

Adult Formation Opportunities for June 2018

Adult Sunday School

Sunday Mornings, 10:10 – 11 a.m.



Dr. James Abshire on how to...

Live, Love and Let Go

June 10 & 24— Link Hall

James Abshire is a board certified internal medicine physician practicing with the Mercy Medical Group in Sacramento for over the last 22 years. He has seen patients struggle with death – either their own or that of a loved one, and felt the need to assist them in ways that can't be done with an office visit.

Two years into this project, he was given his own diagnosis of terminal cancer, which gave him added insight. He spent many hours over the past five years researching, interviewing, recording testimonials, and writing a book entitled '*Live, Love, and Let Go: A Doctor's Insightful Approach to Living and Dying*'. His goal is to

share his very positive approach with those in need of its emotional support, practical advice, medical information, and faith based reasoning, served up at times with a little humor.

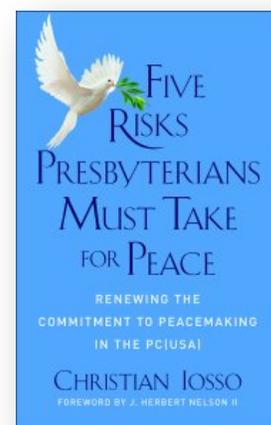
Monthly Discussion Group

Conversations for Peace

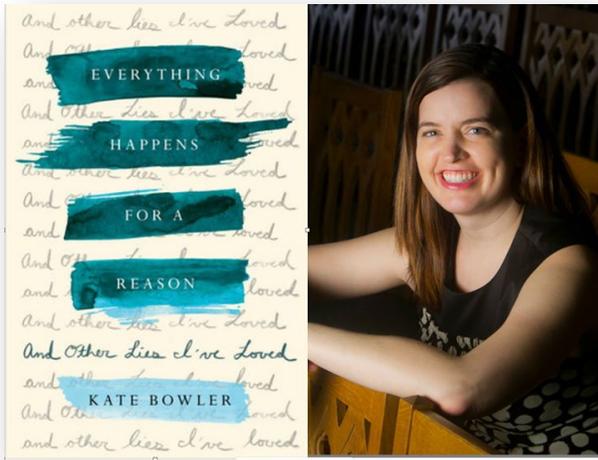
Third Sundays of the Month from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

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.



Sign Up Now for Summer Lunchtime Book Study
Wednesdays at Noon



**Everything Happens for a Reason:
And Other Lies I've Loved**

June 20, 27, July 11, 25 – Room 2

Jim Zazzera, Facilitator

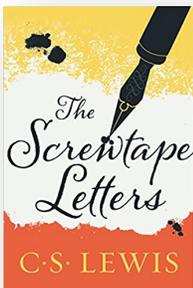
Kate Bowler is a professor at Duke Divinity School with a modest Christian upbringing, but she specializes in the study of the prosperity gospel, a creed that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of God's disapproval. At thirty-five, everything in her life seems to point toward "blessing." She is thriving in her job, married to her high school sweetheart, and loves life with her newborn son.

Then she is diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer.

The prospect of her own mortality forces Kate to realize that she has been tacitly subscribing to the prosperity gospel, living with the conviction that she can control the shape of her life with "a surge of determination." Even as this type of Christianity celebrates the American can-do spirit, it implies that if you "can't do" and succumb to illness or misfortune, you are a failure. Kate is very sick, and no amount of positive thinking will shrink her tumors. What does it mean to die, she wonders, in a society that insists everything happens for a reason? Kate is stripped of this certainty only to discover that without it, life is hard but beautiful in a way it never has been before.

Frank and funny, dark and wise, Kate Bowler pulls the reader deeply into her life in an account she populates affectionately with a colorful, often hilarious retinue of friends, mega-church preachers, relatives, and doctors. *Everything Happens for a Reason* tells her story, offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations on dying and the ways it has taught her to live. *Please sign up in the narthex so that we will know how many books to order. Books are \$17.00 each.*

Wednesday Evenings (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.)



Lively Nights with the Screwtape Letters

June 6, 13, 20, 27 – Grace Room

Alice Parente, Facilitator

See information elsewhere in this newsletter. *Sign up today!*