

Re Committee Final Report 2020

The RE Program Goals 2019-20 were as follows:

1. Base all RE activities around the 7 Principles of UU faith, with an emphasis on our cultural and religious heritage, global religions and faith practices, an appreciation for the natural world, and the interdependent web of all existence.
2. Develop a system for training RE volunteers and direct providers about the 7 Principles and how to live them through Non-violent Communication and Play-Based Learning.

This year we continued the changes started during 2018-19 with a play-based program for RE. Based on the RE numbers up until the closure due to Covid 19, the program was successfully attracting families with young children. However, it was difficult to get volunteers to commit to and feel comfortable with this non-traditional teaching model. During the year Bethany decided to assume the lead teacher position with support from congregational volunteers and this is a model we want to continue. This was especially important in order to work on goal #2.

Amber began leading a small youth group. We need to continue to find ways to engage the older youth even though there are small numbers.

The Committee had difficulty finding times to meet this past year, so there are some concerns moving forward. Barbara Pagh and Etta Zasloff have been co-chairs for three years, so it's time for someone else to take over. Amber Kelly Collins is chairing the Worship committee, Emily Marye is only here for part of the year and Kari Kurto has been too busy with job and family to come to meetings.

We are going to miss Bethany. She has brought a lot of new ideas to the program and she enthralled the entire congregation with her storytelling skills.