

**Summary of 34 responses collected through May 31  
(26 from web-based survey, 8 on paper survey)**

**Who are you?**

1. Please check all that apply:

% of Respondents    Number of Respondents

RE Team member

7.69% 2

RE Teacher

11.54% 3

RE Volunteer

11.54% 3

Church member

65.38% 17

Visitor

3.85% 1

Number of respondents 19

Number of respondents who skipped this question 7

**Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys**

1. Church member
2. RE Team, RE Teacher, RE Volunteer, Church Member
3. Church member
4. RE Team, Teacher, Volunteer, Church Member
5. RE Team, Teacher, Church Member
6. Volunteer, Church Member
7. Church Member
8. Volunteer, Church Member

**2. How long have you been attending UUCR?**

Number of Respondents

19

Number of respondents who skipped this question 7

1 almost 4 years

2 Nine years, seven of them regularly

3 7 years

4 since July 2008

5 8 years

6 2 years

7 16 years

8 25+ years

9 2 years

10 6 years

11 15 years

12 Since 1998

13 9 years

14 9 years

15 20 plus years

16 3 years

17 38 years

18 8 years

19 28 years

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. 24.5 years
2. 22 years
3. 5 years
4. 19 years
5. 4 years
6. 29 years
7. 17 years

**3. Do you currently have children participating in the RE program? What are their ages and grades?**

Number of Respondents

19

Number of respondents who skipped this question 7

- 1 6 year old in kindergarten and 2 year old
- 2 Yes. Age 9, 3rd grade and age 7, 1st grade
- 3 No.
- 4 yes, two boys in the YRUU program (finishing 8th & 9th grades)
- 5 Yes, 7 & 9 years old, grades 1 & 3
- 6 age 4 and 1
- 7 No
- 8 no
- 9 Yes. Age 4
- 10 n/a
- 11 Do not have children.
- 12 No
- 13 Yes...2 years
- 14 Yes - 2 years old
- 15 NO
- 16 no- I have a 1 1/2 yr old toddler. we do not use the nursery very much.
- 17 No
- 18 Yes
- 19 no

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. no
2. 13, 7th grade
3. no
4. 16-9th, 14-8th, 10-4th
5. 4years old, 16 months
6. no
7. no
8. no

**4. If you do not currently have children enrolled in the RE program, have your children participated in the past? If yes, in what years?**

Number of Respondents

9

Number of respondents who skipped this question 17

- 1 Two children participated between 1992-2006

- 2 yes 1984-2003
- 3 n/a
- 4 n/a
- 5 na
- 6 na
- 7 Yes, my daughters have helped teach classes and have been resources for special events like Halloween Parties.
- 8 Yes, in the 1970's and 1980's
- 9 yes. Many.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

- 1. 1984-1998
- 2. blank
- 3. blank
- 4. I have a 19 year old who thoroughly enjoyed all his years. He had a large number of same age peers so keeping him coming wasn't a challenge.
- 5. blank
- 6. 1984-2005
- 7. 1991-2007
- 8. 1983-1994

**5. Do you have children who do not participate in RE? If yes, why do they not participate?**

Number of Respondents

13

Number of respondents who skipped this question 13

- 1 no
- 2 One child, age 1.5 years.
- 3 no
- 4 no
- 5 No
- 6 no
- 7 n/a
- 8 n/a
- 9 na
- 10 na
- 11 n/a
- 12 N/A
- 13 no

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

- 1. Graduated
- 2. blank
- 3. blank
- 4. 16 year old doesn't come for "Neighboring Faiths" sessions because she already had it.
- 5. blank
- 6. blank
- 7. Son is the only one of his age at the church—never really felt part of any RE class because of this.
- 8. No

