



Small Groups are for life-long learning, support of one another and connecting more deeply with God.

We have in-person and online opportunities.

Team Members: Cindy deRosier, Carole Greeley, Jim Hanser, Ann Hefner-Gravink, Sharon Hermosillo-Magaña, Diane Metz, and Pastor Karen Stetins. All in attendance except Jim who sent his report.

a. Discuss and approve new name and tagline. *Faith and Learning Ministry Team: Faith and Learning for Everyone.* This name was approved by the group. Sharon sent the group an updated logo per new name.

b. Check-in on current education ministries: Children's Church: Children's Church is held when Ann Hefner-Gravink and children are present. If Ann is not present, Diane, Janelle or June can fill in for her.

c. Bible Study (Wed p.m.) We are continuing to discuss the upcoming readings for the next Sunday, with background that I add regarding context, etc. We have 4-6 regular attendees.

d. Book Group (Tues a.m.) For the summer, the group is meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 11:00 to noon via ZOOM or in the Pastor's office. The current book being discussed is The Gospel of Luke: A Spiritual and Pastoral Reading by Pope Francis. Four regularly attend this group.

e. Seekers Circle – 2nd Thursday (9:30 to 11:30 a.m.) Digerud Room and ZOOM. 5 to 8 regularly meet. Follow the monthly lesson in the Gather Magazine and use video lessons provided to augment.

f. Youth: Sharon reported that the youth ministries are underway in a variety of ways. She and Pastor Karen provide weekly Chapel sessions for the Preschool students. For grade school children, Genesis sessions are available, and Sharon is currently working on translating the existing units into Spanish. She is not going to school this summer, so a summer goal is to complete this.

g. Mexico Mission Trip is July 8-15. Team of six from St. Mark's. Partnering with St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of Beaverton. OR who have about 20 participants. The AMOR Ministry will provide food service and water this year and a pre-made concrete floor. Help needed to organize the supplies and test the tools. High School Youth meeting will be held only once per month with other outings this summer.

h. Vacation Bible Camp has been cancelled due to lack of participants. It was suggested to assess and evaluate the situation for 2024.

i. Sunday Connections is the new name for Sunday Forum following worship service (formerly Adult Ed). Feedback from April and May sessions: Connect with Council appreciated by members. Can be at Announcement Time following worship or as Sunday Connections presentation—both done in April; only in Announcements in May; Wills & Trusts attended by 5-6; could repeat it again later. Cards and crafts appreciated. Conduct a May Brunch Potluck or Cookies and Coffee gathering after worship on Mother's Day 2024.

j. Topic Ideas or Suggestions for Future Sunday Connections Sessions: Fraud/Scam Prevention-early July perhaps. Hikes. Events for Families. Current Events. Travel: Where Have You Been? Share memories (and photos?) of your favorite trips (not necessarily recent). Prompts: Funniest memory, tips & tricks, travel hacks. Blessing of the animals in October (Worship & Music e event) have a companion Sunday Connection session on about St. Francis. Bring back Food Contests: Cookies, Jello, Ethnic Foods, Throw Back Foods. Reprise Suds and Songs in September. Fall Festival on October 29th. Restart Time Travelers (group for over 55 who shared informative age-related programs and potluck or restaurant meals monthly). Seasonal ideas: Bring in your oldest or most significant Christmas