

Ministry Team: Learning

Meeting Date: June 8, 2010

Attendees:

Nancy Ashland
Jill Gretzinger
Amy Henderson
Sharon Orsted

Items that may require council action: None

Items that may require budget/finance coordination: None

Minutes:

Learning team met with Youth and Family Ministry Team for first part of evening. Discussed how the teams can work together and have open communication regarding the education programs at FELC while guiding and assisting paid staff. One upcoming change we may want to collaborate on is changes to the 6th grade program to encompass some of the material from confirmation program to better prepare students entering the confirmation program and to free up some of the material needed to be covered in the confirmation program. Staff will discuss and bring possible program changes to ministry teams. Teams decided to meet again in September or October to discuss this possibility and any goals/budget items to be included in our 2011 plans.

Team discussed results of survey done in our Sunday morning high school class (attached.) Results will be sent to Youth and Family Ministry Team chair to share with this team. Thank you to Nancy for coordinating this survey with the students.

CHART is in need of metal storage cabinets that can be locked to store the archived history of FELC. Anita is in the process of researching prices for appropriate storage units. This cost will be outside the current Learning Ministry Team budget so will need to find funding. She will also check with the Support Ministry Team about storing the locked cabinets in Room 221 (Adult Education Room) at the Downtown site.

Nursery Task Force met to discuss the survey results of the survey done with families at FELC with small children. After much discussion it was decided that FELC consistently needs to commit to staffing at least one service at each site every Sunday morning during the school year. Due to budget constraints we will make every effort to staff with volunteers. Two of the task force members agreed to coordinate the nursery volunteers at each site. If needed other task force members will help make calls to find volunteers. We will budget to have a small amount of money in the budget to provide child care for special events when we cannot find a volunteer. Amy asked in what instances we would provide childcare—do we have any type of policy to provide consistency. Jill noted this issue was not addressed and she will bring it back to the group for discussion.

Vacation Bible school will be held the first week in August. Volunteers are in place and registration is being done.

Submitted by: Jill Gretzinger

JR's High School Sunday morning learning hour class was surveyed on May 23rd, 2010 and these are the questions they were asked with the responses in red, with twelve surveys being returned.

Why do you attend the Sunday morning learning hour (check as many as apply)?

- It is required (2)
- It is highly encouraged (1)
- It gives me an opportunity to expand my understanding of the bible readings in Church each Sunday (5)
- It gives me an opportunity to spend time with my peers (9)
- It gives me an opportunity to discuss issues in our lives and how it relates to our faith (7)
- It allows me an opportunity for reflection on my faith (6)
- It gives me an opportunity to continue a Sunday morning learning experience (8)
- Other (5) (JR is awesome!; My parents make me; It is fun; It is fun; JR is awesome)

What is your favorite part of the Sunday morning learning hour?

The lessons

The discussion (4)

JR's lessons (2)

JR

I enjoy the variety of lively discussions we have on different issues

Everything

JR and her discussions with us

Discussions about current topics

Do you feel the Sunday morning learning hour is focused more toward education or fellowship?

It's a fair combination of both

Fellowship (4)

Sunday morning learning is more focused towards education

Education

Both

It's a mixture of both and each are present on most days

Good balance of both

Equally

More towards education

Do you feel the Sunday morning learning hour is different than the Wednesday night confirmation program? How?

Nope

Yes, I feel it focuses more on faith as it relates to life

Yes, it is more fun

Sunday morning hour is fun, Wednesday night confirmation is not as fun

No (2)

Yes, more fun

Yes

More talking on the Sundays for discussion

This is definitely different than confirmation, as we focus on relating our faith to current issues more than learning about aspects of faith.

Yes, more religiously focused than Wednesday, both good.

It is better because more gets done and we have more meaningful discussions

Yes, this is more loosely structured and we talk more about faith in life, not faith and the Bible

If you could improve the Sunday morning learning hour what would you do differently?

Nothing (4)

You can't improve it, it's already awesome

I would improve the Sunday morning hour by....I don't know how I would improve it.

Music

Get better ping pong balls

I don't think I'd change anything

Get more kids to come

Try to help out little kids opening or other groups

It is pretty awesome as it is, make it longer