

Christian Education Commission 2021

Early in the summer we began talking about differences between education as faith formation for all ages and how FMC has been doing Sunday School.

As we explored intergenerational Sunday School possibilities, we wondered how Sunday School could be connected to worship. Thom suggested to both commissions to use the month of October to explore intergenerational and experiential worship with Sunday School also being intergenerational and experiential.

thom provided both commissions “design principles” he would use in worship (which could also be used for Sunday School). Later he outlined common theological premises for intergenerational worship; during October these were further developed in his Midweek Musings.

World-Wide Communion Sunday	Praying at home
Music Sunday	Hymn sing
Prayers	n/a
Jonah	A discussion about Jonah in community
Amanda Bleichy, guest preacher	An evaluation of the month

We decided to use similar principles for Advent, preparing worship and Sunday School to be intergenerational and experiential, connected to one another. For the first Sunday we sang Advent hymns. The lesson for the second Sunday, a communal mural of Mary’s Magnificat, was used as the sermon due to thom being ill. The third Sunday set the Angel’s song to different music. There was no Sunday School the fourth Sunday due to the pageant.

The pageant was n intergenerational, no rehearsal pageant. Members were invited to come in costume or to choose when they arrived at church. Pat and thom used a script that invited all to participate.

Sadly, all members of the commission discerned they could not continue after the new year. They each cited being overextended with church commitments and, while faith formation continues to be a high priority, the other commitments are time-related. Gifts discernment will be seeking new commissioners, and thom will work with them.