**6. Have you ever taught in or volunteered for the RE program? If yes, please specify how you volunteered.**

Number of Respondents

18

Number or respondents who skipped this question 8

- 1 Helped teach
- 2 Yes. teaching, coordinating, RETeam
- 3 No
- 4 no
- 5 yes, I teach each year, and I formerly served on REMC
- 6 yes - teacher in 4-5 year old room
- 7 Yes - RE teacher, summer RE coordinator
- 8 yes - yearly. Teaching RE classes and other random projects.
- 9 Yes. Taught preschool class about 5-6 times
- 10 n/a
- 11 Yes, as class assistant.
- 12 No
- 13 Yes, assisted with 2-3 year old class.
- 14 Yes, assisted with the 2-3 year old class
- 15 Yes-I love to teach and volunteer. I wish I could do more.
- 16 Yes. Vice President of Religious Education Teacher Director of Arts Camp
- 17 Yes. Various.
- 18 yes. AYS, OWL, and I assisted teaching here and there.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. RE teacher and coordinator while my sons were participating.
2. Teacher, assistance, activities field trip coordinator.
3. no
4. Coordinated, taught, Youth group advisor.
5. Taught several sessions in 4/K class.
6. Teacher, RE volunteer.
7. Taught for many years, member of RE team for some
8. RE Team, RE Teacher.

### **What is your vision for RE?**

1. What do you think is important for children to receive from an RE program?

Number of Respondents

13

Number or respondents who skipped this question 13

- 1 Knowledge of some history and the ideas UUism is based upon. Some exposure to other religious ideas and, as age appropriate, opportunities to discuss/roleplay being a UU in the bible belt.
- 2 A sense of community among other children who are encouraged to think for themselves. Encouragement to explore their own spirituality. Opportunities to learn about other religious traditions. A place to feel accepted and loved.
- 3 A diversity of ideas and viewpoints.
- 4 1. comparative religious education 2. community/friendship/fellowship 3. community service (equally important --- not listed in order of importance)
- 5 An understanding of the diverse religious traditions of the world, a way of engaging their spiritual natures, assistance in finding their own spiritual paths, an understanding of the 7 principles and how they inform our daily lives
- 6 spiritual exploration, exploration of different religious traditions I also think it's important that older children attend Sunday services
- 7 Knowledge of different religious faith traditions Safe space to explore their own spiritual beliefs Support for ethical teachings Fellowship with other UUs
- 8 A world view of religious ideas -- a sense of values

9 I am very satisfied with the RE TEAM's mission statement in their prospectus. Learning to be a good person...learn about their UU faith...learn tolerance..have fun, etc

10 Activities that emphasize understandable application of the seven principles in a safe and welcoming environment.

11 A broad education about religion in general and an idea of how to be a useful and positive person. They should also get a more specific picture of what the UU Religion stands for.

12 creative religious exploration; community; a sense of involvement in the larger church. Grounding in both world religions and ethics/moral values (springing from our UU principles)

13 Exposure to many religious ideas and concepts.

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Information about the basics of the world's religions including UU. Positive experiences that enhance each child's self worth and the worth of others in our community and world.
2. A good background in our religion and in other faiths
3. A well rounded view of all religions, a sense of community.
4. To nurture them in an open environment as they help develop their personal theologies, while exposing them to other religions, UU history and allowing them to form bonds with their peers.
5. To learn what it means to be a UU faith.
6. Knowledge, world view, learning respect and integrity.
7. Enough knowledge to decide on their won theology, sense of community.
8. Religious education, other world religions, bible stories (background for literature) UU principles.

### **2. What do you think your child(ren) wish(es) to learn/see/do in UUCR's RE program?**

Number of Respondents

9

Number of respondents who skipped this question 17

- 1 As my children are young I think their personal desires are basically about having fun and being active.
- 2 Active learning opportunities with adults they have a chance to get to know and feel comfortable with.
- 3 they're still getting used to the idea of going to church every week; I don't think they know what they want, but they're open to anything
- 4 They probably want time with friends and fun activities mostly
- 5 n/a
- 6 Children come to be with their friends. They come to be in a special space that their parents tell them is where they as a family will worship. The children like to learn things but they like ot have a good time doing it. Learning choices change as the children get older.
- 7 N/A
- 8 explore spiritual side and bond with other UUs
- 9 Be interested, eat snacks.

