## OUR CHURCH SCHOOL

## THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH Columbus, Ohio

We believe that as children have opportunities to share freely with each other and with their teachers, their thoughts and feelings about the stories and other materials presented to them, as they can question freely together, investigate and try to understand life and the Universe in which life abounds.

As they can be freely creative in making, doing, and thinking, both as individuals and as members of a group with common purposes; so they will grow in the courage, power and insight which are the profoundest religious faith.

## OUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Kindergarten: The child who is five or under will play with other children and with things, will hear stories about experiences that are real and familiar to him. In the light of the teacher's acceptance and understanding of him and his experiences, his feeling of belonging will be strengthened and the courage learned to be honest in speech and action.

Primary: The child of six, seven, eight, will have stories in terms he knows about the mysteries of birth and growth, experiences with living things, opportunities to use his growing ability to share his thoughts and feelings with others. His respect for his own integrity will be increased, together with reverence and awe for the Living Universe of which he is a part.

Junior; The child of nine, ten, eleven, will hear stories of man's search for God in other times and cultures, as well as our own. His capacity to express his thoughts and feelings in mediums other than voice (fine arts, literature, etc.) will be increased tenfold. His own search for God will be deepened as he comes to feel it is a part of the Universal search.

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High School: twelve and up. The study of those religious leaders who are a part of our cultural heritage, the examination of the workings of personality and of social patterns in the world surrounding them, broadening experience in working with other people; inevitably strengthens his purpose to build a better society and deepen his discernment in the making of his own faith.

Adults: As we work to open the ways to our Children, we feel the need of each other's help as we do in other areas in Which we strive. During the hour from ten to eleven, parents can get together and choose the means of working as a team that seem most useful and from there proceed to make plans accordingly, and carry them out to the best advantage of all concerned.

## TOOLS USED IN OUR CHURCH SCHOOL

Books:

This fall the Kindergarten will use Martin and Judy and My Book for Fall.

The Primary Department will begin with Growing Bigger.

The Juniors will use Moses.

The High School group has not yet chosen its material.

Creative Arts:

There will be a special teacher to help with the use of the paints, clay, etc. that will be on hand. Children will have the opportunity to make plays and to act in them and, we hope, to dance.

