

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

The Educational Ministry Committee met toward the end of November. So earlier in the month I met with committee chairperson Jack Bush to set the agenda for the meeting. I also consulted with Jack on writing the committee's annual report. By the start of November, my annual report was finished and the budget for learning ministry had been considered and proposed. Nonetheless, Jack and I took the opportunity to firm up details on our respective reports, the budget, the committee's mission statement and expression of guiding principles, the upcoming meeting agenda, and a look-ahead at a number of classes and programs, new and ongoing.

Our classes on Sunday morning continued in November with the addition—or renewing, actually—of the Parenting Class. This class began in September, following and discussing a single video study on parenting. The class found, though, that they had become a group that wanted to go on meeting. So a new study began November 15. Of course, anyone is welcome to join this class at any time.

The Educational Ministry Committee met on November 17 with guests Bill Foos, Doug Bonsall, and Pastor Brock. Bill brought to the committee a report from the Strategic Planning Task Force on explaining and realizing the mission statement of the church. We talked about what Learning Ministry at Trinity already accomplishes in forwarding discipleship and considered other directions this way. The committee decided it would be helpful to read Michael Foss's *From Members to Disciples*, responding to this text in light of our ministry, when we next meet in January.

The committee also took up, with Pastor Brock, finalizing the priority purchases of new audio-visual display equipment, thanks to the designated memorial funds contributed in honor of Terry Bush, a long-standing member and teacher at Trinity who died this year. The committee is pleased to be purchasing items that will benefit not only the learning ministry program at Trinity but the entire church membership as well along with the many persons and groups who have come to rely on our facility as a first-rate place for community activities and programs.

On November 22, the Ed. Min. Committee sponsored Advent wreathmaking for use in the home during the season, Advent beginning the following Sunday. This is the third year the education committee has given this event, originally at the behest of the Fellowship Team. This is the second year the wreathmaking took place on Sunday morning. Since participants—and wreaths—were nearly double last year's, it appears this is a new tradition for the church family. And a joyful tradition. I am especially indebted to Kathy Brunie for working with me on preparing and having the wreathmaking activity.

Part of the month for me was spent consulting with or on the Health Fair Task Force and the task force creating, as directed by the church council, a fourth Sunday morning service at Trinity done in the contemporary style and in Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,

Christopher