



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Fall 2018  
Spiritual Formation  
for Adults



# Sunday Morning Programs for Adults

## 10:10 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER 16



#### **Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality**

September 16

Community Hall

Presenter: Sarah McBride, National Press Secretary for the Human Rights Campaign

LGBTQ advocate and Westminster member Sarah McBride will discuss her own journey as a transgender woman, the role of Westminster in her family's experience, and the current landscape and challenges facing LGBTQ people in America.

### SEPTEMBER 23

#### **Pilgrims Report on the Holy Land**

September 23

Community Hall

Presenters: Greg Jones and 2018 Pilgrims

Come hear the stories of Westminster pilgrims to the Holy Land. We will share our adventures, photos and reflections as we traced the footsteps of Jesus. Our group visited and worshipped in sites in Israel, Palestine and Jordan in the hot summer month of June, and we brought back treasured memories of our time together. →

#### **Understanding Adolescence**

September 23 and 30

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Yvonne Nass, Certified Parent Educator

Adolescence is an on-going process from puberty to adulthood. Teens recycle earlier stages of development, resolve developmental tasks, and prepare to separate. This two-part series will help caregivers understand how to support teens as they bridge one of the most stressful time periods, not only for them but also for their caregivers.



## SEPTEMBER 30

### Understanding Adolescence, Part 2

#### **The Gospel of Mark**

September 30, October 7, 14, 21, and November 4

Classroom 6

Presenter: Greg Jones

How much do you know about the life and teachings of Jesus? When were the gospels written? Did the authors of the gospels work independently of one another or did subsequent writers have access to the first gospel? What is the spiritual wisdom of Jesus and how does it relate to our lives in 21<sup>st</sup> century North America?

For answers to these questions and more, join us for this study of the first half of Mark's Gospel. Previous knowledge of the gospels is not a prerequisite!

#### **Let's Talk About It**

September 30, November 18, and December 16

Ruth Christie Room

Facilitators: Dick Haden (September), Sue Linderman (November and December)

White people are unaccustomed to talking about race and its implications in their lives. Yet, at some level, everyone recognizes that racism and prejudice have a profound impact on our communities and our country. We need opportunities to experience the challenges and benefits that come from bringing racial issues into the light of day. All are welcome to join us as we continue the journey of exploring our beliefs about race, with openness to differing opinions and respect for one another.

## OCTOBER 7

### The Gospel of Mark, continued (see above)

#### **Beyond Backpacks: Mentoring is Life-Changing**

October 7

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Lynne Kielhorn

Grab a cup of coffee or tea and join us in Classroom 5 as we hear from educators, mentors and students about the transforming power of these adult/student relationships. Even if you are not able to get personally involved at this time, take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the needs and programs that Westminster supports. Maybe you know someone who is looking for a way to get involved, to make a transforming difference in a child's life – and their own. We look forward to seeing you!





## **“How Beautiful are the Feet”: Preparing for the Public Reading of Scripture**

October 7 and December 9

Sanctuary

Facilitators: Sudie Niesen Thompson and Chip Pfleegor

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:15). At Westminster we value having a diversity of voices “bring good news.” That’s why we invite congregants to read Scripture aloud in worship. Whether you are a seasoned Lay Reader or someone who is new to the public reading of Scripture, proclaiming the Word requires practice and preparation. This session is an opportunity to learn techniques for the oral interpretation of Scripture so that you are equipped to read aloud with confidence and clarity. Whether you would like to hone your skills as a Lay Reader or try your hand at reading Scripture in public, this session is for you!

*The sessions on October 7 and December 9 are identical, so participants need only attend one.*

## **The Challenge of Paul**

October 7 through December 16

Classroom 3

Facilitator: Bob Cox

*The Challenge of Paul* is an educational video series of lectures featuring historical Jesus scholar, John Dominic Crossan, who guides participants through the three-dimensional world of the Apostle Paul’s time and place. Crossan pushes past generations of doctrine and dogma to reveal the real-life character of Paul who shaped a generation of courageous Christ-followers to challenge boldly the greed and violence of the Roman Empire, the overlord of the first century Mediterranean world.

