

DLE Board Report – September 2016

Curriculum for Children and Youth:

- 10:30am: Programming & Education for Children and Youth
 - Sunday programming for Children and Youth throughout the 2016 - 2017 program year will complement the Sunday Services in our efforts to move closer to congregational thematic ministry. This thematic calendar will be exploring the source traditions, and considering wisdom from around the world.

Sundays in September:

- As we kick-off our 2016 - 2017 program year, we began with Resumption Sunday (9/11), which was an All Congregation Service - the children and youth remained in the service. The remaining two Sundays in September will feature lessons from the "Wonderful Welcome" UUA Tapestry of Faith curriculum for our younger children, and the youth will have an opportunity to get to know one another in fun and creative ways.
- **Volunteer/Training/Housekeeping Matters:**
 - **Volunteers:** Although we have had a few wonderful folks step up to assist, we are still in need of more volunteers to *staff at bare minimum* the existing programs. This does not take into account the fact that we are hoping to add programs for young families and youth. Also, it should be noted that when considering the volunteer count needed for a Sunday morning, *I am not supposed to count as a teacher*. Ideally, the DLE is supposed to be functioning in the role as *Director of Lifespan Experience* and supervising the various classrooms by floating from room to room. We do not have the volunteers to make this possible at this time. It should also be noted that I will be taking time off (undetermined length at this time) flowing the birth of our daughter in late December. Although I will structure the program to function while I am out, the real challenge will be to find the volunteer staff to cover the openings that I typically cover programmatically.

Families:

- Friday Night Out for September was 9/9 – it was fully staffed and at capacity for two staff persons. We need to consider adding a third person as we have a lot of new interest in this program. Our staff for this program is currently paid (as we were unable to find enough regular volunteers), but we do not have the budget necessary to pay a third person. This third person *will need to be a volunteer* if we are going to increase the size of what we are able to offer.
- The Nurturing Families Committee met for the first time on 9/14/16 – Don Pyne, Marco Cabrera, Karin Killian, and I were present. Amanda Sparks and Jan Zerbel have likewise expressed interest in attending in the future. Topics of discussion included sharing some of our personal experiences with congregations, considering existing programming and

programming of the recent past, and brainstorming for the future. Some concrete action items that were a result of that meeting included:

- Consider offering some sort of coffee house on a weeknight for teens – it could perhaps include tutoring, open mic, etc. Marco brought up the idea again of getting an espresso machine to teach the teens a skill (barista), and make the coffee house self-sufficient in some way.
- Consider having a “Child of the Month” bulletin board featuring one child from the congregation along with a photo and bio.
- Ask John Baily about the possibility of having a children’s bell choir or children’s choir – it wouldn’t be something that would meet regularly necessarily, but something that could meet 3 times or so to prepare a specific piece as part of services. Then they could meet again as more opportunities present themselves.
- Have a design contest and allow the children to design image for the cover of the Order of Service for the All Congregation Services.
- Find service projects that families could do together – perhaps this is something social justice could work with families on?
- Set up a “goal board” in the classroom – children earn stickers for attendance, bonus stickers for attending special things or participating in special things – would work toward some sort of prize/award at the end of the year. Gives the children a visual and something to look forward to – and a reason to get out of bed!
- Marco and Karin will work on a humorous yet informational Beacon article to explain just how easy it really is to volunteer to teach on Sundays
- Consider a Sunday Service devoted to volunteerism as stewardship and include Sunday teachers as part of that.

The committee will meet again Wednesday, Oct 12th at 9am.

Adult Programming:

- Brewing Community: This group will meet on September 22nd from 5-7 at Rare Bird
- Wednesday Supper:
 - Supper has returned to its regular schedule here in the congregational building – 5:30pm-6pm social time, 6pm supper. 1st/3rd Wednesdays are potluck, 2nd/4th Wednesdays are \$5/adult, \$3/child 10 and under.
- CUUPS will be moving its monthly meeting to the last Wednesday of each month, from 12:30-1:30pm, and to a new location – La Señorita – Garfield Rd. This group is preparing for their second annual Pagan Fair in October. This is a great opportunity to have a lot of public traffic in our building – estimates last year were that over 200 people attended

throughout the one day event. This year it will be a two-day event – the evening of Friday, 10/21 and all day Saturday, 10/22. It will include the wares vendors, service providers, and informational workshops throughout the day on Saturday, with a similar format to last year. The additional Friday Night event this year will include a “Fall Ball” type social event, with childcare provided, and the majority of the vendor booths will likewise be open. These events are free to the public.

Staffing Matters:

My regular Sunday off in September is 09.18.16. I have begun to discuss time away following the birth of our daughter in December with Rabbi Chava and the Personnel Committee.

Policy:

I continue to work with the Safe Congregation Task Force. The SCRT now meets regularly to proactively discuss safety matters and procedural questions. This will surely benefit the congregation overall.

Attendance: class # is all age groups combined, N = Nursery

08.07.16 – N=1, 3

08.12.16 – 7 - FNO

08.14.16 – N=0, 3

08.21.16 - NURSERY WAS CLOSED DUE TO LACK OF VOLUNTEERS. CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING WAS CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF VOLUNTEERS.

08.28.16 – N=1, 2