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. I think kids mostly want to have fun, whether it is creating a piece of artwork, playing a game, or being together with friends.
2. There's no pleasing adolescents.
3. blank.
4. They've usually been pretty happy with all curriculums. The 16 year old lacks a significant amount of same age peers which inhibits her desire to come.
5. blank
6. Fun, listen to stories, make projects.
7. Engaging, age appropriate hands-on activities with like minded folks. Art projects or anything involving food.
8. blank

### **3. What do you perceive to be the strengths of our current RE program?**

Number of Respondents

12

Number or respondents who skipped this question 14

- 1 Some of the volunteers are very dedicated.
- 2 Committed volunteers and parents. DRE who cares about the children.
- 3 People, curriculum, and the kids, of course.
- 4 the devotion/dedication of the RE staff and adults involved in the program (speaking only about YRUU, I don't know about RE)
- 5 We have some excellent teachers, and we also use some very good curricula
- 6 passionate and interested volunteers
- 7 Caring adult teachers Diversity in curriculum Supportive, loving atmosphere
- 8 Great volunteer support - diverse offerings - every child feels welcomed
- 9 Strong leadership by DRE and RE TEAM and REMC Excellent communication with congregation Keeping current with the latest UUA curricula
- 10 I'm not familiar with the details of the present program, but something good must be happening in RE judging from the number of children in the program.
- 11 the commitment of volunteers
- 12 Variety.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. From the perspective of an outsider, I'd say we are providing all experiences mentioned in #1&2 above.
2. The program is small, in\_\_\_\_encourages bonding and acceptance.
3. It's volunteers.
4. Good curriculae, energetic dedicated teachers and volunteers. Devoted, enthusiastic RE director who finds great resources and curriculae and keeps the team headed forward.
5. Dedicated RE.
6. Dedicated teachers, many experienced ones, many stay year after year.
7. Dedicated volunteers.
8. N/A

**4. How much of a priority does RE seem to be in the life of UUCR?**

% of Respondents Number of Respondents

low  
 15.38% 2  
 medium  
 61.54% 8  
 high  
 15.38% 2  
 top  
 7.69% 1

Number of respondents 13

Number or respondents who skipped this question 13

**5. How much of a priority should it be?**

% of Respondents Number of Respondents

low  
 0.00% 0  
 medium  
 0.00% 0  
 high  
 84.62% 11

top

15.38% 2

Number of respondents 13

Number of respondents who skipped this question 13

## 5 & 6

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Med/High.
2. Med/High
3. High/High
4. Med-to church members who aren't involved in RE and Top for volunteers in RE/Top.
5. High/High.
6. High/High.
7. Med/Top
8. High/High

### 6. What is your vision for the RE program in the next five years?

Number of Respondents

12

Number of respondents who skipped this question 14

1 I would like to see the RE program more integrated into the church and find a way to have more people involved. even those without children. I believe to help grow our congregation we need a better looking facility and year round RE. I believe we often lose potential young families because of our current RE. I would like to have a program in which the RE director supports the minister and the minister supports the RE director - they should be working together with the same goals. I would like to have an RE Director who is leading the program, supporting the volunteers and is actually there more often.

2 I'd like to see us moving forward by looking at the best of what other churches who are our size and growing offer. I'd like there to be more and more dynamic choices for middle and senior high school youth, a renewed focus on providing a high-quality Sunday-to-Sunday RE program rather than mere emphasis on special occasions. I'd like to see more members and friends get involved in RE. I'd like to see RE identify its strengths and areas for growth.

3 I don't know the current program now, but I hope it continues to be an important part of UUCR.

4 I'd like to see age-appropriate comparative religion units of study, and increased community service activities/projects (speaking only about YRUU)

5 I hope that we can have better participation and organization. More parents should be involved and the program could be better organized from the top down - right now we rely very heavily on volunteers to do most everything, from teaching to coordinating to new initiatives. We rely very much on the goodwill and willingness of volunteers, which sometimes works well, but sometimes falls flat. We especially need continuity in our summer program, if we want to keep families involved during the summer.

6 energetic leadership from staff that attracts and keeps volunteers interested and passionate less inter-team and inter-staff sniping. It's very damaging to the process

7 Active youth group - more participation by teens Investment in new curriculum More adults participating as volunteers/teachers

8 It keeps growing and UUCR adds more space to accommodate more kids & programming

9 If the congregation grows, the RE Director needs to be full time. I would like to see the RE program in a new, enlarged space. Right now they cope with an old building, ancient audio visual equipment, not enough storage, and a lack of funds.