# **OCTOBER 14**

**The Gospel of Mark, continued (see page 3)**

**The Challenge of Paul, continued (see above)**

## **Race in America: Legacy and Future**

October 14

Classroom 5

Facilitators: Dave McBride and Sue Linderman

*Race—the Power of an Illusion*

This session is based upon a PBS series of the same name and *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century* by Dorothy Roberts (the George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania). Is our concept of race based upon biology and genetics or is it a social construct created for economic and political reasons?

*This series will use portions of a motion picture in each class, with a subsequent full showing and discussion of each film on a week night following the Sunday morning 10:TEN session. The date and time of the full showing will be announced during each Sunday morning class.*



## OCTOBER 21

The Gospel of Mark, continued (see page 3)

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

### **Race in America: Legacy and Future**

October 21

Classroom 5

Facilitators: Dave McBride and Sue Linderman

*Racism, Bigotry and Bias: Is There a Difference and Does it Matter?*

What does it mean to be a "racist"? Is white supremacy a fringe political and social movement or is it unconsciously part of existing social attitudes and institutions? Is there a difference between racism and bias and, if there is a difference, does it have a material effect on how white people treat minorities? How pervasive and strong is conscious or unconscious bias in America today? This session incorporates resources and materials from Debbie Irving's website for her book, *Waking Up White*, including materials from the Presbyterian Church (USA).

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## OCTOBER 28

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

### **Fall Festival – Intergenerational Event**

October 28

11:00 a.m.

Community Hall

Come and join in the fun at this year's Fall Festival hosted by the Westminster deacons. There will be hot dogs, apple cider, games, prizes, face painting and plenty of TREATS! All ages and costumes are WELCOME. Hope to see you there!



## **NOVEMBER 4**

**The Gospel of Mark, continued (see page 3)**

**The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)**

### **Race in America: Legacy and Future**

November 4

Classroom 5

Facilitators: Dave McBride and Sue Linderman

*The Undead Past: How Nations Confront the Evils of History*

This session is based upon an article of the same name in *Foreign Affairs* (January/February 2018) and another article published in the same edition, *America's Original Sin: Slavery and the Legacy of White Supremacy* by Annette Gordon-Reed (Charles Warren Professor of American Legal History at Harvard Law School and Professor of History at Harvard University).

*This series will use portions of a motion picture in each class, with a subsequent full showing and discussion of each film on a week night following the Sunday morning 10:TEN session. The date and time of the full showing will be announced during each Sunday morning class.*

## **NOVEMBER 11**

**The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)**

### **Race in America: Legacy and Future**

November 11

Classroom 5

Facilitators: Dave McBride and Sue Linderman

*Curing the Past and Present: Education in Delaware*

Current litigation challenges the educational funding system in Delaware as insufficient to meet the challenge of educating our youth. Is education the key to curing the existing inequality and does Delaware provide the resources to meet that task?

*This series will use portions of a motion picture in each class, with a subsequent full showing and discussion of each film on a week night following the Sunday morning 10:TEN session. The date and time of the full showing will be announced during each Sunday morning class.*

## **NCP Congo Partnership: Where New Mission Vision Builds Hope, Relationships, and Empowerment**

November 11

Classroom 6

Presenters: Members of the New Castle Presbytery Congo Partnership

Did you know that New Castle Presbytery (NCP) has restructured itself to be more focused on mission, both locally and globally? Did you know that Westminster is one of several member churches of the NCP Congo Partnership, which has a fourteen year history of working to build hope, strengthen relationships, and empower the people and sister congregations in Kananga, Democratic Republic of Congo?

Congolese people experience widespread poverty, but their land is rich in natural resources. They flee tribal warfare and suffer oppressive government, but are bound in deep-rooted faith and share unbound hospitality.

If you are interested to learn how these partnership churches are sharing their experiences, hopes, dreams, and fears and are supporting one another in Christ across distance, time zones, and cultures, please come join us to hear of our successes and struggles.

## **NOVEMBER 18**

**The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)**

**Let's Talk About It, continued (see page 3)**

### **Kairos Prison Ministry**

November 18

Classroom 6

Presenter: Victoria McDowell of Kairos of Delaware

Learn about three programs that spread the Good News to those in prison: Kairos Inside is a 3.5 day program taken into the institution that, through a step by step program, (re)introduces participants to the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Kairos Torch is a more intensive program for incarcerated offenders (25 and younger) in which each participant receives an individual mentor who works with mentees weekly for 6 months. Kairos Outside is a 2.5 day program for female relatives of those who are or have been incarcerated.





