

Let's Discuss These Two Programs



Several people have indicated their interest in the proposed parish offering called conTEXTS. And one person asked a very perceptive question: how will the Adult Forum and conTEXTS be different...and might they compete with each other?

I would like to answer that person's questions in a way that offers both the differences and commonalities in both programs which avoids competition between them (see below).

I would also like to propose that conTEXTS meet in the early evening (6:30-7:30) on Wednesdays. Why have I suggested this? During the summer parking is difficult around the church. But Sturdy Bank allows us to use their parking lot for church meetings after banking hours. The summer sessions would end before dark. We will reevaluate this in September. To discuss this further, I will meet with interested persons this Sunday, April 29 after the 10am service in the chapel.

About the two program's commonalities:

- Both will be led by me
- Both are faith based
- Both are informative
- Both will meet in our church building
- Both will meet weekly throughout the year
- Both are expressly created to engage participants' comments and insights
- Both will give advanced notice as to topics (check Sunday bulletin or website)
- Both will, hopefully, result in "spirited" conversation

About the Adult Forum:

- Meets on Sunday between services for 45 minutes
- Participants are more likely to be church-going people
- Topics are chosen by group
- Topical subjects range rather broadly on religious issues
- Topics are discussed over the course of several meetings

About conTEXTS

- Meets early Wednesday evening at a time suggested above
- Each meeting, the subject matter, chosen by me,
 - will always be a different current issue,
 - not necessarily of a religious nature,
 - but dealt with by texts from our common faith
- Participants are likely to be parishioners,
 - but emphasis is to reach out to non-parishioners
- Anyone can step into this weekly discussion at any time
 - without feeling she/he is behind everyone else

I welcome you to our discussion. *kg*