

Religious Education Annual Report

Adult Education:

"Featured this year as usual in adult education has been the forum series for another year organized by Cynthia Ball. The Wednesday night Bible study and Sunday morning Bible study groups have continued as well. Steve Halsted led a successful fall retreat in the mountains and led youth in activities at John's River Camp in the summer as well as being involved with Lenten groups and other educational activities during the year. Marty Lamb led another "Thinking 'Green' in the Bleak Midwinter" group with representatives from our church and others thinking and purposing together about how to decrease the size of our carbon footprints at home. She continues to send "green" tidbit e-mails to the group members through the year. An All Things Congo Lenten group was held with Sam Moseley coming to speak on Climate Change and the Congo. Sisters in Spirit (SIS) continued its camaraderie and potlucks and annual beach trip.

Ellen Beidler led a series of yoga classes on Sunday afternoons. Lavon Page and others contributed to a series of Friday night movie nights. Shirley Birt has begun a group on the topic of economic justice that is expected to coordinate a Lenten group in the spring. Anyone interested in getting together to talk about the topic of "Pilgrimage" in our lives? There may be an interest in looking at this in the coming year. The adult education committee meets a couple of times a year and is open to possibilities. Jane Smith plans on leading an online Bible study at the beginning of the year."

Children's Education:

The nursery now has a full time attendant on Sunday mornings.

This year our department has two classes which are the Pre/K class and the 1st-4th grade class. We have used the curriculum from Gather Round and it has worked well for us again this year. The older class is taught each week by Anne Bailey. The younger class is taught by a dedicated group of volunteers and parents.

We have donated to Interact, the SPCA, Project Christmas Child and are now collecting gently used books for children at the Method Road Center.

Youth Education:

Santi Matthews has continued to lead and inspire the youth in a number of worthwhile endeavors and educational opportunities.