

**Director of Learning Ministries  
Report to Council  
October 2009 (for the November meeting)**

*Sup and Study*, started the last Wednesday in September, took place on all Wednesday evenings in October, ending on the last Wednesday, October 28. Joe Hunter coordinated a team of cooks who ardently—and often humorously—worked through each Wednesday afternoon, preparing meals to delight in that evening. For the study part, Pastor John Brock presented part 2 in his series *The Confirmation Class You Never Had*. Part 3 will happen in Lent of 2010, and the series will conclude with part 4 in the fall (of 2010). Pastor Brock promises to teach the secret Lutheran handshake at the conclusion of the series.

Steve Thurston, Pastor Gregory Kramer, and Lou Grammes led a *Sup and Study class on finances*, covering short-term, long-term, trust, and endowment considerations. And I coordinated a discussion of *The Shack*, a novel about one man's encounter with God—with the Trinity, really—in the midst of his suffering through tragic family loss.

Early in October, I attended a *church safety* program, put together by Bob Foster and featuring the chief of the Camp Hill Fire Department and the department's new chaplain, Pastor Stewart Hardy. As usual, this was an informative and helpful session, prompting me and the education committee to propose to Council *a fire drill during the Sunday Church School hour*, when all the levels of the church are populated and there is no ushering team to lead folks out of the building. (The elevator would be inoperative, too.) This proposal was accepted, and the committee is planning for the fire drill to happen on a Sunday morning in the coming spring.

I was happy to spend time with Trinity's latest group of *prospective members*, informing them of the many opportunities for learning ministry that Trinity offers and supports. I was happy as well to meet Pastor Ludwig, the interim pastor for Trinity, at a reception sponsored by the church council in October.

*ZooAmerica visited Trinity* in October in the form a naturalist leading a program for the children in our rotation program on the last Sunday of their unit on Creation. The naturalist brought several animals from the wildlife complex with her. Children and adults alike were rapt with attention as a hawk, skunk, tarantula, and other creatures great and small were each and all introduced to the group.

For myself, I enjoyed a spiritual retreat in the month. Plus I enjoyed *my opportunities to teach* in the Affirmation of Faith Class, *Sup and Study*, and FaithConnect. As an administrator, I find times to teach often difficult to come by and, frankly, to manage. So I tend to cherish these chances when I get them, and hopefully those in attendance (students of any age) like the experience as well.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,

*Christopher*