

Religious Education Committee Report – Feb 2024

Becky Ricketts, REC Chair (not currently a member of UUCF)

Members of Committee:

- Open position: Special Events
- Cathy Frickert, BoT liaison
- Carter Rakovski, general member
- Christina Garner, general member
- Members of the communications team:
 - Rebecca Deuel-Gallegos
 - Lisa Lobito
 - Mia Lekiki (not currently a member of UUCF)

Members of staff:

- Director of Family Ministry: Sarah Whittenberg
- Nursery Coordinator: Joy Ellis
- Open Positions:
 - Teen Coordinator
 - Jr. High Coordinator
 - RE Assistants: Preschool, Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary

The objective of the committee is to coordinate and support a successful RE program.

Summary of recent accomplishments and current activities:

- Determined Megan Watson as the best candidate to take on the position of UUCF Teen Coordinator. She was our Interim RE Coordinator in 2022-2023.
- Renewed my LREDA membership. Working with other LREDA members in SoCal (note: I'm the only member from any of the OC congregations) to put on a TeenCon in April up in the Ventura area.
- Although I was not able to be present on the 1/27 cleanup day, I have been working with Megan Watson, Joy Ellis, Cathy Frickert and others to cull the massive amount of RE "stuff". I'm taking home approximately one carload of said "stuff" for review every week.
- I had been under the impression that we had a full committee, but it appears that the member who committed to that position has changed

their mind and instead added themselves to the communications team. This means we need to find someone for that position; at this time, none of the existing committee members are willing to take on coordination of special projects and events, including OWL, CoA, and the like.

- Much of the committee has been in a kind of stasis for a while. The two general members have provided outstanding service. The comms team is, as far as I can tell, still working with Becky to determine what their focus will be on.

List of activities in progress and upcoming events:

- Valentine's Day Party on 2/11
- Lunar New Year event on 2/18 with special guest Anita Lau
- Working with Intern Minister Sam Hunt to create an Active UU event on 3/17
- Nowruz event 3/24
- Egg Hunt 3/31

Financial impact:

- The RE committee is working very hard to be judicious stewards of our budget. We use a lot of recycled and donated materials. I'm looking forward to seeing a copy of our financials so that I can determine how much I actually have to work with.

Recommendations to the Board of Trustees:

- Approve the hiring of prospective Teen Coordinator, Megan Watson
- Determine policy as to whether non-members are allowed to serve on standing committees, whether as a chair or a member

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Whittenberg

Director of Family Ministry

2.8.2024