

“From RSI to Profound Journey Dialogue”

Shadow Rock United Church of Christ

Phoenix, AZ

Shadow Rock Covenant: We covenant one with another to be that sensitive and responsive part of human society which perceives and responds to God's newest thrust in the midst of history. The uniqueness and greatness of every life is radically affirmed. Our task together demands a comprehensive view of life, always pointed intentionally to the future. Our life together involves us individually and corporately in study and worship, always maintaining a proper balance between proclamation of the Word about life with the deeds which make life good. Those activities which eliminate age barriers, cut across religious dogma, reduce cultural parochialisms, and engage secular people with life's ultimate possibilities will be worthy of our best efforts.

Rev. Bill Smith founded Shadow Rock church in 1973. He had a vision for a new kind of church. At that time he took the EI's Religious Studies I (RS-I) course and adapted it for formation of their laity. In fact the church was designed with RS-I in mind: the church interior looks out at the world, rather than focused inside; and the sanctuary is shaped like the Wedgeblade pointing outward with wedgeblade symbols on the ends of each pew and throughout the building. At the Rev. Smith's [memorial service](#) in September 2018, there are a number of references to RS-I

In 2008 Rev. Ken Heinztelman became the Senior Minister. In this clip he [interviews Rev. Robin Krieder about the early founding of the church](#). Rev. Heinztelman is grateful for the Profound Journey Dialogue (PJD) to help him as a new pastor to have the dynamics of RS-I in secular form, which still speaks to the core identity of the church. The Shadow Rock site states that the PJD weekend formation retreat for adults “re-energized and re-claimed our theological heritage”.

Shadow Rock [website](#).