lisa

*Picture Book World Religions*

An introduction to Hindu, Islamic, and Buddhist faiths for Kindergarteners thru 2nd Graders.

15 sessions designed for 15 beautiful and engaging picture books.

Appealing, age appropriate activities such as Hanuman the Monkey King stick puppets, Arabic alphabet calligraphy, date recipes for Ramadan, peacock feather art, paper airplanes, and sand play for Zen gardening.



### Compass Points

Lead by Jannelle & Angie

Explore values, adopt the practice of radical hospitality, make decisions, assume responsibility, discover what they believe about life's big questions—nature of humanity and God, beliefs about death and faith.

### Three Groups for grades 3—8

The Mitchell Group (named after Maria Mitchell) will be studying *Compass Points*

The Bell Group (named after Alexander Bell) will be studying *UU Superheros*

The Franklin Group ( named after Benjamin Franklin) will be studying *Toolbox of Faith*

*The children stay with the same group until they go to high school.*



### UU Super Heros

Lead by Rob, Sally, & Shannon

Introduces children to stories of Unitarians, Universalists, and UUs who

have acted with courage and wisdom in their attempts to live their lives fully and make the world a better place for others. Also, to encourage the children to lead their own lives fully and to use their own positive "super powers" as they interact with the world around them, and as they do so, to grow both spiritually and ethically.

### Senior Youth (grades 9-12)

Lead by Bob & Jeff

Coming of Age is going to be running over the Fall, Winter, & Spring. Those who are involved have already signed up.

OWL will begin in the Winter and Spring terms.

### Toolbox of Faith

Lead by Jason & Harry



Alexander Graham Bell

Invites the children to reflect on qualities of our UU faith, such as integrity, courage and love as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith. Each of the sessions uses a tool as a metaphor for an important quality of our faith such as reflection (symbolized as a mirror). Reflecting on the qualities of the tools of our faith, children and leaders gain insight into what makes our faith a faith for life.

## Winter Curriculum—Children’s Chapel—2012

Children’s Chapel will be replacing the play in 2012.

We will have Children’s Chapel each week and the weeks will include an order of service and be structured as a service. The children will conduct readings, participate in meditations, singing, and be involved in services using the “Under the Wisdom Tree” curriculum.

Under the Wisdom Tree is a curriculum for teaching values, beliefs and cultural connections. **Topics include:** What does it mean to respect the inherent worth and dignity of all beings? And What is humility?

At the end of Children’s Chapel, the children will conduct a complete service for the congregation.

Jenn Gold will be leading the winter curriculum and will need at least 3 people each week to assist.

Please contact Jenn, if you are interested in assisting.

**SAVE THE DATE—MARCH 25**

## Coming of Age

The Coming of Age program is coming back to Unity Church.

The program is to help young people take their first step toward fulfilling the universal need for initiation.

This began in August and will continue throughout the course of the year.

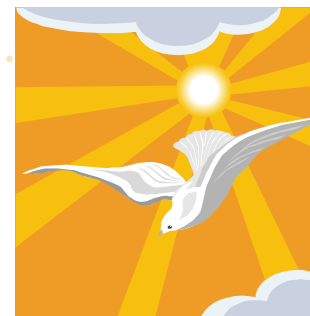
The program offers an opportunity for youth to explore themselves within the

contexts of spirit, psyche, culture, biology and nature.

There are six youth paired up with a mentor.

If you are interested in knowing more either as an inspiring youth or a mentor, please contact Jannelle Codianni.

(jannelle41@yahoo.com)



## Our Whole Lives (OWL) - Junior High and Senior High

*Our Whole Lives* helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with

accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, *Our*

*Whole Lives* not only provides facts about anatomy and human development, but also helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal

skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality.



WINTER 2012—Junior High

SPRING 2012—Senior High

Contact Melanie Willis if you are in-

terested in attending.

melaniefwillis@yahoo.com

## November 27th—Prayer Placemats & Tree Ornaments

On November 27th, the students will all be together. They will be making ornaments to decorate the Unity Church Christmas Tree as well as making Prayer Placemats to bring home.

The ornaments will go on the tree the following week during the tree trimming time.

If you have a family prayer that you would like to send in, please do so.

# Fall 2011

## Weekly R.E. Calendar

**A**lways looking for folks to be substitutes. We need them almost every week.

**I**f you are interested, please talk to Deanna.

September	
11	Water Communion – NO CLASS
18	Class – Week One
25	Class – Week Two
October	
2	Class – Week Three
9	Class – Week Four
16	Class – Week Five
23	Class – Week Six
30	Intergenerational – NO CLASS
November	
6	Class – Week Seven
13	Class – Week eight
20	Intergenerational – NO CLASS
27	All Ages Class-Lead by Jenn Gold
December	
4	Class – Week nine
11	Class – Week Ten
18	Intergenerational – NO CLASS
25	Intergenerational – NO CLASS

### ASK THE MINISTER! - Great Questions, Keep em' coming!

**Michael Gold asks, "Where did you grow up? What did you do for a living?"**

Hi Michael. I grew up in eastern South Dakota, where my family had a farm. My dad was a farmer and my mother worked in a bank. So I helped out on the farm. I had outdoor chores including gardening, gathering eggs, and feeding the chickens and other poultry. My indoor chores included baking, cooking, cleaning, doing laundry, and taking care of my younger brothers.

**"Where are you going on vacation?"**

This question was probably from last spring but I just found it. So I can tell you

where I *went* on vacation. I went camping in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, on Sebago Lake, and on the coast of Maine. Later, my mom and aunt came to visit and we stayed at my friend Judy's house on Martha's Vineyard. I gave them a tour of Unity Church and they were really impressed!

**Michael Gold asks, "If you could go to one place in the world, where would it be?"**

Only one? Probably Italy, but I'd also like to go to Alaska and see the glaciers.

**Lila asks, "Do you like sushi?"** Yes! Yum!

**Lauren Gilgan asks, "If you had a pet what would you name it?"**

Hm. It depends on the kind of pet and what it was like. I had a horse named Calypso when I was a girl. My first cat was named Nifty, and my last cat was named Tristan. When my son was little we had five goldfish whose names were Goldy, Goldy, Goldy, (because we couldn't tell them apart) and Goldeen (because my son was into Pokemon at the time).

**Lila asks, "Have you ever owned a quad?"**

I don't even know what one is! So, no, I haven't. Have you? Would you like to?