

**Christian Formation Commission  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
December 2023 Report**

The Christian Formation Commission met on December 11, 2023 by Zoom.

Participants: Rebecca Connor, Susan Sunnarborg (chair), Deacon Sue Wert, Evvie Williams, Rev. Allan Weatherholt

**Current/Recent activities:**

- We are working on a new nursery schedule for 2024. We will still need additional nursery volunteers so that people don't need to serve too often. Teens can help when an adult is present.
- Children's Chapel is available when we have young children present. Additional helpers are needed for this ministry as well.
- Deacon Sue continues her study of the Gospel of John by Zoom, and a weekly online Advent devotional.
- Bob Ayler continues offering Thursday night Adult Forum by Zoom teleconference.

**Old Business:**

The youth group met on December 2 for Morning Prayer and to bake cookies for the St. Nicholas Fair. At our lunch meeting on December 10 we discussed the upcoming service project for January 6, building beds with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. We need 25 volunteers, and Rebecca offered to create a sign-up, so we can be sure who is going.

At the December meeting, Deacon Sue talked about upcoming Diocesan youth activities. The youth group is in need of someone to be sure we remain informed about these opportunities. We discussed people for Susan to contact to help keep our youth informed.

We have not yet received information on our 2024 commission budget. Susan emailed David Davis, who is helping to work on the budget for next year. We hope to have more activities in the coming year and would like to stay at the same budget level if possible. We look forward to hearing from the Vestry about this.

**New Business:**

For Children's Chapel, we discussed having children brought directly to St. Mary's Chapel, since there is not an opportunity to process out at the beginning of the 10:15 service. Fr. Allan will update the Sunday bulletin with this information.

We need to make a new nursery schedule for 2024, as the current schedule runs through December, and we have fewer volunteers than earlier this year. We discussed potential volunteers, and Susan will look for someone to serve as the nursery point of contact. We are happy to have children using the nursery with some frequency.

We learned that Bp. Sutton will visit us on Palm Sunday, March 24, and there appears to be interest in confirmations and receptions at that time. Fr. Allan is considering offering a weekly class leading to confirmation/reception, possibly meeting after the 10:15 service, and including a snack/light lunch for participants. This could potentially start in February.

We also discussed additional Christian Formation opportunities for Sunday mornings. Fr. Allan may offer a Bible Study beginning in Lent, to take place between services. While this would not be convenient for everyone, such as choir members, it looks like a good place to start.

The next commission meeting date is January 8 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Sunnarborg, Chair