## NOVEMBER 25

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

### **Living Generously: Stewardship at Westminster**

November 25

Classroom 6

Facilitator: Rich Diver

Rich Diver will discuss the many ways that Westminster is changing the lives of those within our community and around the world, as well as how *you* play an important role in this transformative work through your commitments of time, talent and treasure. Come and learn how your generosity changes the world and what is required for Westminster to continue these ministries into the future.



## DECEMBER 2

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

### **Advent Celebration – Intergenerational Event**

December 2

Community Hall

A joy-filled occasion that will engage everyone, at every age.





## DECEMBER 9

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

“How Beautiful are the Feet,” continued (see page 4)

### **Peace Drums Update**

December 9

Classroom 6

Presenter: Harvey Price

Peace Drums is a unique, interfaith initiative promoting peace among Jewish, Muslim, and Christian Youth. It introduces peacemaking and reconciliation through the shared activity of a dynamic steel drum band. Under the guidance of Harvey Price, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Congregation Beth Shalom founded Peace Drums in 2013. The organization brings middle-school-aged youth together in Haifa, Israel to learn to play steel drums (Caribbean music!). Through playing music together the children forge lifelong ties and understanding of their different faiths and culture with the goal of peace within the community. Come and hear about this initiative to bring peace and music to a troubled region.



## DECEMBER 16

The Challenge of Paul, continued (see page 4)

Let's Talk About It, continued (see page 3)

### **Christmas Caroling – Intergenerational Event**

December 16

Meet in Community Hall

## DECEMBER 23

### **Sing the Story**

December 23

Classroom 6

Facilitated by Sharon Babcock, Merideth Hite Estevez, and Sudie Niesen Thompson

For many of us, it just wouldn't be Christmas without singing "Silent Night, Holy Night" or "Joy to the World". Music is one of the most powerful ways we proclaim the "good news of great joy" that Jesus Christ dwells among us. On the Sunday before Christmas, join Sharon, Merideth, and Sudie as they delve into the richness of this musical tradition and explore the ways our carols tell the story of Christmas.

# Westminster Peace and Justice Work Group Education Events

## **Racism in America: Exploring Our History**

Thursday, October 11 at 6:30 pm

Tuesday, October 23 at 6:30 pm

Saturday, November 3 at 9:00 am

Classroom 5

Presenter: Sue Linderman

We know that racism in America traces its roots back to slavery, but how did we get from there to here? Join us as we explore the path of American history that shapes our society and our perspectives today. This program is an updated consolidation of the two-part 10:TEN presentation by Sue Linderman on January 14 and 21, 2018.

*All three sessions are identical, so participants need only attend one.*

## **Combating Violence in Wilmington – A Framework for Discussion**

Saturday, October 6 at 9:00 am

Thursday, November 29 at 6:30 pm

Classroom 5

Presenter: Lynne Kielhorn

Lynne Kielhorn and a colleague from her work in Wilmington will present on the topic of street violence in Wilmington. This program is based on her 10:TEN presentation in Community Hall on March 4, 2018, and will include a brief history, recent trends, learnings from other cities, and the status of current Wilmington initiatives.

*Both sessions are identical, so participants need only attend one.*

## **Book Discussion Series**

*Waking Up White* by Debby Irving

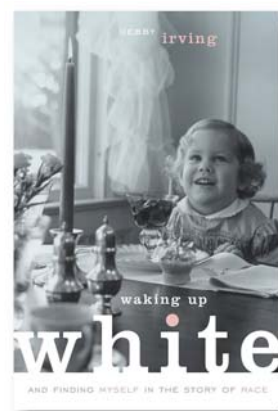
Thursday, September 27 at 6:30 pm

Ruth Christie Room

Facilitated by Liz Bacon and Jane Palmer

In our first pick for a new book discussion series, author Debby Irving – a native of Winchester, Massachusetts – describes her journey from white oblivion to white awareness, transforming confusion into curiosity and anxiety into action. You need not have read the (whole) book in order to participate in the discussion!

Watch the *Weekly Word* e-newsletter for dates and times of subsequent events in the book discussion series.



See the 10:TEN descriptions for two other Westminster Peace and Justice Work Group Education Events: **Let's Talk About It – A Periodic Series** and **Race in America: Legacy and Future**.