10 N/A

11 New

12 I hope it grows. I hope we have adequate space.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Don't know.
2. Things are fine, Charlotte is a wonderful RE Director.
3. More teachers.
4. Continue as it is—we introduce and try new curriculae.
5. I would like to see a more “fresh” approach. The lesson plans I did was old and I just felt it was stale.
6. More interaction with fellowship in other churches, more service to community activities. Continue updating curriculum.
7. Inviting classrooms, updated curriculum, insist that more dads/men be actively involved.
8. I think the program is excellent—hopefully, it will continue in the same vein.

**7. What aspect of the RE program do you think most fosters a child's sense of belonging to our UUCR community?**

Number of Respondents

10

Number of respondents who skipped this question 16

- 1 I think at the moment it is more of a connection the people they interact with in the Re program. That is a good thing, but I really don't see anything that is more.
- 2 Opportunities for them to be involved in the life of the church every Sunday that we attend - when there is not RE, that there be other activities within or outside of the service that are planned with consideration of children's needs.
- 3 I'm not sure that they have a sense of belonging to the UUCR community --- again, my children are new to UUCR, but because YRUU is held during the church service and they don't have the history here that other youth have, they don't feel part of UUCR.
- 4 It's probably different for different children, but regular attendance is important for kids. At most ages they feel they belong if they feel like they are "regulars" - this is mostly up to the parents, of course, but the program can do more to encourage parents to keep coming.
- 5 opportunity to participate or attend worship services as children grow older
- 6 Youth service, opportunities to perform, such as Christmas children's play, recognition at children's time, lessons in RE about what it means to be a UU
- 7 Intergenerational events including plays & performance by kids or clases
- 8 The children's time in the large sanctuary Some intergenerational services, but those are very infrequent Having children have their snack at coffee hour instead of in the classrooms Youth Service Children's Christmas Play and Easter can hunt
- 9 The coming together with the adults should make them feel a part of the larger church community. The fact that they have caring adults teaching them should make them feel welcome. Doing activities (overnights, plays, children's choir, etc.) should also give them a feeling of belonging.
- 10 Being able to question and being able to (somewhat) direct the course of the instruction.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Participation in the worship services with adults.
2. small classes.
3. Potlucks.
4. All of it but when they share skits or show off their creations to the whole church it' a bonus. Also when teachers are non parents, the kids get to know more people.
5. blank/
6. Children's time in service. Intergenerational services.
7. Education about the many facets of Unitarian Universalism and our place the world. Close knit community.
8. Church Children's time.

**8. Are there any other ways the program could help our children develop a feeling of belonging to the UUCR community?**

Number of Respondents

8

Number of respondents who skipped this question 18

1 Attend a longer portion of the service for all ages on a regular basis. Have more people volunteer in RE - even if they are just there observing and talking the kids and not "teaching."

2 Hold YRUU classes before/after service, or on a weeknight.

3 Sure - parents need to feel committed to the program, so that their children will as well. Several things could be done to make this happen better. Early registration for families would allow parents to plan their attendance better, and the RE program could make the expectations for volunteering clear. In some churches visitors and new members are not expected to volunteer as teachers, but after coming to church for one year, or a certain number of Sundays (20, for example), the RE program could say that every parent is expected to volunteer some time to the program. It's important that parents feel a sense of ownership of the program. This will help the kids feel more involved as well. We could also have outreach programs, such as parenting groups, or workshops about religious education. In these workshops professionals could talk to parents about their child's religious journey in a way that makes parents more aware that religious education is central to the UU tradition. This would make the children more involved and feel more connected as well.

4 More intergenerational participation; more attention/recognition given at children's time to what the children are up to in RE

5 don't know

6 Just keep working on having the children part of the regular services, i.e. more singing by the children...let children do more of children's time...more involvement with the minister. Pretty poor relationship with the minister right now. I don't think the kids know her at all.

7 I can't think of anything else.

8 I don't know.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Participation in the same fundraisers and community service projects with UU congregation.

2. Let them come to Church more often.

3. blank

4. Parents bringing their kids to RE and all-church functions. We have a lot of kids from divorced families. They don't get to come to as much as their UU Parent would like.

