

Welcome! Orchard Ridge UCC has a long and rich history of ministering to, for and with young people. From mission trips, to service projects, to music programs, to youth groups; our congregation continues to find new and exciting ways to engage our children and youth in our Christian faith.



What are Parents Saying about ORUCC?



“Children and youth are truly loved and respected at ORUCC. From Tru Function playing once a month during worship to the littlest ones wiggling around during Children’s Time, everyone watches each other’s sons and daughters with loving hearts.”



“ORUCC makes certain that children and youth are a part of its faith life. We have such a rich and growing program – an active and fun Sunday School, Confirmation, mission trips, OWL, and youth groups up on Tuesday nights. It’s exciting to see our children and youth be such a large part of our church.”



Here at Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ, we are deeply committed to our ministry with children and youth. Please contact Tammy Martens, our Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Families, at 608-271-7212 or tmartens@orucc.org for more information.



Orchard Ridge
United Church of Christ
1501 Gilbert Rd
Madison, WI 53711



Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ



*Spiritually Alive, Joyfully
Inclusive, Committed to Justice*



Infant, Preschool, Elementary,
Middle School and High
School Program Information

Visit us online at <http://www.orucc.org>



Highlights of ORUCC's Programming for Children and Youth



Senior High Mission Trip

Every summer, we take a mission trip to serve others. The most recent trip involved 20 high school youth who travelled to Mississippi to help build houses for those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Tuesday Night Youth Groups

Youth Group is a time for upper elementary and middle school youth to come together and build community, grow in faith, and work on service projects. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month with supper at 6:00 and youth group meeting from 6:30-7:30.

Confirmation/Our Whole Lives

Our Whole Lives, a class on sexuality for 7th and 8th graders, is on the alternate year of Confirmation. Confirmation is a program that helps young people reflect on their own faith journey and what it means to them. Through service, prayer, worship and community building, they have the

opportunity to deepen their faith and their relationship with God.



Children's Music/Movement/Rhythm

Julie Mazer, our new children's music director, is enhancing our music program for children preschool through middle school ages. Children are invited sing, use chimes, drum, and play Orff Instruments during the worship hour (10:20-11:15). The Orff Approach combines music, movement, drama, speech, and play.

Tru Function Rock Band

Our high school band, *Tru Function*, is for both vocalists and instrumentalists. This group practices Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and performs on the first Sunday of the month.



Sunday School, 9:00-9:50 a.m.

Three and Four Year Olds, "The Worship Center", Room 15

Kindergarten and First Graders, "Following Jesus", Room 16

"The Worship Center" and "Following Jesus" help children experience God while

learning about God. They use a sensory-motor style of storytelling as a primary means for encountering God. After story time, children may respond to stories of God through continued work with the story figures and art materials.

Second and Third Graders, "The Way of the Child" and "Learning How to Use My Bible", Room 11

The Way of the Child helps children develop their own relationship with God, and provides them with exercises to experience and practice spiritual disciplines. After gathering time, children choose different reflection stations Gazing, World, Reading, Journaling, Painting, Sand, and Art. In January, the children receive their own Bibles from the church. Through storytelling and activity stations, children learn about the different stories of the Bible, have the opportunity to ask questions, and offer their own perspectives.

Fourth through Sixth Graders, "Exploring Practical Faith Issues", Room 18.

Children will discuss and explore practical issues including family life, peers, friendships, etc. and how our faith helps us grow and develop in these areas.

Nursery Care, Newborns - Four Year Olds

We offer nursery care every Sunday morning from 8:30-11:30 a.m. with two hired staff who take excellent care of our youngest members. We are a Safe Sanctuary congregation and all of our hired staff and volunteers are screened.