

**UUCF Religious Education Report
December 14th 2021 Board Meeting**

Religious Education Overview:

We have continued to implement the lesson/activity kits for the younger (Preschool/Kinder-6th grade) children in R.E. There are still just a handful of families taking part in this at the moment. Based on feedback/conversations I have had with parents, they are mostly wanting to participate in person when it is possible, and many of them were waiting until their children could be vaccinated so they would be comfortable doing so. This was before the newest variant, rise in numbers and new mask mandate, so we will see what their thoughts are going forward.

General Update:

Previously, the intention was to have at least the teens return to in-person at the beginning of December. This has not yet happened. Admittedly, this is mostly due to my phone being broken these last few weeks and me not being able to call for personal outreach to the families to invite them. I'm getting caught up on that and have reached out to most of our teen families to: gauge their thoughts on returning in person, remind them about UUCF's policy for attending in person (vaccinated & masked), invite them to RSVP for this Sunday's Solstice service, and let them know that I will be happy to give their teen a tour of the building to show them around.

When it comes to returning to in person R.E., I feel like we need to just push forward with a decision to start, and be ready to welcome the children (and their parents) as they start to attend again. I think our current policies are in line with practical safety protocols for having children on campus, meaning all attendees fully vaccinated and masked, no food, etc. We can add temperature checks, and individual supplies for children, if needed. The R.E. staff and I are preparing to be ready to start having children on campus again, and everyone will need to be prepared for the inevitable logistics and trial and error "dance" that occurs with any new change. With the awkwardness of the holidays, it makes the most sense to begin this in the new year.

Plan Youth & Teens this year

This is the basic timeline for the teens that we are working with:

- Dec 19- Solstice Service (working with David to include the children/teens)
- January 17th- Coming of Age kick-off date
- June 12th- Coming of Age Ceremony

Report respectfully submitted by Rachel White, Director of Religious Education