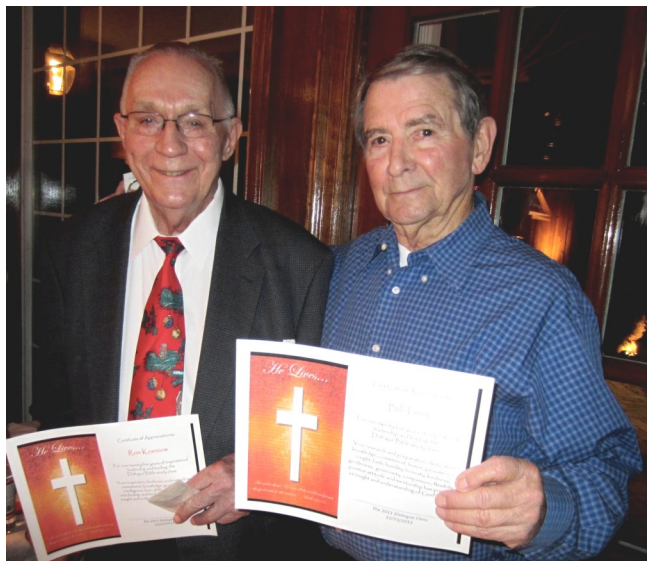


Blessed By Our Teachers

Many members of BTPC fondly remember the Dialogue class, an adult Sunday School class that functioned for more than 25 years. Besides being remarkable for longevity, the class drew standing-room only crowds to study God's Word.

No one today remembers when the class first met at Churchill Way. In 1987, after the move to Bentwood Trail, Bill Terry didn't foresee his subbing for then-teacher Alice Kennedy as a long-time commitment, but he soon inherited the mantle. Not long after Bill started teaching, Ron Kranzow joined him, and together they used a comfortable dialogue style of presenting the Scripture. Bill referred to Ron as "a godsend" for sharing the class leadership with him.



The class outgrew the upstairs of the youth building and moved to the Bentwood House porch. When the porch became too small, the class moved inside to the den. After Bill and Ron presented a Bible story, members shared their ideas about how the story could apply to modern, everyday life. Each class member was interested in hearing other members' perspectives. Everyone got an enlarged understanding from the discussions. Most of the time, the class used "The Present Word" publication for a text, but occasionally used others.

In addition to studying the Word, the Dialogue class put their faith into action by selecting various charitable projects to support. The class even painted the classroom!

The social fabric of the class was strong. Members visited those who were hospitalized. Others enjoyed making goodies for class. The group even met for Christmas parties many years.

By 2012, Bill felt the need to retire from teaching. He asked Tom Dickey, a long-time member, to take his place. Tom carried on the class. Eventually, some members moved or developed health problems, so the class size decreased to a handful each week, and the class disbanded so that members could attend other adult classes.

When asked about his long-time teaching, Ron Kranzow said the time he spent preparing for and teaching the class were "the best four hours of my week," and Bill Terry agreed. The dedication of all three teachers through the years helped develop a spirit of devotion at Bentwood Trail

Thank you Bill, Ron and Tom!

BTPC Communications Ministry Team