EDUCATION MINISTRY

The Education Ministry is responsible for programs of teaching and learning that enable people of all ages to gain awareness, knowledge, understanding and skill for living a faithful and effective life of service, following the example and teaching of Jesus Christ. Mindful of the Bylaws requirement that each ministry develop an Annual Work Plan, setting priorities and proposing a budget for the year, the ministry will consider the following on-going church needs:

1. To assess the educational needs of members at their various ages and stages of life, with special attention to the needs of those with disabilities that may inhibit their learning and growing.

2. To develop and implement an annual, year-round program of religious education to meet the needs of our membership.

3. To engage members to be teachers and assistants in the educational program, and provide those members with appropriate training, curriculum, supplies, equipment, and on-going guidance and support.

4. To engage members to be counselors in ministry to youth (middle and high school) and their families, and provide those counselors with appropriate training, resources, and on-going guidance and support.

5. To work with the Pastor and with parents of youth (traditionally after age 13) to develop and implement a program of preparation for Confirmation: Affirmation of Baptism as members of the church.

6. To coordinate with the Finance Ministry to guide the use of designated scholarship funds for college tuition, retreats, leadership development programs, and camps.

7. To seek the guidance and support of authorized religious educators when needed to meet ministry goals.

8. To monitor new developments and trends in religious education and bring them to the attention of lay leaders, Pastors, and staff, encouraging the adoption of new educational approaches that meet our needs.

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