

Congregational Church of Laconia, UCC  
Minutes of Educational Ministries Meeting  
May 20, 2008

PRESENT: Emily Clement, Kathy Giovanni, Karen Mussen, Diane Tinkham

Kathy opened the meeting with thanks to all for a great Children's Sunday service. The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Summer program update:** Emily is starting a sign-up sheet for the nursery. She has looked at four Vacation Bible School curriculums, but would like to find one where the lessons are more independent of each other so that they can be spread out over the summer. A curriculum aimed at grades 3, 4, and 5 will be purchased as this will best meet the needs of the children that Emily expects to be attending.

**Youth Group news:** The Family youth group went geocaching last weekend and had a great time. Bobbie Thomas has again offered the use of her house for a swim party. After some discussion it was decided to plan for an August 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> date, and to include all families with kids participating in any of the youth groups.

**Church School 2008-2009:** Emily has projected the following potential class sizes for next year. Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade: 5 children, Grades 3-5: 7 children, Grades 6-8: 12 children, High School: 15+ Emily stated that the curriculum can be purchased one quarter at a time, so that the number can be adjusted to match actual class sizes.

There was some discussion about what the frequency of a High School class should be, a decision will be deferred until more members can be present to add their opinions. The confirmation program will also be running concurrently. A decision was made to offer the confirmation program to all High School age kids.

**Confirmation:** The Andersons have offered their island house for a retreat at the end of the summer, as a kick-off for Confirmation. The program will run through April of 2009. The Making Disciples curriculum will be used. The confirmands will meet with their mentors once a month and meet with Emily for a class/offsite visit/project once a month. Emily would like to have a discussion with the kids and parents as soon as possible to discuss selection of mentors.

**Council Update:** The Council is looking for ideas from each committee on how to put some action behind being a Just Peace Church. Ideas discussed were a soup kitchen/food pantry and a room to exchange extra clothes. More Spaces Needs ideas were also discussed, including a more convenient Nursery location on the first floor.

**Adult Education:** Several ideas were discussed, including an evening bible study and an adult "confirmation" program. Some leaders need to be recruited.

**Other Business:** Emily shared that she is marking any and all Ed. Min. related dates on the Master Calendar, so that there will be less scheduling issues.

Emily closed the meeting by asking all present to share their "Educational Ministries highlights".

**Next meeting – June 12, 2008, 6:30 p.m.**