

# RE Council Charter - Draft Jan 10 2015

## **Mission Statement:**

The Religious Education Council aims to provide vision, structure, guidance and support for the RE program and the Director of Religious Education.

## **Goals:**

**Overarching goals-** Help children, youth, and members

- \*experience multigenerational, multicultural and community activities
- \*explore the stories and values in Unitarian Universalism, Jewish, Christian and other world religions
- \*Learn about resources and values for lifelong personal growth.

**Yearly goals-** In cooperation with the DRE, the RE council will

- \*Create an annual calendar and have a draft for the following church year done by February.
- \*Plan programming for all ages *MARY WILL WRITE DETAILS FOR THIS.*
- \*Provide teacher training 2 times a year (before classes start and midyear) and provide teacher support year round.
- \*Engage in timely, relevant communication to parents and the wider church community through a variety of ways including general RE email, newsletter, class parent contacts, and the website.
- \*Review curriculum
- \*Recruit Teachers and adult RE workshop leaders.
- \*Make sure teachers have the tools and resources necessary to present the programming
- \*Review and create a yearly budget proposal in a timely manner
- \*Maintain institutional knowledge by keeping a binder of curriculum by year, storing meeting minutes, reports, and forms in an on-line storage such as google drive and as appropriate in a hardcopy binder for easy access.
- \*Set policy as it relates to involvement in the RE program

## **Roles and Responsibilities:**

As part of the goal to maintain institutional knowledge, the council should be composed of a mixture of long time and newer members of the RE community.

**Council co-chairs-** Consult with DRE, council members and each other to...

Alternate creating the agenda and leading the RE council meetings.

Request follow up reports from the circles members

Consider policies and big picture ideas

Help create RE ministry budget

**Teacher Support Circle chair-** Work with the DRE and circle members to...

\*Help plan, prepare and run the teacher orientations

\*Help plan, prepare and run the teacher appreciation activities

\*Contact teachers periodically for teacher feedback and report back to council and DRE. Surveys for feedback on teacher experience will be given in January and June.

\*Collect Safe Congregation paperwork and keep a list of who has filled it out.

**Youth Circle chair-** Work with the DRE and circle members to...

- \*Review, evaluate, and adapt curriculum for grades 6-12
- \*Oversee the planning, budget, and organization of the youth trips
- \*Oversee the planning and timing of the youth related worship services
- \*Inform youth and others of greater UU world youth activities
- \* Work with the youth group rep to gain feedback from that age group.
- \*Encourage teen youth representation by having youth as council members and inviting youth to attend the meetings.

**Elementary Circle chair-** Work with the DRE and circle members to...

- \*Review, evaluate, and adapt curriculum for grades pre-K through 5
- \*Oversee the planning and timing of the young youth related worship services
- \*Check in with parents to obtain feedback regarding programming and other RE related issues as they pertain to this age group.
- \*Occasionally schedule events for each age group to meet and play, as identified by the RE council or requested by parents

**Connections Circle chair-** Work with the DRE and circle members to...

- \*Regularly monitor soundings, local media, etc to become aware of activities that may be of interest to families and other members in the church.
- \*Publicize events regarding the UCW programs to outside community members and invite newcomers
- \*Encourage more multi generational participation within the UCW community through organizing and/or promoting social events both within the church and the larger community
- \*Monitor RE website to make sure it is current and correct
- \*Create class directories

**Adult Education Circle Chair-** Work with the DRE and circle members to...

- \*Develop and evaluate programming for adults and multigenerational continuing education.
- \* Oversee planning, budget, and timing of adult and multigenerational workshops.
- \*Inform congregation of programming through church wide emails, newsletters, Sunday morning announcements and website.
- \*Put workshops on the calendar and reserve spaces in a timely fashion.
- \*Check in with participants for feedback after each workshop.
- \*Solicit interest and suggestions from former participants and the congregation at large for suggestions on adult and multigenerational programming and leaders.
- \*Find workshop leaders.

### **Term Limits:**

Suggested term limits are a two year minimum with a six year maximum in one position on the RE council.

### **Guidlines:**

RE council related meetings occur once a month. A full council meeting happens every other month. On alternate months, one of the circles meets to focus on their particular goals. One person at the meeting takes notes and shares with the DRE and other circle/council members.

### **Accountability**

Have at least one parent survey each year  
Have at least one teacher survey each year  
Evaluate RE attendance as a ratio of overall attendance at the church