

TVUUC Religious Exploration Leadership Team

Mission Statement: To plan and provide religious education and exploration for children and youth that fulfill the mission of TVUUC to create a welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and challenges us to transform the world through acts of love and justice.

Authority: The RE Leadership Team operates under the authority of the Executive Team and is directly responsible to the Director of Religious Education/Exploration.

Responsibilities:

- The RE Leadership Team will work collaboratively with the DRE to uphold the Children/Youth RE program mission, assist with program and project volunteer focus as needed, set policies as needed, and ensure that program goals are being met in a safe environment conducive to learning.
- The RE Leadership Team shall uphold the charter, covenant, mission, and objectives of the RE Leadership Team, the Religious Exploration Program for Children and Youth, and TVUUC.
- Volunteer and Family Connections: The RE Leadership Team will communicate with parents and teachers about the program and support the greater community through open communication, helping to answer questions, and responding to family spiritual needs. The panel will seek feedback on what's working, where we are getting stuck, and what we might do differently. The RE Leadership Team will use this information to make recommendations to the DRE.
- Goal Formation: The RE Leadership Team and DRE will work together to set annual objectives for the program.
- Evaluation: The RE Leadership Team will conduct an annual review of the program and provide the executive team with an annual written evaluation, which will include feedback gathered from parents and teachers throughout the year. The RE Leadership Team will also provide feedback to the Senior Minister on the DRE's effectiveness.

Membership and Responsibilities of Members:

- **RE Leadership Team Members**
 - Make a two-year commitment to serve on the panel
 - Should have an interest in religious education and exploration, faith development, and working with children
 - Must have had a background check through TVUUC
 - Attend meetings at least once a quarter (in-person or virtual)
 - Adhere to principles of covenant
 - Participate in open and candid debate
 - Program Council Representation: The RE Leadership Team is part of the Religious Education cluster on the church Program Council. The chair or appointed representative shall attend PC meetings and act as the RE Leadership Team representative.

- **Chair**
 - Volunteer and voted on by DRE, current chair, and current members
 - Commitment of at least 2 years: serve a year prior to acting as chair, serve a year as chair, and be available as advisor for the following year after term has ended
 - Works with DRE to set meeting agendas and leads the meetings
 - Maintains electronic communications
 - Must have had a background check through TVUUC
 - Recruits new members
 - Records meeting notes and distributes to members
- **DRE**
 - Attend quarterly meetings
 - Provides information on Children/Youth RE programs
 - Works with Chair to set meeting agenda

Decision Making Process: The chair will take a leadership role as needed to direct decision making within the RE Leadership Team, but decisions are made via consensus vote.

Meeting Frequency and Duration: The RE Leadership Team will meet once per quarter, and will conduct virtual meetings as necessary to make progress on goals. Members shall attend a yearly retreat.