

# ★Education Newsletter ★ Education Newsletter★

## Spring Sunday School Classes - 2018

Beginning January 14; 10:00 a.m.

### **New Horizons- Carl Todd & Tom Leclair - S-212**

New Horizons will begin a new study with the Standard Lesson Commentary- a year long curriculum providing weekly Bible Study. Topics include: Faith in Action, Acknowledging God, and Justice in the New Testament. Each lesson provides a verse-by-verse commentary, as well as relevant questions for discussion.

### **Young Families Class— Kevin Tyer - E-201**

This group will focus on living faithfully and peacefully in 2018! Beginning on January 14, a four-session study, *Outlive Your Life!*, by Max Lucado will begin. Make your life count for good and for God! Then on February 11th we will start Shauna Niequist's study: *Present Over Perfect: Leaving behind frantic for a simpler, more soulful way of living*. This study guides us to leave behind the pressure to be perfect and begin the life-changing practice of simply being present, in the middle of the mess and ordinariness of life.

### **LIFE (Living in Faith Everyday!) Class - S-211**

This class is for anyone who finds themselves so fully immersed in the busyness of life that figuring out how to take time to be encouraged in faith can be difficult. Our new Interim Associate Pastor, Dan Holloway will lead a six week session on *Discipleship in the 21st Century: Faithfulness When Everything is Changing*. Come and go with us as we figure out how to live as disciples in an everyday sort of way!

### **Contemporary Christian Issues- Judy Timmons - E-205**

The CCI class will continue its study of *The Witness of Religion in an Age of Fear* by Michael Kinnamon, a scholar of the ecumenical movement who has served as General Secretary for the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and Dean of Lexington Theological Seminary. In the Preface Kinnamon says, "the major world religions all warn about the dangers of excessive fear. . . and teach ways of overcoming fear, or at least of putting it in proper perspective." Following this book, the class will watch and discuss the video *An American Conscience: the Reinhold Niebuhr Story*. Regarded by many as "the most influential American theologian of the 20<sup>th</sup> century." The video will provide context for a discussion of some of Niebuhr's main ideas as expressed in such books as *Moral Man and Immoral Society* and *The Nature and Destiny of Man*.

### **Insights into James - Jim Rowell - E 203- Sunday, February 18 - March 25**

We live in a day when, especially in the political climate, name dropping seems to be the theme of the day; a way to get ahead. This is why the opening words of James are so refreshing. Like a cool spring breeze blowing through the misty room, the unassuming nature of these first few words drives our arrogance, ego, and presumption. Written by a man who could have dropped the Name above all names, this simple, straight-forward greeting sets the tone for a letter that assaults our natural human tendencies toward sin and selfishness with a radical message of authenticity and humility. Join this Lenten study as we delve into a book that is very relevant to the times in which we live.

### **Living as a Disciple: Head, Heart, Hands- Jodi Beckham— E-203 —January 21—February 11**

This four week class is designed both for newer members of FLPC and for those who want a refresher and an overview. The purpose of the class is to help people identify what they want and/or need to grow in faith and to challenge them to find that at FLPC. This class will be repeated later in the year.

## **Lent: A Season of Compassion**

Compassion has been identified by our Elders and Deacons as a value that helps transform us into disciples of Jesus Christ who, himself, embodied compassion. Our challenge during Lent will be to embody compassion as we live our everyday lives. Below are some starters and support in your journey to embody Compassion after Christ's example.

### **The Prophets- Ellen Skidmore and Rabbi Eric Mollo - Parlor - Wednesday, Jan. 31—Feb. 7, 6:15pm**

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel believed that the Prophets revealed a passionate God “filled with echoes of divine love and disappointment, mercy and indignation.” On week 1, Ellen Skidmore will give a historical overview and context for the work of the Biblical Prophets. Then during weeks 2 & 3, Ellen Skidmore and Rabbi Eric Mollo of Tree of Life Congregation will discuss how the themes of Justice and Compassion are spoken by the Prophets and how these themes affect our modern lives as people of faith. Such interfaith dialogue is rare, and you will not want to miss this important and timely discussion.

### **Ash Wednesday Worship - Fellowship Hall / Sanctuary - Wednesday, February 14, 5:30pm Dinner, 6:15pm service**

Lent is the 40-day season set apart for reflection and preparation for the celebration of Easter. Join our church family in a simple supper at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall, then move to an Ash Wednesday service of worship in the Sanctuary that includes the imposition of ashes. All ages welcome with nursery provided for the littlest ones.

### **Insights into James - Jim Rowell - E 209 - Sunday, February 18 - March 25, 10:00am**

This Lenten Sunday School Class is described in detail on page one in the listing of Sunday School Classes. See that page for information.

