

April 2021
DRE Board Report

Hello again,

Spring is here and it's so wonderful to be outside. I bought some raised bed mix from Earth Care Farm and mixed it into the raised bed out in the backyard of UUCSC and then DL and I planted peas. I'm excited to invite families to come harvest those peas in a couple months when they're ready. I'm also planning to plant some of our sunflower seeds back there for all to enjoy.

The stuffed animal sleepover was a smashing success. I think it was such a sweet way to connect families and also the whole congregation as we all watched the video together on Easter and afterwards on YouTube. It was well worth the time put in to make that happen.

I reached out to individual parents to ask them about joining the RE Committee and two of them said yes! I'm so glad to have more input and more voices on our committee. And hopefully this means that Etta and Barbara can transition off of the committee at some point soon, assuming these two new members stay. So they will join us next month and we'll see how it goes.

I've been brainstorming and asking other DREs on facebook about how they are engaging their middle school and high school youth. I've had some good ideas passed on to me that I plan to use. Most of it is just little gifts to leave out on the porch, instead of the craft bags for the younger kids. I will also be buying them gift cards to Sweet Cakes to let them know we are still here and thinking of them. I'm still hoping that Rosemary's daughter Elise will record an art class for the kids. And Elise and my daughter, Ciela are both taking a photography class that is based on UU's 7 Principles, offered virtually through a congregation in NY. So I'm glad to see a little engagement from this age group!

I've started talking to DL and the RE committee about a bridging ceremony in June. I contacted Pam Santos to ask if her high school senior would be interested in being part of it. I would also like to acknowledge the different "moving up" transitions that some of our kids are preparing for. We have several rising kindergarteners and two rising high schoolers who I would like to honor. We'll hone in on details next month.

And as for plans for re-opening, I look forward to talking with you at the board meeting this month. I did add to our staff document with my requests for outdoor gatherings in May and June.

Thanks so much!
Lee