5. More discussion about what it means to be a UU.

6. Intergeneration/family summer services for kids to meet the rest of the fellowship.

7. Seems that other churches are always holding social gatherings for their youth outside of regular services.

8. Members volunteering in RE to get to know children and young families.

### **9. Are there ways in which you feel communication about the RE program could be improved?**

Number of Respondents

12

Number of respondents who skipped this question 14

1 Even as an occasional RE volunteer I don't feel I get much information about the Re program. Sorry, no answers, but I believe it is a problem.

2 Yes. Communication (positive, without making parents feel guilty) by the DRE with parents who no longer attend at least once a year, registration for classes before they begin (preferably in the Spring), more active solicitations of registrations (including e-mail addresses) by staff, direct communication with congregation, about needs, concerns, opportunities for involvement in RE, teachers communicating regularly with parents (facilitated by DRE?)

3 No. I think when our kids are in RE, I will pay attention to more of the communications.

4 Limit email to scheduling so that more serious issues are addressed with face-to-face discussion.

5 Yes - the potential for outreach programs can really improve communication about what RE can do. And we have made some improvements in bringing the message of RE into services, which is good, but there is still a lot of work to do in getting the message of what can go on in RE into the rest of the congregation.

6 less sniping - it gets in the way of communication

7 Can't think of any at this time

8 no

9 RE does the best it can do right now. It would be nice if the minister and the other members of the church actually read the RE prospectus, the RE NEWS, and other news items published by the RE department. Most people seem to ignore them...including the minister..unless she has a vested interest in the program.

10 Direct mail to all parents in the church.

11 I can't think of any way it could be improved.

12 No ideas, sorry.

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Perhaps have an "RE Moment" once a month during the service where a class comes in to share something they are learning about.
2. We need more coordinator volunteers—the ones we have are overwhelmed.
3. blank.
4. Think we do pretty well. The bulletins in the newsletter are good resources.
5. No
6. More displays downstairs about each class.
7. Regular announcements from RE as part of the morning announcements.
8. No.

#### **10. What suggestions do you have for the integration of the children's program in intergenerational Services?**

Number of Respondents

10

Number of respondents who skipped this question 16

1 As mentioned above, some services geared for all ages for a longer first portion of the service (music, readings, dialogues or small very short plays focusing on UU concepts - fleshing out the 7 principles and what it means and why we have "chosen" to be UU's. It would be great if we could find a way to have the older kids attend an occasional service and just be with us and us with them.

2 I think that the church is moving in the right direction in this area (having children and families light the chalice, children doing readings, sharing with the service things they've been doing in RE, participating in Children's Time.

3 At the very least, mention in the service what the YRUU are doing each week, so that the congregation is at least aware of them.

4 This integration has a lot to do with the ages of the children, and their ability to sit through a full church service. For older children (maybe 8 and up), there is little that needs to be done, except making sure that the services don't contain material that's not age appropriate. And for young kids, say birth to 5, it's best to have some other care for them. For the middle kids - 6 & 7 mostly - we should offer something in services to hold their attention a bit. But what will work really depends on the service.

5 Each month, have one RE class share something they have done with the congregation.

6 Stop reading Shel Silverstein poems, Please!

7 I've listed these already. Let the DRE and the RE TEAM have some input into the planning of intergenerational services. We seldom see the DRE participating with the Minister. It seems the Minister can't share the ministry with anyone...except for Christmas play and youth service. Wonder why?

8 Maybe the adults need more help than the kids in being welcoming and relaxing a little bit when kids make noise :-)

9 I have no suggestions.

10 Song, dance.

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Skits, music, artwork, and readings by the children.
2. More tolerance for the "wissles".
3. Blank.

4. Have services light and kid friendly. Don't rush to explain to parents of babies and small children "There's child care upstairs" at the first gurgle from a baby or whisper from a small child. Their baby and child noises are what help make it a Family service. Hurrying to get them shuttled off to child care sends the message that they are not really welcome in the service.
5. I would like to see more intergen. Services.
6. Blank.
7. Strengthen children's choir with regular rehearsals to show what these young folks can do.
8. None.

