

Educational Ministry Committee

Report to Council

February 8, 2010

Our committee met on February 26, 2010, The following agenda was discussed and/or acted upon:

We welcomed Tom Hoffert, our Congregation Council liaison.

Christopher Couch reviewed the new curriculum entitled "Sparks" for the kindergarten through the fifth grade Rotation Classes. The emphasis is Beyond the Life of Christ and celebrating the church seasons. The children will also give a benevolence offering for the Barnyard Project to purchase animals for third world countries.

Christopher reported that the special Bibles presented annually to fourth graders will no longer be printed. We have enough on hand to carry us through 2011. We will investigate other options for the future.

We are in the process of planning a Children's Sunday School fire drill to possibly take place in May. We will publicize this urgent need to parents as to the date and procedure.

Our committee will inaugurate a "Summer Sunday School program" to take place from June through August. This is an urgently needed ministry for our kindergarten to fifth grade children. We will begin in February to recruit teachers, helpers and children.

Trinity's audio visual equipment is now in place. This will expand our education ministry offerings. The Sup-N-Study program will begin February 24th and run each Wednesday through March 24th. The study programs and menu are already set.

We are currently considering an "Open Forum," inviting members to come together to share their views as well as critic current programs, offer suggestions that they would like to see offered, how to improve communication or other comments that enhance their faith journey. It is our purpose to raise questions and discussion. What would it take to create more involvement within our congregation and create a greater challenge for God's call to develop stewards committed to time, talent and treasure? This open forum would not obligate those who share their views.

Our teachers and leaders thank Council for making carpeting in Trinity's classroom a high priority. This is a critical need. Our teachers would request to share their input when the time comes to proceed with the project.

We attempt in our education ministry to emphasize discipleship, as the lifestyle of a follower of Christ. Christopher has developed a summary of the book entitled *From Members to Disciples* which our committee reviewed. We asked Christopher to make copies available to interested members of Council.

Jack Bush, Chair