

DLE Board Report – November 2017

Curriculum for Children and Youth:

- 10:30am: Programming & Education for Children and Youth
Sundays in November

We've been off to a great start with our first session of "UU & YOU at Hogwarts"! The children will be finalizing their "hunger horcrux" this month, capping it off with a visit to the Grace Episcopal Pantry after service on 11/12. Parents will be transporting their own children, so permission forms for transportation are not necessary. We will begin our "literacy horcrux" this month as well. Attendance continues to be impressive for this program.

Suggested readings for families/parents this month include:

- "How to Train Your Dragon" – by: Cressida Caldwell
 - "How to Train Your Dragon has been touted as the perfect book to reel in your reluctant readers. It's full of varied text and picture use throughout: maps, lists, songs, stat pages on dragons, rough drawings, even stray blots of ink strewn here and there...Mixed in with all the laugh-out-loud moments, excitement, danger, dragons, and very uncivilized Vikings, your students will find a real hero's adventure complete with a quest or two, impossible odds, a main character you can't help but like, and a story that will keep the kids thinking (despite themselves) all the way through. You'll find themes of quintessential initiation rites of childhood; dealing with intimidation by peers, parents, and even teachers; finding the leader within; depending on good friends; discovering strength you didn't know you had; learning to adapt; among many others. This book can be used as a supplement to a study on early Vikings, Norse mythology, and/or even a fun language unit (due to the many bits of *dragonese* that will have your students in stitches)". – *Books & Bunnies Book Review*
- For Parents: "Why Grown-Up Muggles Should Read 'Harry Potter'" by: David Busis, NY Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/26/opinion/harry-potter-20th-anniversary.html>

Volunteer/Training/Housekeeping Matters:

- **Volunteers:** As always, we could use more assistance staffing the various programs we offer, more specifically we will be looking for additional "professors" for the Hogwarts program Jan-May 2018.

Families & Other Child/Youth Programming:

- Friday Night Out is on 11/10 – we currently have 7 children registered and it is fully staffed. Attendance is light this month because our FNO happens to fall on the same night as Woodland School's Movie Night – we have several Woodland families that are part of our program this year.

Adult Programming: *As mentioned in previous reports, adult programming is an important part of the Lifespan Experience Program of this congregation. In fact, our committee has had, and continues to have an Adult Programming Representative to help us connect with and serve this portion of our congregation. We are fortunate that John Hoffmann is in this role for the second year.*

Updates for this Month:

- **Brewing Community:** Brewing Community will meet on Thursday, 11/16 from 5-7pm at The Workshop Brewery in Traverse City. This will be the ONLY Brewing Community in November because of the holiday. There will be no Brewing Community in December.
- **Wednesday Supper Schedule:** Reminder – there will be NO Wednesday Supper on 11/22 (the day before Thanksgiving).
- **Wednesday Programs:** We have some interesting programs lined up in November –
 - 11/1 – Hal Gurian Gerrymandering... Information & Q&A
 - 11/15 – Maura Brennan – Endowment Committee – Everything You Always Wanted to Know 😊
- **Pagan Fair!! Saturday, November 11th:** Our 3rd Annual Pagan Fair, coordinated by our UUCGT CUUPs Chapter, is right around the corner. This wonderful event will feature a variety of vendors from statuary to drums, books, balms, candles, ritual items, and more! We will have healers/readers on hand... and several workshops. Workshops will include an introduction to Paganism, Creating Sacred Space, and "The Sidhe & Me: Renewing our Kinship with the Faerie Otherworlds" (led by Jeremy Berg). We encourage people from throughout our community to come feed their spirits, take some time for self-care, and support local artists/vendors.
- **Adult Lifespan Experience Connections:** We wrapped up our "Dialogue in Community" 9am class this month, and leave the experience uplifted and with a deeper sense of connection to our community. Participants were encouraged to consider the ways in which they could bring notions of joy, learning, serving, and caring into their volunteerism at UUCGT, along with their abilities to collaborate and engage in dialogue. We will be sending out a Survey Monkey link to participants to get their feedback on the overall experience.

Staffing Matters:

Regular Sunday off is 11/26. I continue to learn from the UU Institute course entitled "The Death of Sunday School" and will create a full report upon the completion of the course.

Attendance:

October 2016 Sundays	October 2017 - Sundays
10.02.16 – 3 (9am childcare for program) 10:30am=7, N=1	10.01.17 – 3 (9am childcare for program) 10:10am = 18, N=1
10.09.16 – 1 (9am childcare for program) 10:30am = 5, N=1	10.08.17 – N/A (9am childcare for program) 10:30am – 17, N=3
10.16.16 – 2 (9am childcare for program) 10:30 = 15, N=3	10.15.17 1 (9am childcare for program) 10:30am – 13, N=3
10.23.16 – N/A (9am childcare for program) 10:30 = 4, N=1	10.22.17 N/A (9am childcare for program) 10:30am – 12, N=3
10.30.16 – 2 (9am childcare for program) N=2, All Congregation Service	10.29.17 1 (9am childcare for program) 10:30am – 13, N=4
October 2016 FNO	October 2017 FNO
10.14.16 – FNO - 9	10.13.17 - 4