

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**  
**Allison Bedillion**  
**Christian Formation Director**

**Sr. EYC Report**

EYC started off the year planning for two fundraising events. The first was a concert with Structure from Tupelo High School. We served red beans and rice and beignets. The event was well attended with many volunteers. EYC also sold t-shirts for the church. EYC met consistently throughout the year. Formation was focused on Faith Questions: Forgiveness. We examined what it meant to forgive and how we are forgiven. Youth served during Saints' Brew Christmas Dinner, packed boxes for Seniors, and volunteered working with Jr. EYC.

During the year of 2026, I would like to see EYC become increasingly driven by youth ideas and projects. This includes the youth planning their own service projects, retreats, and fun days. Many of our youth are busy with other commitments so this will allow them to take ownership of their formation and hopefully increase attendance. A large retreat will be planned for April or May. The summer will be focused on outreach and fun. During the fall of 2026, I would like to see the youth discern, research, and present on a topic they are curious about. This could be done collaboratively or individually. Having our youth take ownership of their faith is important in preparing them for their adulthood.

**Jr. EYC Report**

Jr. EYC met consistently throughout the year. They participated in games nights, worship time, and formation. They studied Caring for Creation and Practicing Joy. Many of their lessons included art, songs, and games.

During the 2026 year, I want Jr. EYC to continue to focus on growing in their knowledge of the Bible and how to apply it to their daily lives. Memory work through learning scriptures and songs will enhance their faith. Jr. EYC will also have opportunities to serve.

**Sunday School Report**

We continued to use Weaving God's Promises for children's and youth Sunday School during the Spring and Fall Semesters. During Lent, Leslie Wood and Sue Ann Averett arranged to have members of the congregation come and speak to the older youth and children. This made for a special time that they were able to connect with adults in the congregation. During the summer, we attempted to have a combined Sunday School with Phillip's class.

During 2026, we will continue to use Weaving God's Promises for the Spring Semester for the 4 year old-6<sup>th</sup> grade children. We are exploring different options for the Youth Sunday School and will combine it with their EYC time. I hope to recruit one new teacher.

**Adult Formation Report**

Lectionary Class changed their name to Sunday Bible Study. Their numbers have been trending lower with an average of 8-12 per Sunday. Phillip's Theology in the Library class grew and often

averages 15-20. Frances offered book studies throughout the year including during Vacation Bible School.

During 2026, Frances will continue to offer books studies. I would like to explore offering a traditional Women's Bible Study class during the week.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School, held during the evening, once again proved successful. Children and adults of all ages had options.

For 2026 Vacation Bible School, I plan to use a curriculum for the children and utilize the youth to volunteer or allow them to attend the adult class if they are interested. Frances will once again be leading our adults.