

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Annual Report 2011

Goals for 2011:

The Committee aimed to:

- Provide dynamic, insightful and even provocative Christian education opportunities to enhance and complement the ongoing journey of faith for members of First Church;
- Design myriad events, discussions at various times to enable access to more members;
- Build on previous lessons including focus on different faiths, mission trips, movies, Marie Sibilla series and Seasons and Sacraments.
- Continue to strengthen Committee and its role in cutting across other church programs.

Accomplishments for 2011:

- A well planned year that wove in discussions about Art and Spirituality with an extensive discussion on Paul as well as with the ever popular Pathfinders series. Reverend Senecal-Davis outlined the entire series early and circulated it well in advance so that members could plan and participate. The lead speakers from Dr. Hostetter to F. Murray Abraham to Imam Khalil Abdur-Rashid engaged people.
- Excellent attendance and interest in series on different faiths that resulted in adding more opportunities and confirmed the Committee's understanding that such a series would be interesting for the parish.
- The Marie Sibilla series remained a pillar for several members of the parish. The Spa for the Soul day long retreat served many well. At the same time, the Committee discussed how to alert members so that more might take advantage of it.
- The Summer movie series had a limited attendance, but appreciated by those who attended. The Committee discussed ending the series in July as later in Summer the series is not as well attended.
- The Committee began a broader strategic discussion on the vision of the Committee and adult Christian education and it did inform the schedule of events. At the same time, the Committee was not able to complete and maintain the discussion so that it continues to strengthen the program and opportunities offered.
- "Field trips" seemed interesting, but were hard to ensure sufficient attendance. The Committee would like to continue to review.
- Discussions on working with the Membership committee and other committees were started and could be continued even stronger in 2012.

Goals for 2012:

- Continue the vision discussion.
- Build on the year's events and the diversity of opportunities.
- Work even closer with other committees to enhance their work and ensure Committee is responsive to parish needs.

Members: Tom Cathcart, David Wilson, Rita Johnson, Margo Lundell, Andrew Solomon, Richard Marmet, John Harpole, Barbara Senecal-Davis and Cynthia McCaffrey