

## **Education Ministry**

### **Adult Education Guidelines**

St. Mark's has several spiritual growth opportunities for adult members to get to know Christ better through individual and corporate study, education and training. These activities include Bible Study Groups, Weekly Adult Forums, Lenten Programs, Mission Trips, and similar programs. There is a church reference library which provides a vast collection of spiritual books.

#### ***Bible Study Group***

- The Bible Study Group is defined by the Rector or Associate Rector. Generally the Bible study is held on Monday mornings in the large classroom in Gibson Hall. A specific book and required workbooks are selected and purchased prior to the scheduling of the date and time. The Rector or Associate Rector ensures the dates, times and locations are given to the Parish Administrator for publishing in the Church Calendar and weekly announcements.
- The Spiritual Book Groups Procedures are documented under separate procedure entitled "Knowing Spiritual Book Group SOP".

#### ***Weekly Adult Forums***

The Adult Forum is held each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. between the 8:00 and 10:00 Church Service in Patience Hall (the Parish Hall). The duration of the forum should be between 20 – 30 minutes.

#### ***Adult Forum Leader Responsibilities:***

1. Plan educational opportunities and recruit leaders to teach and/or present each weekly forum.
2. Attend each weekly forum and assist in the set-up for the presentation.
3. Contact the Parish Administrator with planned topics, meeting dates, times and location which will be added to the church calendar.
4. Contact the Parish Administrator with reminder notices which are published in the Sunday announcements one or two weeks ahead of the meeting.

#### ***Lenten Programs***

The planning of the Lenten Programs is generally the responsibility of the Rector or Associate Rector with assistance from the Adult Education Vestry member.

#### ***Adult Mission Trips***

The planning of the Adult Mission Trip is generally the responsibility of the Rector or Associate Rector with assistance from the Adult Education Vestry member.

***Disciples of Christ in Community and Magnetic Church Conference.***

- The Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC) is an adult formation program that offers a step-by-step journey into the heart and soul of Christianity. It provides experience in building Christian community while encouraging individual spiritual growth. It is a dynamic Christian course that offers the opportunity to experience to discover the power of grace to transform our lives through scripture and fellowship within a small caring community and to take that experience of grace and learn how the Spirit is leading the church today. Generally the DOCC begins and ends with an all-day retreat. Between these retreats would be weekly evening sessions with 30 minutes of fellowship followed by 30-minutes of presentation and then a one-hour small group meeting led by two-trained facilitators.
- The Magnetic Church Conference is a faith journey that addresses how to make our church more inviting and welcoming, how can we make visitors want to come back to the church and stay, how to conduct evangelism in the church and finally how to motivate others. This is a conference presented by a trained facilitator.