

Adult Formation Opportunities for February 2018

Adult Sunday School

Sunday Mornings, 10:10 – 11 a.m.

Open Letters: Informing a Christian Worldview

Feb. 11, 18, 25, Mar. 11, 18, 25 — Grace Room

Leader: Rev. Rick Hull

We live in a time when social trends divide us, unchecked evil frightens us, and shifting moral foundations confuse us. But spiritual history tells us that we've seen this all before! In the New Testament, we encounter a worldview that fostered hope, courage, and renewal in the hard days of the early church, a worldview that still speaks what we need to hear and live today. Join Rick Hull for this exploration of the forces that shaped and energized the Christian experience in the cities of Paul's New Testament world, and the practical instruction that speaks hope to every believer today.



Civil Conversations

February 11, 18, 25 — Room 2

Facilitator: Jim Zazzera

In our divided world today, it seems that we talk *at* each other and not *with* each other. In this class, we will touch on a different societal issue each week, view a short video or read an article, and be part of a conversation about our place and the place of the church in responding to this concern. While this

will hopefully be a “safe space” to share our perspectives, it will also be a space to be challenged and to listen to others' points of view. Topics: **February 11** – Finding Ourselves in the Story of Race, **February 18** – Immigrant Voices & Democracy, **February 25** — Can We All Be Feminists?

Faith Family Snap Chat:

Media & Materialism

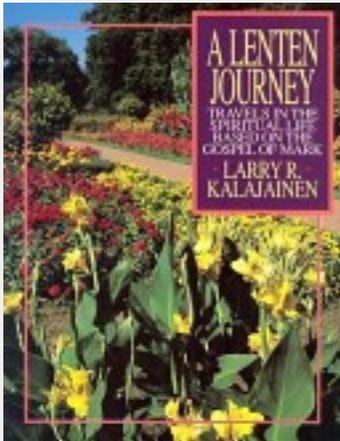
February 11— Youth Room

Leaders: Christine Mendoza & Brett Shoemaker

How is it that so many in our country have so much but still feel so empty? We'll look at how a steady diet of media and materialism can create unfillable hungers that run contrary to the ways God wants to satisfy us with good things.



Tuesday Evenings



A Lenten Journey: Where Is Jesus Leading Me?

February 13 – March 27

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Alice Parente

This seven-week study/discussion group will focus on daily meditations and spiritual exercises to use throughout Lent and Holy Week. Using the book, *A Lenten Journey*, by Larry R. Kalajainen—which concentrates on the Gospel of Mark—group members will be guided in exploring how our hearts and lives are called to respond to Christ’s teachings, crucifixion, and resurrection. *See additional details elsewhere in this newsletter!*

Women’s Retreat

20th Annual Women’s Retreat

Beautiful Sayings, Hard Words: Praying the Beatitudes of Jesus

with Nancy Buschart

Friday, March 2 - Sunday, March 4, 2018

Mercy Center Auburn

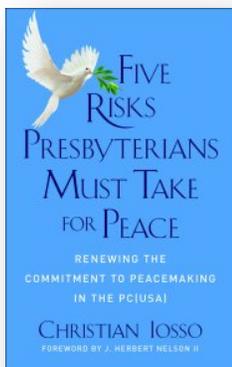
See elsewhere in this newsletter for additional information & registration!

Monthly Discussion Groups

Conversations for Peace

Third Sundays of the Month from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Ann Johnson & Sue Hooper



If you find yourself longing for the peace of Christ to take deeper root within you and in our world, please consider joining us as we share in conversations about peace. Using Scripture, we will explore Christ’s teachings about peace, love, compassion, forgiveness, and the “third way.” We will share our own experiences of shalom, and consider the lives of courageous individuals and communities that have made a difference for peace through nonviolence. We will also be guided by a recent PCUSA publication, *Five Risks Presbyterians Must Take for Peace*, by Christian Iosso.

***Why I Left, Why I Stayed: Conversations on Christianity
Between an Evangelical Father and His Humanist Son***

by Tony Campolo & Bart Campolo

First Wednesday of the Month @ 2pm (February 7) — Room 2

Facilitator: Jim Zazzera

Bestselling Christian author, activist, and scholar Tony Campolo and his son Bart, an avowed Humanist, debate their spiritual differences and explore similarities involving faith, belief, and hope that they share. Over a Thanksgiving dinner, fifty-year-old Bart Campolo announced to his Evangelical pastor father, Tony Campolo, that after a lifetime immersed in the Christian faith, he no longer believed in God. The revelation shook the Campolo family dynamic and forced father and son to each reconsider his own personal journey of faith—dual spiritual investigations into theology, faith, and Humanism that eventually led Bart and Tony back to one another.

In *Why I Left, Why I Stayed*, the Campolos reflect on their individual spiritual odysseys and how they evolved when their paths diverged. Tony, a renowned Christian teacher and pastor, recounts his experience, from the initial heartbreak of discovering Bart's change in faith, to the subsequent healing he found in his own self-examination, to his embracing of his son's point of view. Bart, an author and Humanist chaplain at the University of Southern California, considers his faith journey from Progressive Christianity to Humanism, revealing how it affected his outlook and transformed his relationship with his father. As *Why I Left, Why I Stayed* makes clear, a painful schism between father and son that could have divided them irreparably became instead an opening that offered each an invaluable look not only at what separated them, but more importantly, what they shared.