**11. Is the RE program well integrated into the life of UUCR? What could be done to better integrate this program?**

Number of Respondents

9

Number of respondents who skipped this question 17

1 I don't believe it is. I don't have the answers, but I think this needs to be a priority discussion. I also think the governing structure of the RE program might be a problem.

2 Holding focus groups/town meetings once a year for the whole congregation about issues related to RE (summer RE, volunteer support of RE program, children in church, support for OWL or SpiritPlay, etc.

3 I don't think the YRUU program is integrated into the life of UUCR at all. As noted earlier, I think the YRUU should meet at a different time than the Sunday service, and I think each week's YRUU content should be mentioned in the Sunday service, just as the RE content is (maybe after we sing the children out?) Otherwise I don't know; I'm still new to UUCR myself.

4 Not really. There's too much of a divide between the RE program and the rest of the church. Unfortunately, each side mostly blames the other for this divide, though things don't have to be this way. We've tried small initiatives to help integrate the RE program into the rest of the church, to little effect. One of our major problems, which no one seems to publicly recognize, is that our DRE & minister simply don't have a good working relationship. There is way too much antipathy, blame and lack of communication there which keeps the RE program from being well-integrated into the rest of church life. No amount of new initiatives or small programs designed to integrate RE into the rest of the church will overcome the problems our staff have working together. This is a problem that needs to be resolved at a higher level.

5 No - it has always seemed to be separate but equal. I wish I had a good idea to share.

6 Integration is OK -- I think parents especially appreciate when someone else has their kids for even an hour, so they can have their own time.

7 So many things have been tried over the years. I would like to see the fire escape become a physical reality.....and.....see that the background checks for people working with our children and youth actually happen. There seems to be a lot of talk and nothing happens for months or years. It gives the impression the kids aren't really all that much a priority. I don't see the minister ministering to children or families at all. Maybe she does for a select few but generally it doesn't seem to happen. You don't have to be the most wealthy to get attention.

8 It seems to be well integrated to me.

9 Pretty good now.

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Perhaps make sure there is an RE representative on the worship committee, for instance.
2. Blank.
3. Limit children's stories during the church service to twice a month.
4. Have them share artwork, crafts, songs and dances that they do as part of their curricula.
5. Blank.
6. I think it is.
7. Unfortunately, many members of the congregation do not appear to realize that these children are the future of Unitarian Universalism. This attitude works against integrating RE into UUCR life.
8. It seems well integrated to me.

## How are we doing?

### 1. What is your impression of your child's satisfaction with UUCR's RE Program?

% of Respondents    Number of Respondents

Very Satisfied

12.50% 1

Satisfied

75.00% 6

Dissatisfied

0.00% 0

Very Dissatisfied

12.50% 1

Number of respondents 8

Number or respondents who skipped this question 18

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Don't know-NA.
2. Satisfied.
3. Very satisfied.
4. VS-10 year old, Sat-14 year old, Dissatisfied-16 year old, mainly because we lack numbers in her age group.
5. Satisfied.
6. Very Satisfied.
7. Very dissatisfied.
8. N/A.

### 2. How satisfied are you with UUCR's RE program?

% of Respondents    Number of Respondents

Very Satisfied

18.18% 2

Satisfied

45.45% 5

Dissatisfied

27.27% 3

Very Dissatisfied

9.09% 1

Number of respondents 11

Number or respondents who skipped this question 15

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Blank.
2. Very satisfied.
3. Blank.
4. Very satisfied.
5. Blank.
6. Very satisfied.
7. Satisfied.
8. Very satisfied.

### 3. What suggestions would you make to improve UUCR's RE program?

Number of Respondents

Number of respondents who skipped this question 19

1 I have been to only a few actual scheduled RE services, but each if those times there was not really a service - for example, one time, instead of the scheduled service the RE Director talked the whole time about a trip to the church in India and the letters which the children had written. Volunteers need to be treated with greater respect and communication should be professional and not present a culture of undermining the minister.

2 For YRUU, more "real" religious education and fewer field trips. A more cohesive program that offers comparative religious education in more depth. Follow-through on community service (zero YRUU involvement in RAM House after visiting there? What was the point of going?)

