



**Update From  
Director of Religious Education  
Dr. Chris Rogutsky**

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**News about the All Souls NYC  
Religious Education Program  
Friday, September 9, 2022**

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**Learn More About the Genesis of the Arts  
Integration with RE in this Interview with  
Dr. Chris**

Greetings,

For millennia the arts have served as an important medium to make sense of the context of the time. For the fall semester of RE, students will be grouped by their developmental stage and will grapple with important UU tenets through an immersive experience in the arts.



An emphasis for this fall semester of RE will be on a better understanding of the dignity and worth of all humans through an exploration of different cultures and religions. This will be accomplished with the help of rotating teaching artists working alongside RE teaching volunteers as children examine different UU principles through a hands-on project in the arts. All RE students will work on pieces for the **December 11th** Holiday Pageant which will bring forth world traditions that occur around the winter solstice.

### ***About the Teaching Artists***

Multidisciplinary artist Richard Garr will work with our middle school and high school age children during the months of October and November. All members of the All Souls NYC congregation are invited to join me and Richard for a walking tour of street art in the Gowanus section of Brooklyn on **Saturday, November 12th**. Children in these groups will produce works that will be displayed in the Front Garden of All Souls.

Children in the elementary group will work with Vashti Theatre and Dance in October and November. Here, participants will be working with UU Principles 1-3 while engaging in a deep dive into the culture of the African diaspora through movement and drumming. Children in this group will prepare a piece for the Holiday Pageant that will bring forth aspects of Kwanzaa.

All groups (except for those connected with Vashti) will work with Amelia Nickles. Amelia is an accomplished actress and dancer who will spend time rotating between the groups to elicit suggestions and put into action additional pieces for the Holiday Pageant, while having fun with theatre games.

Parents and children in the middle school group will also work with Marjorie Jean Paul. Marjorie will work with folks to examine what are the pillars that make a strong community, drawn from the book *The Art Community* by Charles Vogel.

RE classes for children in grades K-8 will occur at 10:00 am, with enrichment offerings at 11:15 am. Participants in the high school RE group will meet at 11:15 am. During the 11:15 hour All Soul's will offer its Children's Choir for those who are interested and for the fall

months, an experience with imaginative games.

Programming beyond Sunday will be offered by way of Meetups. These will be done on a drop-in basis and are largely scheduled when school is not in session. Join one or all — it's completely up to you and your schedule.

We will also have several Children's Chapel times where RE participants will have a chance to meet with the ministerial staff. We will host a Halloween party on **October 30th** and on **December 18** we are planning an exciting event that will include a spiral walk, a craft and story. More on those as we get closer in date.

In conclusion, I hope you join me in the spiritually enriching journey together. I look forward to a great year! ~ Wishing you peace, Chris