# Adult Education Programs Co-Sponsored with Community for Integrative Learning (CIL)

## **Dead Sea Scrolls**

Thursday, September 20, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Rodney Chapel

Presenter: Alan Fox, Ph.D., Professor of Asian and Comparative Philosophy and Religion at the University of Delaware

The Dead Sea Scrolls (also known as the Qumran Caves Scrolls) are ancient Jewish manuscripts written mostly in Hebrew, which were found in the Qumran Caves near the Dead Sea. The texts have great historical, religious, and linguistic significance because they include the second-oldest surviving manuscripts of works that were later included in the Hebrew Bible canon, as well as deuterocanonical and extra-biblical manuscripts that preserve evidence of the diversity of religious thought in late Second Temple Judaism.





# Fall 2018 Spiritual Formation for Adults

## Overview

Date	Time	Event	Facilitator or Presenter	Location
Sunday, Sep. 16	10:10 a.m.	Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality	Sarah McBride	CH
Thursday, Sep. 20	7:00 p.m.	Dead Sea Scrolls	Alan Fox	Chapel
Sunday, Sep. 23	10:10 a.m.	Pilgrims Report on the Holy Land	Greg Jones & 2018 Pilgrims	CH
	10:10 a.m.	Understanding Adolescence	Yvonne Nass	C5
Thursday, Sep. 27	6:30 p.m.	<i>Waking Up White</i> Book Discussion	Liz Bacon & Jane Palmer	RC
Sunday, Sep. 30	10:10 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Greg Jones	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Understanding Adolescence	Yvonne Nass	C5
	10:10 a.m.	Let's Talk About It	Dick Haden	RC
Saturday, Oct. 6	9:00 a.m.	Combating Violence in Wilmington	Lynne Kielhorn	C5
Sunday, Oct. 7	10:10 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Greg Jones	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Beyond Backpacks	Lynne Kielhorn	C5
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
	10:10 a.m.	"How Beautiful are the Feet"	S. Niesen Thompson & Chip Pflieger	Sanctuary
Thursday, Oct. 11	6:30 p.m.	Racism in America: Exploring Our History	Sue Linderman	C5
Sunday, Oct. 14	10:10 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Greg Jones	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Race in America: Legacy and Future	Sue Linderman & Dave McBride	C5
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Sunday, Oct. 21	10:10 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Greg Jones	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Race in America: Legacy and Future	Sue Linderman & Dave McBride	C5
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Tuesday, Oct. 23	6:30 p.m.	Racism in America: Exploring Our History	Sue Linderman	C5
Sunday, Oct. 28	10:10 a.m.	Fall Festival		CH
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Saturday, Nov. 3	9:00 a.m.	Racism in America: Exploring Our History	Sue Linderman	C5
Sunday, Nov. 4	10:10 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Greg Jones	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Race in America: Legacy and Future	Sue Linderman & Dave McBride	C5
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Sunday, Nov. 11	10:10 a.m.	New Castle Presbytery Congo Partnership	NCP Congo Partnership Members	C6
	10:10 a.m.	Race in America: Legacy and Future	Sue Linderman & Dave McBride	C5
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Sunday, Nov. 18	10:10 a.m.	Kairos Prison Ministry	Victoria McDowell	C6
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
	10:10 a.m.	Let's Talk About It	Sue Linderman	RC
	10:10 a.m.	Membership Exploration		C5
Sunday, Nov. 25	10:10 a.m.	Living Generously	Rich Diver	C6
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
Thursday, Nov. 29	6:30 p.m.	Combating Violence in Wilmington	Lynne Kielhorn	C5
Sunday, Dec. 2	10:10 a.m.	Advent Workshop		CH
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
	10:10 a.m.	Membership Exploration		C5
Sunday, Dec. 9	10:10 a.m.	Peace Drums Update	Harvey Price	C6
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
	10:10 a.m.	"How Beautiful are the Feet"	S. Niesen Thompson & Chip Pflieger	Sanctuary
Sunday, Dec. 16	10:10 a.m.	Christmas Caroling		CH
	10:10 a.m.	The Challenge of Paul	Bob Cox	C3
	10:10 a.m.	Let's Talk About It	Sue Linderman	RC
Sunday, Dec. 23	10:10 a.m.	Sing the Story	Babcock, Estevez & Niesen Thompson	C6

CH - Community Hall; C6 - Classroom 6; C5 - Classroom 5; C3 - Classroom; RC - Ruth Christie Room