

**2018-2019**  
**Spiritual Growth & Development**  
**Annual Report**

Written by the Reverend Cassandra Hartley

Our program offers religious education opportunities for all ages - from toddlers to adults. In the 2018-2019 church year we had 279 registered children and youth who are served by 68 volunteer teachers and assistants, as well as three dedicated staff members: our SGD Assistant Debra Golden, our SGD Coordinator Mark Van Kempen and Assistant Minister for SGD, Rev. Cassandra Hartley. The SGD Committee for 2018-2019 is: Christine Pellar-Kosbar, Henrike Florusbosch, Stella Anderson, Delphine Benard, Jennifer Fosteel, Lucy Graff and all SGD staff.

Summer Program

During our 2018 summer SGD session, we were able to implement a brand new format and curriculum called "Reviews and Previews." This curriculum, which was the brainchild of Chris Pellar-Kosbar, took the "best of" from each grade's curricula and translated them into short lessons aimed at multiple ages. The new curriculum was paired with a new format and the result was a very successful program. For the first time ever, we had no problems recruiting adult volunteers and often had more volunteers than we originally asked for. The children were also very engaged by the lessons and excited about being in class.

Program Highlights

This has been another busy year, including very full and successful classes, engaging multigenerational worship services, and countless youth-led service projects. Other highlights include:

- Completing the renovation of the playground.
- Deepening our connections to other RE programs in our larger movement.
- Rebuilding and restructuring the SGD committee.
- Hiring a special needs assistant for classrooms.
- Completing a successful youth service trip with Re-member and bringing it back to the congregation through worship.
- Training several new teachers in Adult and K/1 OWL so that next year we can offer lifespan OWL classes.
- Continuing and deepening the work of our Safety Task Force, including a CPR/AED training.

### Adult Education

Our Adult Education program has expanded to include regular offerings during Friday Fun Nights, as well as partnerships with local organizations like the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. We've also offered several new classes such as Conscious Aging, Teacher Enrichment and Playful Parenting.

### Looking Forward

We have many goals going forward, including:

- Expanding our family ministry resources, including a greater presence on social media.
- Continuing to update our safety policies/procedures and make alterations to our building to improve security.
- Increasing the number of Adult Education classes and offer classes that appeal to all life stages.