February 2021 DRE Board Report

Dear Board Members.

It's been a good month! The craft bags were a success and a great way to connect families. Our CartUUns curriculum went really well on the last Sunday of January. And our February Flurry of Love was so much fun! It was great to be part of the first live Zoom service as well as the beautiful Covid loss vespers service. So many good connections.

So this month, I spent time making origami valentines for each of the 28 families that we have registered this year. It was so much fun! And I spent some time down in the RE space going through our craft supplies and starting to think about organizing and cleaning that space. That's an exciting prospect! So I plan to spend one day a week down there, going through all the resources, supplies, toys and such to organize and inventory what we have.

For March, we would like to put a bin out again for families to come pick up a little seed planting kit. I'm planning to put a seed packet, some potting soil and a pot in a bag for each family. Then we can share what kind of seeds we're starting and show their growth progress on Zoom and with pictures.

Looking ahead, we're planning on a virtual Easter Egg hunt, paired with a stuffed animal sleepover the first weekend of April. Yay! I will be asking families to drop off a stuffed animal to a bin on the front porch of the church. The animals will then quarantine together for a few days, after which I will stage a bunch of photos of the animals playing together in the RE space. Plus, they will go on an egg hunt, so the kids will be invited to try to find the eggs in each picture as well.

For professional development, I've just registered for a course with Radici studios called "raising anti-racist kids through art." I've been following several facebook pages for UU Religious educators and several other DREs are taking this 6 week workshop. So I'm excited for the resources and collaboration.

I've continued to put together resources for the congregation from the Soul Matters curriculum. We are now expanding that slightly so I will be creating a Google document for folks to reference for deepening their spiritual exploration. I will also be responsible for the Worship/RE/spiritual enrichment section of the weekly UUCSC News and Updates newsletter.

I like how my job is expanding and I'm excited for the future.

Much love,

Lee