

# COVENANT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Unitarian Universalist Community of El Paso

We come to church to celebrate, to learn, to make friends, and to be of service. We come to church to explore life's big questions and to be together in a loving, caring community—one that values people of all ages. When we come to church, we make promises to each other, spoken and unspoken. These promises are sometimes called a "covenant." A covenant describes how we will treat each other, what we will do to create a safe and sacred space where all may learn and grow.

Our covenant at UUCEP comes from our Seven Unitarian Universalist Principles:

**Principle #1:** *We believe that each and every person is important.* This means that we treat each other with respect.  
*We promise to share, listen, take turns and keep our hands to ourselves.*

**Principle #2:** *We believe that all people should be treated fairly and kindly.* **This means that everyone -- no matter what their age or sex, race or family, abilities or differences – is welcome.**  
*We promise to treat each other with care and welcome all people with an open mind and a loving heart.*

**Principle #3:** *We believe that we should encourage one another to learn together.* This means that church is a place for worship, friendship, learning and service.  
*We promise to participate. We will listen, explore, and share knowledge with one another.*

**Principle #4:** *We believe that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.* This means church is a safe place to ask questions and express thoughts and ideas.  
*We promise to honor each other's questions, thoughts and ideas even if they are different from our own.*

**Principle #5:** *We believe that all persons should have a say about the things that concern them.* This means that everyone's voice is important in making decisions about what happens at church, both young people and adults.  
*We promise to contribute ideas, time, and energy in creating our best church experience.*

**Principle #6:** *We believe in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world.* This means we settle our disagreements in honest, caring and peaceful ways. We promise not to play in violent ways or use hurtful words with one another.  
*We promise to ask for help in settling disagreements that we are unable to settle by ourselves.*

**Principle #7:** *We believe in caring for our planet Earth, the home that we share with all living things.* This means we will care for our church home.  
*We promise to clean up our own messes, not be wasteful of food and supplies and to recycle whenever possible.*

**Living our UU Principles in our daily lives -- at church and at home -- can be hard work.** We all make mistakes. It is important for us to talk honestly, get help when needed, apologize for mistakes, and make amends the best we can. In this we learn and grow when we are together, whether on Sundays or other times we gather. Should the occasion arise when a child is chronically disruptive and/or unable to participate in a positive manner in the group, his/her parent(s) will be contacted by the leaders of our Religious Education program to discuss the problem, explore alternatives, and agree upon a plan that meets the expectations of all involved. Children will be required to sit in the service with their parent(s) until problem behavior has been addressed.

**I have reviewed this covenant and talked with my child(ren) so that s/he understands the behavior we expect of him/her at church. I will help children (my own & others) follow these principles & guidelines whenever I am able.**

**Parent's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I have talked about these principles and how I am to behave at UUCEP with my parent(s) and will do my best to follow them.**

**Child's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Unitarian Universalist Community of El Paso

## Children and Youth Religious Education

2013-2014

### Participation and Activity Permission for Children and Youth Activities

This permission form authorizes my child to participate in all Religious Exploration or Youth Group activities that are on and off community property during the 2013-14 church year.

**Please fill out separate sheet for each child.**

My son/daughter (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in activities under Unitarian Universalist Community of El Paso's (UUCEP) supervision, with the understanding that UUCEP will assure that each activity is properly supervised. I hereby relieve UUCEP, the leadership thereof, and the persons conducting this activity of any liability in connection with my son/daughter's participation in this activity.

Grade level during 2013-14 School year: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

In the event of an accident, I understand that an attempt will be made to contact me at the following numbers:

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

In case I cannot be reached, the following person is our family's emergency contact:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

If the emergency contact or I cannot be reached in time, I hereby authorize the administration of emergency medical aid to my son/daughter. In emergencies requiring immediate medical attention, my child will be taken to the nearest hospital emergency room.

My signature authorizes the responsible person from UUCEP conducting this activity to have my child transported to that hospital. I agree to accept financial responsibility for any and all emergency medical care so provided. I also authorize the UUCEP trip supervisors to administer to my son/daughter the medications, if any, listed below on this form.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate:

- general allergies or to medicine or food \_\_\_\_\_
- does your child carry an Epi-pen? \_\_\_\_\_
- special medications \_\_\_\_\_
- health conditions, physical or medical needs \_\_\_\_\_
- behavioral, learning or emotional concerns or issues \_\_\_\_\_
- please attach detailed information if necessary \_\_\_\_\_

**My Child's Special Talent is:** \_\_\_\_\_

Should any information provided on this form change during the period of authorization, I will notify UUCEP with updated information.

