

Behavior Policy for K-12th grade participants at the Unitarian Church in Westport as of June 28, 2017

The Lifespan Faith Development ministry at the Unitarian Church in Westport strives to create thoughtful communication and connections in a climate which promotes and affirms the values of our seven UU Principles. In this way, each adult and child/youth will experience a positive and rewarding learning experience.

Children and youth are expected behave in a manner that encourages cooperation, responsibility, and respect for themselves and others. For those children/youth who find it challenging to behave in a manner conducive to these ideals, the following steps will be taken:

- If a child/youth is disruptive during children's worship, a special activity or in the classroom, a teacher / parent volunteer will attempt to **first redirect the child/youth's attention or give them a "1-2-3 warning"**
- If this does not have the desired behavioral impact, the Adult Volunteer will remove the child/youth from the room/activity and he/she will be brought to the a staff person or other adult overseeing programming.
 - The Staff member / Adult will talk with the child/youth about his/her behavior and try to work out a reasonable way in which the child/youth can return to the class/program and continue learning alongside others in a positive manner.
- In the event the disruptive behavior continues the child/youth will again be brought to the Staff member / Adult will bring the child/youth to their parent/guardian.
 - The parent/guardian will have the option of keeping their child/youth with them for the remainder of the service/event or the parent and child/youth may return to the classroom/activity *together* for the remainder of the program time as appropriate.
 - The next time the child/youth is in their group/participating in an event, the parent will be asked to be accessible in case he/she is needed.

It is the goal of the Community that every child/youth in our ministry feels welcome and respected. If a child/youth has difficulty meeting the Behavior Policy of the congregation we welcome any input from parents regarding ways we can assist the child/youth in reaching these goals. Please let us know your child's individual learning style and any physical or emotional challenges that may affect his/her

behavior in our programs. It is our intention to support each child/youth as a part of our family.