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WELCOME BACK



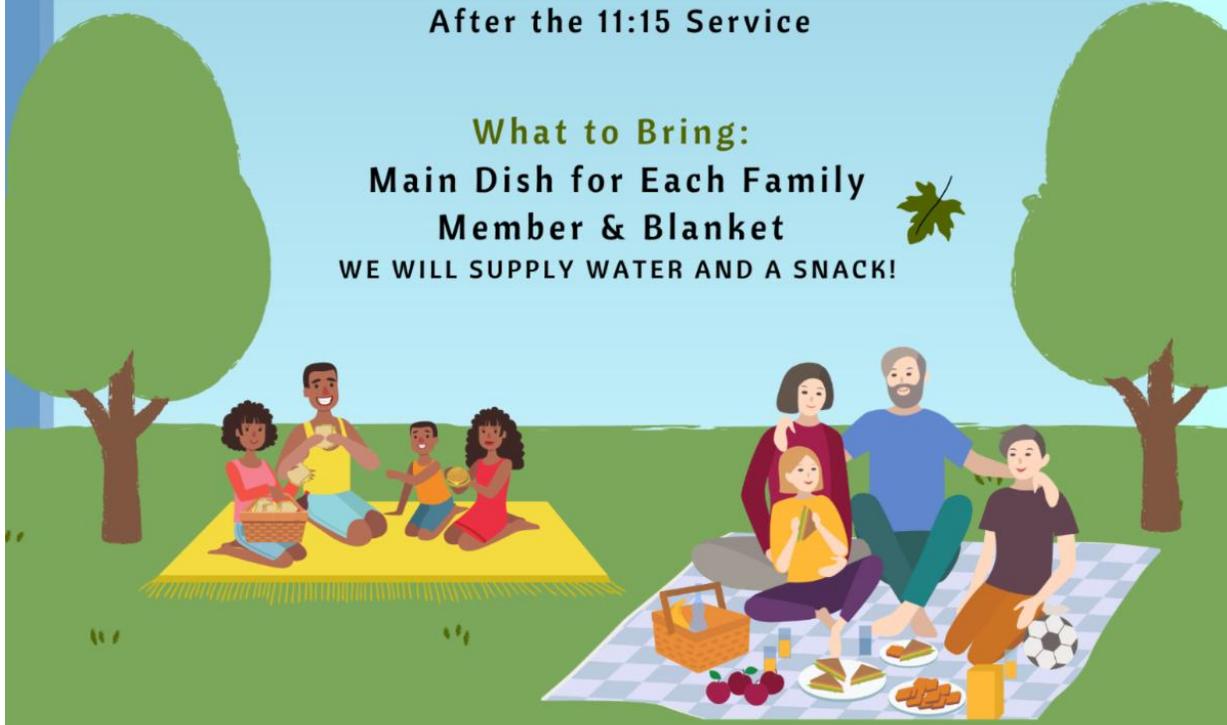
# All Souls RE Family Picnic



**SEPTEMBER 11TH 2022**

After the 11:15 Service

**What to Bring:**  
Main Dish for Each Family  
Member & Blanket  
WE WILL SUPPLY WATER AND A SNACK!



**CENTRAL PARK**

Enter from the S/W Corner on 79th

## Fall RE Schedule

To view groupings, meeting times, special guest schedules and flyers with greater detail, [click this link.](#)

10 am - 11 am  
Group: K-3 Grade-Religious Education  
9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6  
12/4, 12/11 *Holiday Pageant*

Group: 4-6 Grade-Religious Education

9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20  
12/4, 12/11 *Holiday Pageant*

Group: 7-8 Grade-Religious Education

9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20  
12/4, 12/11 *Holiday Pageant*

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Group: 9-12 Grade-Religious Education

\*\*\*9/18 (NO RE for this Group on this Date)

9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20  
12/4, 12/11 *Holiday Pageant*

*Fall Enrichment Activities* 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Children's Choir - All Ages Welcome

Faery's Tale - Ages 9 and Up

9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20  
12/4

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## Check out the Entire RE Fall Schedule Here

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### Sign Up Your Child For RE Classes!

We will be offering classes from K-12, including a high school group. **Please take a moment to register your child using this link.**

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## Calling All Artists!

Do you like the above art? Dr. Chris created it, but she would love to have some UU-focused art to feature in that space for the newsletter. Please have

## Share Your Joys in Community

Does your child or youth have an accomplishment, success story or milestone that you would like to share with our All Souls family?

**Let us know** and we will post them here.

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# RE SPECIAL EVENTS AT ALL SOULS



## SEPTEMBER 2022

**11** MEET & GREET - 10:15 AM

SUN

**18** BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

SUN During 11:15 Service (For Parents)

**25** BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

SUN During 11:15 Service (For Parents)

Parents of children enrolled in the RE program are asked to attend this multi-week session drawing inspiration and conversation from the book, *Art of Community*, by Charles Vogel. This work will be facilitated by Marjorie Jean-Paul who is a senior independent school administrator in charge of Community Engagement, including Philanthropic programs, Parent and Alumni Relations and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives. She brings with her 25 years of experience working with groups of people to design programs around effective community engagement.



