

Report to Congregational Council
From the Educational Ministry Committee:
April, 2009

The committee met Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

The Educational Ministry Committee has developed our Mission Statement and our Guiding Principles in support of that statement.

Richard Hess attended our meeting to discuss the need for a policy page for Trinity's Boy Scout Troop. He requested approval to develop one to submit to Council.

Pastor John Brock met with our committee to assist us in evaluating a suggestion to purchase Confirmation Gowns rather than rent them each year. After evaluating the advantages and disadvantages, we opted to remain with our present practice of renting them.

Plans are finalized for our Koinonia program rally on Wednesday, April 22. Its purpose is to confirm the number of active groups and participants, to offer assistance to them, and to enlighten interested members as to the ministry of Koinonia, which we are hopeful will expand this ministry that has been a part of Trinity since the 1970s.

We are determined to inaugurate a Sunday Church School program this summer for grades kindergarten through fifth grade. This will be a consolidated rotation class, under the curriculum "One Room Schoolhouse." Our plan is not to commit regular teachers to this program, as they deserve a rest.

Christopher Couch reported that the 2009 Vacation Church School and the Camping Ministry programs are well on the way.

Taking advantage of Pastor Brock's presence, we discussed the hope for a two-year Confirmation program. However, there are a number of problems that must delay this dream.

Much time was devoted to Strategic Planning visions and directives for our committee to consider. We are not prepared to establish specific programs except the ones that are already under way. Our new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles will direct future decisions.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Jack Bush
Chair

enc (attached): Proposed Mission Statement and Guiding Principles

Educational Ministry Committee

Proposed Mission Statement and Guiding Principles, Complementing the Statements of the Church

Mission Statement

Trinity's Education Ministry at its core is developing one's belief and then living that faith in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Guiding Principles

- 1) Promote Christian Education opportunities as the path to committed faith and Christ-centered lifestyle.
- 2) Create small groups in which a sense of belonging in community is nurtured through fellowship and spiritual growth occurring through Bible study, faith conversation, and prayer.
- 3) Focus on creative adult programs to draw adults of all ages toward attending Sunday and weekday gatherings.
- 4) Organize a year-round Children's Sunday Church School Program.
- 5) Raise community, country, and world-wide mission awareness for Trinity's children—e.g., the Heifer Project, the Tanzania Wells Project, Bountiful Blessings, hurricane relief.
- 6) Dedicate personal faith to service in the name of the Lord.
- 7) Teach and enlighten children and adults about the urgency of a prayer life, which is the opening to an ongoing relationship with the Lord.
- 8) Educate our parishioners to accept the call as disciples of Christ, to be equipped, and to be motivated to serve within Trinity, the community, and the world at large.