

ALBANY UU SERVICE OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Service Opportunity Name/Title: Religious Services Team Member

Service Opportunity Brief Description:

The Religious Services Team works with the Minister to plan all Sunday Services. We arrange guest speakers when the Minister does not preach, and at all summer services.

Service Opportunity Detailed Description:

The Religious Services Team has six members, who meet with the Minister at least monthly, September to June, to set the broad plans for the content of Services, structure the Order of Service, and ensure that Services provide an intellectually and spiritually enlightening and interesting experience.

The Minister's responsibility is to preach at three services each month from September through June. The Committee is responsible for identifying and arranging for suitable other speakers for the fourth service each month, and for all the Summer Services.

All aspects of the Service are overseen by this Team, including the elements of the Order of Service and their place in the Service. The ritual aspects of the service as well as details such as how to handle those who arrive late all receive attention.

Length of Service Commitment: 2 years

This opportunity will enable you to shape the Sunday Worship Services, which are the *sine qua non* of this religious institution. They are the principal unifying activity involving everyone, and the public face of the Society. It is satisfying to have a role in assuring their success and meaning. It is important that these Services have a balance among the diverse views and expectations of the members, and helping ensure that balance is a critical role in assuring the health of the Society.

Skills Needed:

The skills needed for this job are not highly technical, nor are they physically demanding. No leaping of tall buildings, no lifting of heavy objects. It is important to have a sense of where the middle of the philosophical road is, and to keep wild departures from it limited in number. The other goal is to keep services interesting and provocative, relevant to the times and inspiring. The main responsibility for these goals is the Minister's, but the Team advises, suggests and facilitates his/her work. The usual interpersonal skills of tact, and a sense of humor are always helpful. Experience at other UU Societies is invaluable in bringing new ideas to the table. It's also important to be able to follow through in attending to details and carry your share of the load between meetings.

Training, assistance, and safety requirements:

Training for this Team is thorough, painstaking and effective. It is done entirely on the job. The Team has six members, each serving staggered three-year terms. Thus, two new members join each year, and there are four more experienced members ready to show how it's done.

Number of positions available: ___2 each year

Key words: