



First Parish of Norwell
Unitarian Universalist
Celebrating 375 Years

PO Box 152, 24 River Street
Norwell, MA 02061
www.firstparishnorwell.org

Position: Director of Religious Education (DRE), 30 hrs./week (starting August 1, 2018), Sunday mornings and some evenings are part of this position.

Salary and Benefits: \$27,000 to \$30,000 for 11 months worked each year. Equivalent of one month off to be taken during the months of July and August each year. Retirement contributions available after 1000 hours worked. Professional Expenses: \$1000/year.

Supervision: This position is supervised by the minister.

First Parish of Norwell is located in the town of Norwell and draws congregants from many neighboring communities. Our membership is about 150, plus friends, and we have a children/youth program with an average Sunday attendance of about 20. Having called a new settled minister three years ago, we are in a new stage of development as we seek to maintain what we love about our congregation, try new things, and reach out to contribute to the wider community in relevant ways. We seek a Director of Religious Education that will help us grow spiritually and numerically and will enjoy collaborating and spending time with our community.

Responsibilities:

Leadership: Leadership for our Religious Education (RE) ministry takes a balance of creativity, administration, and the recruitment, encouragement and nurture of volunteers. It involves planning with the minister, the RE Committee and others, to address the changing needs of families, and creating opportunities for deep spiritual growth that children, youth, and adults long for in religious community. Our DRE should be willing to innovate, balancing the new with the traditionally relevant and enjoy engaging people of all ages.

Administration and Program Support: Our RE Program needs administration of its budget, organization of supplies, management of its calendar, coordination of details such as volunteer schedules and public school calendars, and attention to good safety practices. Working collaboratively with our RE Committee, our DRE will choose UU appropriate curricula for Sunday school. Lesson planning, including OWL (Our Whole Lives Sexuality Curricula) and Coming of Age courses, and strong support (including material preparation) of Sunday School teachers is vital. Social Action activities are also important in our program. We enjoy multigenerational social and learning gatherings beyond Sundays multiple times a year. If time allows, our DRE may also work with our minister on some adult RE classes.

Communication and Advocacy: The DRE advocates for spiritual growth and learning through the church newsletter, website, social media pages and other communication channels as needed. The DRE writes a monthly report for and attends the Parish Committee meetings. The DRE also communicates with the minister and congregational leaders about pastoral care and support of families and their youth and children.

Worship: The DRE collaborates with the minister to integrate children and youth into the worship life of the church by creating multigenerational worship services at least four times per year, leading A Time for All Ages during most Sunday services, and periodic children's chapels. Other worship opportunities are promoted through regular RE classes for all ages as appropriate in the curricula.

Professional Development: The church provides funding and time for professional-development, and for collegial support with other UU Religious Educators.

Necessary Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree; experience and comfort working independently, and collaboratively in teams; demonstrated ability to supervise and support volunteers; effective communication skills, including public speaking and use of social media; familiarity and appreciation for liberal religion; computer skills; creativity; willingness to learn.

Ideal Qualifications: BA in education, counseling or ministry-related field. Education leadership and management experience. Experience in teaching, in administration, and in supervision of staff and volunteers. Knowledge of Unitarian Universalist religious education philosophy.

Candidates may submit a cover letter, resume and references no later than June 15 to:

Rev. Lise Adams Sherry
lsherry@uuma.org

Please include "DRE Position" in the subject heading of your email. We hope to interview candidates no later than the week of June 25, 2018.