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# Unitarian Universalist Community of El Paso

## Children and Youth Religious Education

### 2013-2014

#### Photography/Video Permission and Publication

Students must have written parental permission for their image to appear in any Unitarian Universalist Community of

El Paso (UUCEP) publications, bulletin boards, web site, or UUCEP's Facebook page. No student's name, email address, street address, or telephone number will be published. When your student's picture is published it may be identified by the class group (Pre-K-6th graders, OWL) or by the title – —Students in the UUCEP's CYRE program.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for Unitarian Universalist Community of El Paso to photograph or video tape my child(ren).  **yes**  **no**

I **GIVE** permission to use a photograph of my child(ren)/youth on classroom and community bulletin boards.

I **DO NOT** give permission to use a photograph of my child(ren)/ on classroom and community bulletin boards.

I **GIVE** permission that my child(ren)/youth's picture may be published on the UUCEP web site and in the community newsletter.

I **DO NOT** want my child(ren)/youth's photograph published on the UUCEP web site and in the community newsletter.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Please be generous with your time and talent, your children benefit when we all pitch in!**

**Please check any areas where you can help:**

Be a member of the Religious Education Committee.

Teach or substitute teach Sunday School classes. Lesson plans are provided.

Resources...do you have a talent, hobby, religious background or occupation you could share with the children?

Music/play piano \_\_\_\_\_ or guitar \_\_\_\_\_ or other instrument \_\_\_\_\_ or singing \_\_\_\_\_ .

Prepare food for a class or Religious Education event.

Sign up to bring snacks for the kids.

Help with transportation on one of the many CYRE field trips

Greet prospective Religious Education students and their parents - you pick the Sunday!

Help with crafts for the kids until we begin normal classes.

I would be happy to volunteer doing just about anything on a one-time basis.

Volunteer to take pictures during events. (digital camera needed)

***I am willing to help out with whatever is needed to ensure my child(ren) has the best Religious Education experience possible.***

**I am willing to help co-ordinate and/or volunteer with a once-a-year project: (check below)**

Thanksgiving with the Troops

Annual Toy collection for Specially Selected Group (to be announced)

Winter play and service

Holiday Bizarre (held in December)

Chocolate Auction

Bunny Express – Special delivery for Horizon Health Care (Bunny Bingo) & ARL

Animal Blessing Service (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in May)

Teacher/Volunteer Appreciation

Other-please list \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you very much for your commitment to your child's religious education!**

If you have any questions about these volunteer positions or regarding the Religious Education program, please call CEMELLI DE AZTLAN DRE at [cdeaztlan@gmail.com](mailto:cdeaztlan@gmail.com) and her phone number is 915-799-2890.

Please initial each section.

I/we would like my child(ren) to participate in the Our Whole Lives program.



# Our Whole Lives

## Registration and Permission Form

### 2013-2014

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we have attended the program orientation and have had an introduction to the materials and information used in the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we give permission to transport my child(ren) to and from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces located at 2000 S. Solano in Las Cruces, NM for the first 8 weeks of the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we understand that this is a commitment not only my child(ren), but to the community and regular attendance during the first 8 weeks is expected.

\_\_\_\_\_ If my child(ren) cannot attend due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, I will notify the DRE CEMELLI DE AZTLAN at [cdeaztlan@gmail.com](mailto:cdeaztlan@gmail.com) and her phone number is 915-799-2890 as soon as possible. The carpool MUST have this notice in advance.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we understand the time commitment and that driving times may vary. The drivers have no control over the traffic and cannot return to El Paso safely in under an hour.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we understand and give permission for my child(ren) to attend overnight CONs. Dates and supervising instructors will be given in advance.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we understand that volunteering to help with my child(ren)'s OWL class will make it a better class for all. Providing snacks/lunch for class is expected. The DRE or teacher will send out email reminders for your week with the number of expected students.

Please print clearly:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

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Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Emergency Contact and phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed \_\_\_\_\_

**All OWL students will be given a copy of "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: Expanded Third Edition: A Book for Teens on Sex and Relationships" by Ruth Bell.**