

September / October 2010

PASTOR'S TWO CENTS

Sunday school is just around the corner and we are certainly HOPEFUL this year is better than last! I say that for a couple of reasons. First, I will be holding an ADULT Education series this Fall and second you can't have Sunday School without participants. Last year we had two teachers EVERY Sunday but I can't say that we had "even" two children. This year I am hopeful that our parents will encourage and inspire their children to attend on a more consistent basis AND I am also hopeful that I can encourage and inspire the ADULTS to do the same for this new series. The Confirmands will be assisting with both classes as either teaching assistants or participants in the Adult class. The Adult class will begin its focus on Children's Communion. On Sunday, August 15th, I announced that in the near future the Worship Team and I will be recommending to the Consistory that children be allowed to take communion after age four and prior to confirmation. This class will be used to educate and discuss the merits of children's communion and prepare us for a congregational vote in the Spring. It will also introduce us BACK to Adult Sunday School. The Children's Sunday School is also changing. We will be utilizing a Coordinator who will not only help teach but will be more active in promoting attendance, recruiting teaching assistants and keeping the curriculum updated and active in outreach. We will be utilizing teaching assistants this year rather than having permanent teachers. For example; one teaching assistant is going to help every other week while others can help out for 1-4 weeks depending on the module being taught and their availability. We are certainly hoping that this new method will spread into our Community Outreach for the Pediatric Clinic as well. Dr. Gavin has informed us that many of her clients don't have a good grasp on budgeting, parenting, housekeeping, or nutrition. The Christian Education Team, in addition to Sunday School, will be setting up "Seminars" for Dr. Gavin's clients so to use the expertise from our congregation to help these young parents learn these valuable skills. There will also be opportunities for one-on-one training in the home as well and we are hoping that the compassion and generosity of our congregation will be such that these parents will be overwhelmed by the love & help they received from Trinity UCC. We are truly looking at beginning some wonderful ministries this year and providing more opportunities to be a part of the community both inside and outside the church. They will know we are Christians by our Love! Amen

Pastor Steve