

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY (CYM) TASK FORCE

SUMMARY REPORT

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

The Children and Youth Ministry (CYM) Task Force was formed by Session in October, 2018 to study and explore opportunities to enhance and grow the Christian Education Programs offered at GVPC to better meet the needs of the youth and young families. The CYM Task Force developed a framework for this process. It entailed developing a variety of questions for children, youth and their families. These questions explored youth and families' current relationship with GVPC, an opportunity to present questions/concerns, and their hopes for future programming for the young people of the congregation. The Task Force met with children, youth and parents in separate group settings. Following a total of eight group meetings, the CYM Task Force met several times to analyze and then utilize this invaluable information to formulate the top six recommendations listed below to more effectively meet the spiritual and social needs of our young parishioners and their families.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Establish a position of Associate Pastor or Christian Education Director to oversee, direct and provide overall cohesion and coordination of the children, youth, and adult Christian Education programs at GVPC.**
- 2. Reinstate Sunday School Programs for youth in grades 6 through 12.**
- 3. Restructure the Youth Program to provide separate programs for the Middle School and High School aged youth.**
- 4. Provide better and more effective communication for parents and youth in sharing information on Christian Education programs, activities, volunteering, teachers/leaders and scheduling.**
- 5. Provide more periodic social activities for children and families to foster relationship building.**
- 6. Incorporate changes to the 10:30 worship service that are more child and youth friendly and encourage attendance and youth participation in aspects of the service.**

REPORT TO SESSION

On May 28, 2019, Session received the report and recommendations and also assigned committee(s) of Session to each recommendation to develop implementation plans. More information about implementation plans and schedules will be communicated as they are completed and approved by Session.