3 I think we need better buy-in from families. We need to offer a professional program that church members and visitors have confidence in. Too often our program looks like nothing more than childcare with a few religious activities thrown in. I think there's great potential for our RE program, but we need strong leadership to carry it out, and for the most part we rely on volunteers to manage the program. Having a full-time DRE would really help us out, though in these tight budget times, that seems unlikely

4 The new curriculum under consideration would be a big help. There needs to be some new curriculum and new energy in the RE program.

5 more volunteer help

6 More cooperation with the RE people and the Board and Minister. I don't see very much of a partnership going on. And if the minister becomes the DRE and Music Director's supervisor with the duties to give evaluations, this will become even worse. It's a hard thing to work on. We need a children's choir. If our present music director and assistant can't do that, then perhaps there is another solution. Music is seriously missing in our department.

7 none

Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

Blank.

1. \$ for new curriculums.
2. Get more volunteers.
3. Have the program fully supported financially and attitudinally by the rest of the congregation.
4. Blank.
5. Don't have any, its great.
6. Ensure that the budget is sufficient to provide up to date curricula. Try (somehow?) to attract more participants.
7. Blank.

#### **4. Are there any additional comments you would like to offer?**

Number of Respondents

7

Number of respondents who skipped this question 19

1 I know I haven't said much positive but I know of people who do not attend our church because the the RE program's issues.

2 For years, I have seen Charlottes' commitment to the children of our church in action. There are times when she is very encouraging and supportive. I have also witnessed her frustration with the things that do not go as she - or the rest of us - would like. However, in most cases, I don't see her leading us to different ways of trying to solve problems. I often feel that questions or suggestions I have had about RE in the past have been unwelcome, even when the DRE agrees that there is a need or problem and I am willing to be part of the solution. I certainly don't think that every suggestion I have has to be implemented. However, I feel frustrated when nothing changes and no initiative is taken. I am committed to RE and feel that I want to be a part of my children's religious education. And, as my children get so much out of being a part of our church community, I feel a duty to be involved as well. However, I have become less involved (no longer coordinate a class, for example) out of my frustration.

3 I'm new to UUCR and my children are new to YRUU. We do not have a UU history so we are new to RE. Please take my answers as well-intentioned and not critical. I understand too that the YRUU program is in a period of transition. Just because it isn't what I'm looking for for my children doesn't mean it's not the right program for UUCR.

4 I hope that this summer's RE program will be better than it has in the past years - having no summer DRE staff member has really allowed summer RE to slip. We basically don't bring our kids anymore during the summer, since many Sundays in the past summer RE has been little more than an all-ages childcare session. Again, more consistent leadership can help here. I also know many people who have little faith in the RE program, particularly the nursery, and some of these parents choose not to come to church at all. It's a shame that so many people with infants and toddlers simply don't feel comfortable leaving their kids with our nursery staff. In general, our program doesn't do a good job providing developmentally appropriate classrooms and activities for the variety of kids we try to serve.

5 I wish minister and DRE would settle their feud, for once and for all. This survey had some hard questions!

6 I'd like to see the DRE treated like a respected staff member and given recognition other than when she manages to survive 10, 15 and 20 years. Know what I mean?

7 no

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. Blank.
2. Blank.
3. Blank.
4. We have an excellent RE director who has great devotion, ideas and enthusiasm. She is also able to recruit and motivate a diverse group of volunteers.
5. Blank.
6. Blank.
7. Blank.
8. None.

#### How can you help?

##### 1. Would you like to be more involved in the RE Program? Volunteer?

% of Respondents    Number of Respondents

Yes

40.00% 4

No

60.00% 6

Number of respondents 10

Number of respondents who skipped this question 16

#### Responses on 8 Additional Paper Surveys

1. No.
2. Blank.
3. Blank.
4. Yes—I already am.
5. Blank.
6. Already in it.
7. Blank.
8. Yes—I am willing to serve as “helper” or teacher’s aide for Sunday School classes.

#### 2. What kinds of support can you offer the Director of Religious Education and/or the Children’s RE program? Would you like a member of the Religious Education Ministry Committee to contact you regarding any aspects of the RE Program?

How would you like to help?

6

Would you like to be contacted?

7

Name

7

Phone #

4

Email

2

Number of Respondents 9

Number of respondents who skipped this question 17