

OWL Registration | Spring 2018

The following OWL classes will be offered starting this January, 2018: K-1, 4-5, 7-8, 10-12, depending on registration numbers.

Parent names: _____

Main parent email: _____ phone: _____

Alternate parent email: _____ phone: _____

Child name: _____ age and grade: _____

Child name: _____ age and grade: _____

Child name: _____ age and grade: _____

one child fee	30.00	
Two children fee (no charge more than 2)	60.00	
	Total enclosed	

Please make checks payable to "First Unitarian Church". OWL fees are non-refundable.

_____ Scholarship request

_____ Will you need childcare?

If so, for how many children, and their ages? _____

I, _____, give permission for my child(ren) named above to participate in OWL classes at First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque.

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The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) strongly recommends that congregations require all legal parents of minor participants to sign OWL permission forms. If divorced parents share legal custody, then the congregation must obtain written permission from both parents. If divorced parents do not have joint custody, and the divorce agreement clearly stipulates that the custodial parent may make decisions regarding their child's education without consulting the non-custodial parent, then it is usually only necessary to get the written permission of the parent with sole legal custody. If a child has a step-parent in the home, it is a good practice to get their signature as well. Also, whatever family structure is present in the home, it is strongly recommended that *all* adults who are in a parental/guardian role for the child sign the permission form, even if they technically don't have legal custody. This is both to satisfy legal requirements and to honor the diversity of family structures in our congregations.

First Unitarian Church, Albuquerque, NM
 Mia L Noren, Director of Religious Education
 dre@uuabq.org

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Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a lifespan sexuality education curriculum. The First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque will offer classes for grades K-1, 4-5, and 7-8, and for 10-12 in conjunction with the First Congregational United Church of Christ, depending on registration numbers, starting this January, 2018. **Your children must be registered in our RE program for the 2017-18 year in order to participate. There is no charge to register.**

Widely regarded as the gold standard for comprehensive sexuality education, OWL helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexuality and behavior.

Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, OWL provides accurate, age-appropriate factual information while also helping participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality.

Although developed by two religious organizations, OWL contains no religious references or doctrine. The curricula are based on the Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education produced by the National Guidelines Task Force, a group of leading health, education, and sexuality professionals assembled by the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS). OWL teachers are volunteer church members who have undergone extensive facilitator training, as well as background checking.

K-1st grade parents should expect to participate in the class with their children. Ideally, both parents will participate. If a family has children in more than one class, one parent should be available to participate in each parent group. Parent orientation is on January 21, 2018; 8 sessions of class start January 28 and end March 18.

4th-5th grade parents can elect to form a Parent Discussion Group to monitor and discuss what is being taught in their child's class. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of one of the teachers near the end of each session. Parent Orientation is January 7; 10 sessions of class start January 14 and end March 18.

7th-8th grade parents should expect to participate in a parent group that will monitor and discuss what is being taught in their child's class. Schedule to be determined once the class fills.

Because of the community that is formed through sharing and the amount and type of information covered, we ask that your family commit to attending all sessions, except for emergencies or illnesses that arise. In order to preserve continuity, no one will be allowed to enroll in a class after it has begun.

There is a fee of \$30 per person, and a \$60 maximum per family, to help cover costs, including the comprehensive training that our volunteer teachers receive. Some scholarships are available.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mia Noren, Director of Religious Education at dre@uuabq.org, or Alana Rodriguez, RE Assistant, at reasst@uuabq.org.