



SHADOW ROCK
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FALL 2022

August 2022

Dear Members and Friends of Shadow Rock:

First of all, thanks for clicking through to read this letter. We're showing our hand regarding children's Sunday morning programming for this fall. We'll need your prayers and support.

Our plans for this fall are shaping up! We are inviting families with children to attend on Sunday mornings at 9 o'clock for spiritual formation, beginning on September 11. For children, that looks like a multi-age group, with all the blessings and challenges that entails. Our curriculum flows with our values of justice, inclusion, and spirituality. Volunteer teachers and staff will work with children's growing minds and bodies with lots of free-flowing discussion and hands-on activities. All Shadow Rockers are welcome to look at our children's curricula and see how our community is making a difference with young people.

For adults attending on Sunday mornings at 9 o'clock, that looks like a discussion (with Pastor Ken) on different types of spirituality, exploring the approaches to the spiritual journey that resonate with us. No preparation or scripture knowledge is expected or required.

If you're a parent of a child ages 3 to 18, here's our ask:

- Give us a try! All kids are welcome. If your family includes young people with learning differences, disabilities, or health concerns, please let us know how we can best prepare to welcome you.

If you're a grandparent of a child ages 3 to 18, here's our ask:

- Invite the young people in your life to come. Maybe offer transportation support and gentle encouragement.
- Give teaching a try! While preparation for teaching is encouraged, all supplies are provided. You'll be supported the whole way.

If you love children, here's our ask:

- Hold our families, children, volunteers, and staff in your prayers. We love being experimental and experiential, but sometimes things don't work the way we plan, despite our intentionality and best efforts. To be honest, we might fail. Be ready to provide encouragement or a listening ear.
- Try pitching in. Teaching kiddos is somehow both tiring and energizing at the same time! You might start teaching, thinking that you're serving families and sharing knowledge. Before you know it, you realize that you're learning and growing too. Being a supportive person for children is a great blessing.
- We'll be looking for new childcare and children's ministry staff persons. If you know a compassionate person who loves spending time with newer humans, let us know.
- Spread the word. Folks come to church because they were invited. This is true, even now with our culture moving away from institutional religious participation.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to Sunday morning spiritual formation!

With gratitude and peace,

Ken Heintzelman
Senior Minister

Karen Richter
Director of Spiritual Formation