Marjorie Jean-Paul

Unitarian Church of All Souls  
1157 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10075  
(212) 535-5530  
[chrisr@allsoulsnyc.org](mailto:chrisr@allsoulsnyc.org)

# Whenever you see a tree

By Padma Venktraman

Think

how many long years  
this tree waited as a seed  
for an animal or bird or wind or rain  
to maybe carry it to maybe the right spot  
where again it waited months for seasons to change  
until time and temperature were fine enough to coax it  
to swell and burst its hard shell so it could send slender roots  
to clutch at grains of soil and let tender shoots reach toward the sun  
Think how many decades or centuries it  
thickened and climbed and grew  
taller and deeper never knowing if it would find enough water or light  
or when conditions would be right so it could keep on spreading leaves  
adding blossoms and dancing  
Next time you see a tree think how much hope it holds

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## September 10th: **Swap Ideas Day**

National Swap Ideas Day encourages people to get together and share their creativity with one another and to build on each other's ideas.

This is a great time to hear from you about the kind of content you would like to see in the RE newsletter. Send me an email about your ideas: [chrisr@allsoulsnyc.org](mailto:chrisr@allsoulsnyc.org)>.

## September 11th: **Patriot Day**

Also known as Remembrance Day. And, by those who lived it, it's most often called, simply, "nine-eleven."

On Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance, we

honor every life that was taken too soon. We honor the first responders — firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency workers, and service members — who answered the call of duty, and the brave civilians who rushed into action to save lives that day. Their courage embodies the American spirit and resilience, and their heroism continues to inspire new generations of Americans.

### September 13th: **Positive Thinking Day**

Keep those positive thoughts going. You can do it. Here are 10 tips to make positive thinking easy.

1. Spend Time with Positive People
  2. Take Responsibility for Your Behavior
  3. Contribute to the Community
  4. Read Positive and Inspirational Material
  5. Recognize and Replace Negative Thoughts
  6. Establish and Work Toward Goals
  7. Consider the Consequences of Negativity
  8. Offer Compliments to Others
  9. Create a Daily Gratitude List
  10. Practice Self-Care
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## Dear Hero Activity



Even though many of us have moved into a phase of the new normal, health care workers have been stressed over the past few years. In this activity, inspired by “Dear Hero” letters written by children in response to 9/11, we invite you to write a letter or create artwork to honor and thank those healthcare workers in your own community.

### *Inspiration*

During the current global health crisis, doctors, nurses, paramedics, food delivery workers, police officers, firefighters, and others were on the frontlines risking their lives to care for those impacted by COVID-19. On 9/11, many of these same people did their best to help those who needed assistance during and after the attacks. In response to these acts of heroism, many people, including children, from around the world created tributes to honor these individuals for their support and their heroism. These tributes included cards, drawings, and letters thanking them for their service.

## Materials

- Paper
- Colored pencils, markers, crayons
- Tape
- Imagination: If you don't have any of these, or if you want to use different materials, you can use anything you have at home

## Instructions

- Brainstorm a list of people whom you consider to be a hero in your community.
- Write or draw a message of gratitude.
- Get creative! Decorate your letter or artwork using crayons, markers, colored pencils, or any other materials you have at home.

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# Walking with Dr. Chris on the High Line!

Monday  
September 26th

11:00 am  
(Schools Closed)

## HIGH LINE

*Meet at the entrance on Gansevoort Street and Washington Street  
(Northwest corner)*

The High Line is a public park built on a historic freight rail line elevated above the streets on Manhattan's West Side. The High Line opened in 2009 as a hybrid public space where visitors experience nature, art, and design. It is free to walk the High Line.

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1157 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10075  
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High Line Web site link  
Scan the QR Code with your cell phone camera



All Souls NYC | 1157 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10075

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with



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