Growth & Learning Circle

The past year as with everything in our lives has been a roller coaster. Our growth & learning circle has done a wonderful job of keeping their groups together. The non-fiction book club has continued to meet regularly via zoom & communicates with the congregation on when they meet & what they are reading.

One of the RE programs this year was the Toolbox of Faith. Each family received a toolbox filled with tools and activities for the children to use with their weekly curriculum. Inside the boxes there are items used as metaphors such as mirrors for reflection, duct tape for flexibility and a flashlight for justice. Pam has been staying in touch with all our families with regular mail & surprise packages at our front doors.

Another project created was the Traveling Chalice. Each family had a week to light and record themselves saying the lighting and extinguishing words. That family also added a word or drawing. The videos were included in the Sunday service. The chalice then traveled to the next family for their opportunity to be a part of the lighting ceremony.

The Youth & Senior groups met via zoom through February but were able to schedule monthly lawn meetings at the church. Miriam Cleveland and Theresa Kenders lead the Junior Group. Joe Saintcross has led the Senior group for nearly 14 years and has decided to step aside this year. We are immensely grateful to Joe for his dedication to the Senior Youth group for all these years.

The RE Committee has also been meeting regularly via zoom to support Pam, create new ideas and come together to support our RE program throughout a very unique season. Susan Mooney, Wendy Hainey, Liz Stockton and KC Edgin.

Pam also introduced Faithful Journeys in February. Each family received a shoe box (because you need a good pair of shoes when you go on a journey) full of the things needed for this curriculum. Because ours is a creedless faith, defining what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist can be challenging. Our adults and youth often welcome such a challenge — indeed, a questioning spirit is part of our faith. Yet, our children need to learn who Unitarian Universalists are, what we believe, and how we live in faith. Faithful Journeys equips them with language and experiences to answer these questions and help them develop a strong Unitarian Universalist identity. Over the course of the program, the children discovered a unity of faith in the many ways Unitarian Universalists, including themselves, can act on our beliefs.

We are so grateful for Pam and all our volunteers that make our growth & learning programs successful.