

everything your family needs to know this week



# the REnews

from the UUSGU  
Religious Exploration Program

## November 5th 2025

Five seconds (or less).

That's how long it takes to adversely change someone's life. I was very forcefully reminded of this Saturday afternoon when in the space of less than five seconds I went from striding confidently down the sidewalk heading over here to set up for Sunday's service to lying face down on the sidewalk with abraded hands and knees and what turns out to be a broken ankle. Less than five seconds from 'able to take a 5 mile hike' to 'going from the recliner to the bathroom is a trek'. And I am lucky--I'm only temporarily on the disabled list. Six to eight weeks of recovery and then another six to eight weeks of PT and I should be back to hiking again. Some people never recover from that life-changing five seconds or less.

I'm thinking about this much harder than I would have this week last year. Before we had a president bent on wrecking the social contract the New Deal established with our parents and grandparents and that said parents and grandparents worked to equalize and strengthen.

## This Week in RE

It's time for another EPIC lesson! This week we will have a guest speaker--Medhi Pourali--who will be talking to the students about what greeters do and leading them in some exercises to give them some practice in greeting. We are hoping that our families will be willing to act as greeters for our Nov. 23 service,

## November RE Schedule

2 Spirit Play Extended  
Child Care Available  
Youth Group 12 - 3

9 EPIC #3 – Meet a Greeter  
Child Care Available

16 Spirit Play Extended  
Child Care Available  
Safety Policy Training and CORI 11:30

23 A Legacy of Giving Thanks  
Spirited Multigen Service  
Child Care Available

30 Sunday Funday – Making Cards  
Child Care Available  
RE Committee 11:30

and this lesson should be good practice for the children to serve as 'apprentice' greeters.

I may or may not be attending service this Sunday. I was originally scheduled to be in New Hampshire attending LREDA's FallCon, but now that I can't drive and am on crutches I will be doing the online option from home. Alison will be doing Time for All Ages for me and I know that the whole RE team will do a great job with the lesson.

## Last Week in RE

I wasn't able to go downstairs for RE as I usually do, since I wasn't ready to face trying to crutch down the stairs to the RE rooms yet. Bette tells me that Spirit Play went very well and that, "The children amazed us with their attention and observations about the story."

## Jack o'Lantern Seek and Find

Below is our bulletin board full of jack o'lanterns that we created during the Samhain Spirited Service. Can you find...

- A chalice?
- A jack o'lantern whose face is made of words?
- A lion?
- A raccoon?
- A jack o'lantern who has eyebrows?
- A jack o'lantern who has eyelashes?
- A jack o'lantern who has freckles?
- A jack o'lantern with its eyes closed?
- The jack o'lantern you drew?



## Youth Group News

The youth group met on Sunday for lunch and discussion. They will be offering a photo booth with the theme "Winter Wonderland Extravaganza" as part of UUSGU's contribution to Grafton Celebrates the Holidays on December 7th. Prep and set up for the event will be Saturday, December 6th at 3 p.m.

## Volunteer Training and CORI Session

We've had a number of people ask recently about volunteering in the RE program, including the youth group and child care! This is excellent news, but it means that we need to hold one of our periodic training sessions covering our Congregational Child Safety policy and classroom procedures on Sunday, November 16th at 11:30 in the Parlor.

We'll also be asking that all volunteers who work with children fill out CORI forms during the training if they have not been CORIed with UUSGU or if their CORI was done before October 2022. I know it seems like a pain to have to get CORIed in multiple places, but just as we would never share your CORI information with the school system, they don't share theirs with us, either. To be CORIed you need to bring a valid drivers' license or other photo identification that includes a unique ID number and signature, like a passport or military ID.

Please RSVP for this training by emailing me at [re@uusgu.org](mailto:re@uusgu.org) and I will send you a link to the policy so that you can read it ahead of time and bring any questions you might have about the policy to the training. If you cannot attend the training on November 16th, contact me at the same email to set up an appointment to be CORIed during office hours, and I can also answer any policy questions at that time.