

DRE's Annual Report - 2020-2021 year

This year has met some challenges with the continued pandemic. It seems unfathomable that we went an entire year without having in person programming. But I was impressed by the Zoom programming that we did have, impressed that it was as successful as it was.

The Adult Faith Development programming of Racial Justice Discussion Group read a LOT of books and listened to several podcasts that resulted in very lively discussions and in my opinion had an effect on the work of the Social Justice Committee and Welcoming Congregation Committee. We collaborated with the South Bend Community Forum for Economic Justice and Neighbors Organizing Against Racism for even deeper, richer conversations.

Creative Mindfulness met on almost all the Saturday mornings with a few exceptions. The group's membership waxed and waned periodically but there always seemed to be a core group of attendees who proclaimed that it was their "me" time of the week.

The RE programming had two seasons over the year. It began with monthly RE delivery bags which included some themed curriculum, crafty supplies and sometimes a little gift. The kids seemed to enjoy them but there was very little interaction with Buuf during services or by email or facebook.

In 2021 I had the idea for a new curriculum, called Builder's Challenge, which I created with the help of the RE teachers. So far several kids are meeting each week on Zoom to learn & talk about their Utopian towns they are designing. The best news of this curriculum has been their interaction during services. The curriculum will go until August.

Budget 2020-2021: \$500

Spent - \$259.53 (supplies for RE delivery bags)

Remaining - \$240.47 (I plan on using this and combining it with some of next year's budget for RE & Small Group Curriculum for 2021-2022)