

Committee on Life Long Christian Formation
Meeting: Wednesday, April 16, 2008, noon
Minutes

Attendees: The Rev. Debbie Cook, Co-Chair; The Rev. Gina Walsh-Minor, Co-Chair; Canon Kep Short; Debbie Crall, Diocesan Staff Liason; The Rev. Emily Griffin; Nancy Miller; Susan Legani; The Rev. Lisa Caton; The Rev. Greg Bezilla; The Rev. Polly Kasey; The Rev. Sheelagh Clarke; The Rev. Andrea Rose-Marie Hayden.

Meeting opened with prayer at 12:15 pm

Minutes of February 20, 2008 meeting: motion to accept by Lisa Caton, seconded, approved

Godly Play Training in Princeton:

Held March 6-8, went well, had access to Trinity, Princeton as well as the seminary. There were 19 attendees total: several from NYC area, few from Diocese, also from Pennsylvania, Ohio.

Evaluations were very positive; accommodations and food were good, staff at Trinity Princeton were very helpful. Possibility of another Godly Play event being held—discussion as to timing? Suggestions to do explore for Spring 2009.

To gauge interest in a future Godly Play event, it was suggested that we poll persons/parishes at Convocations to find out who is currently using Godly Play or had interest in doing so; also ask about use of similar programs such as Beulah Land.

Canon Kep Short: A reminder that on April 23, a Wednesday night, the Diocesan Youth Council will be sponsoring an event involving dinner and providing ideas for games for youth. It will be from 6:30 to 9, and be at Diocesan House.

Fall Workshop with Sharon Pearson:

We had hoped to schedule this event in early fall, and had a date set for October 4 at the Cathedral. It was to focus on how to use your curriculum. However, that date has been assumed by the Lambeth Reflections presentation. Discussion as to whether to still hold the event at a different location, was decided against. Discussion as to whether Sharon Pearson would be available for our Christian Educators Day in January, or perhaps do a Spring event on picking curriculum. Perhaps expand this already scheduled January day into a larger day of workshops?

To explore a revised structure for CE Day with Bishop, a subcommittee has been formed and will report at the May meeting: The Revs. Lisa Caton, Sheelagh Clarke, and Polly Kasey. Another contact to be explored for a keynote speaker would be Ruthann Collins of The Episcopal Church center at 815.

Convention:

Uneventful; table had less traffic than in past.

Equipping the Servants in October 2008:

Debbie Crall reported on this upcoming event; it is being restructured according to the Vision focus for this year, which is Growth through Welcoming and Inclusion. We do not have to provide workshops or workshop leaders for this event.

Funding request:

Donna Devlin has made plans to attend a CE event in Denver and her plane will arrive back late Saturday night, as she is staying to hear Sharon Pearson speak. She requests up to \$150 out of budget to cover the cost of an airport/North Jersey hotel room so that she need not return to her Manalapan home before having to head up to St. John the Divine in NYC on Sunday morning where she serves at DRE. Motion to approve by Gina/seconded by Sue; approved.

Passion and Purpose Sunday, April 26, 2009:

The Rev. Greg Bezilla reported. This Sunday is being set aside as a day to focus on Christian vocation for all persons—not just those feeling a call to the ordained ministry. All of us are called to vocation. A steering committee is currently forming, seeking names of persons who may be interested in being part of that committee. Looking at a day focusing on vocational stories, special preaching, etc.

Suggestion made that the theme of Passion and Purpose could help drive the Christian Educator's Day with the Bishop event, help people start thinking about vocation as Christian Educators. Discussion ensued as to how or whether to include—delegated to Sub-Committee.

Communications/Website:

Mission Statement: The previous mission statement of the Christian Formation Commission was presented for discussion and revision:

To create and support educational, spiritual, and vocational programs throughout the diocese for children, youth, lay adults, and clergy in order to equip the people of God for ministry.

However, our focus has shifted and it was suggested that it should be aligned with the Vision Statement, particularly the Spiritual Renewal emphasis. Remove reference to programs for clergy training as programs are done separately.

Due to time constraints, it was suggested to engage in discussion via cyberspace; Debbie will send out an email to that effect this week. Please hit 'reply all' when adding your contribution.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.