### **Holocaust Exhibit - Parlor - Feb. 16-25 - self-guided anytime!**

The *Holocaust Remembered* exhibit of the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission tells the personal stories of SC survivors and liberators. This museum quality exhibit was created to honor the memories of the survivors and victims of the Holocaust which can both help us remember the horror of the Holocaust, and embody compassion through that remembering. The 24-panel exhibit will be displayed in the Parlor from Feb. 16-25, 2018. While we encourage everyone to come and view this important exhibit, please note that some images are disturbing and may not be suitable for young children. After viewing the exhibit, please come for the Panel Discussion described below.

### **Holocaust Panel Discussion - Parlor - Wednesday, February 21, 6:15pm**

A follow up to experience of the Holocaust Exhibit (see above), the Holocaust Education Commission is hosting a panel discussion to help us remember and understand the horror of the Jewish genocide during WWII. Hear from children of survivors of the Holocaust and other eye witnesses. Come, remember, and learn!

## Embodying Compassion Small Groups—A Lenten experiment in discipleship for ALL!

You (Members and Guests from 0 – 100 years of age) are invited into a “holy experiment” for the season of Lent: Embodying Compassion Small Groups. How can you participate?!

Step 1: Attend one of two orientation meetings:

**Sunday, February 25 from 4-5pm, or Wednesday, February 28 from 6:15-7:15pm.**

Step 2: Be willing to join with at least one other person to form a small group to explore ideas about how to “embody compassion”. A small group could be a whole family or two people. You might choose to form a small group with friends, or you might ask for help in joining with people you don’t yet know. Every small group will – with guidance – determine one compassion project or action that they agree to undertake and to meet to share their reflections after the project or action has happened.

Step 3: Come and share a celebratory meal on **Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**, Passion/Palm Sunday, at which we can share what we learned about God, ourselves and the ministry of embodying compassion.

*As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion  
Colossians 3:12a*

### Kirk Night Programs

**Wednesday evenings from January 10—May 2**

**Dinner from 5:30-6:15; Adult Programs from 6:15-7:15**

- January 10:(1) Now What? Come and meet new interim staff and get to know your church family;  
(2) Discipleship @ FLPC—for guests and members who want to know more about FLPC
- January 17: Child Protection Training— Learn more about how we keep every child safe and what you can do to prevent anyone from harming a child. Come and learn more!
- January 24: The Prophets: Part 1 — The Prophets: Introduction (See Lenten Information)
- January 31—The Prophets: Part 2 — The Prophets: Justice (See Lenten information)
- February 7—The Prophets: Part 3 — The Prophets: Compassion (See Lenten information)
- February 14—Ash Wednesday Worship Service
- February 21— Children of Holocaust Survivors Panel Discussion— (See Lenten Information)
- February 28—Embodying Compassion Orientation (see Lenten Information for details)
- Watch your Newsletter for Additional Classes and Topics!

## Other Study Opportunities

### **GriefShare Group** - Eric Skidmore and Paul VanWyke - **E 102 - Begins February 11—Sundays from 5-7pm**

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. GriefShare is a 13-week gathering for people experiencing the pain of losing a loved one. Led by Rev. Dr. Eric Skidmore and Dr. Paul VanWyke, participants will spend time watching videos covering various topics of grief and then engage in group discussion. If you or someone you know could benefit from a supportive community during this time of loss, contact Eric Skidmore or the Church Office. Nursery is available by request (requests due by 2/5).

### **Men's Breakfast and Bible Study** - Henry Gibson, David Hunter, and Carl Todd - **Fellowship Hall**

Join the Men of the Church every Tuesday morning at 6:45am for the best home-cooked breakfast in town! This year, the men are studying *52 Weeks with Jesus* by James Merritt. This is a great way to begin your day with breakfast and encouragement in your faith! All men welcome.

### **Presbyterian Women Circles** – Sandy Helfer - **Meet monthly from September to May**

We have a variety of meeting times and locations to choose from. Forest Lake Presbyterian Women use the PC (USA) *Horizons Bible Studies*. This year's study is *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews* by Melissa Bane Sevier.

### **The Wednesday Morning Ladies' Group**— Nancy Livingston—**1st & 3rd Wednesdays—10-11:15am - OCR**

This group of women meet twice a month to share life, faith and prayer. All ladies are invited to a short devotion, prayer and then an opportunity to share our lives with each other.

### **ESH (Experience, Strength & Hope!) Small Group**—David Robertson - **E-201 - 6:00pm**

2nd & 4th Sundays beginning January 28. For more info: drober3277@att.net

This group meets to support one another and to share experiences, strength and hope for day-to-day living in confidential Christian community. The group will identify their own topics for discussion and prayer. Everyone willing to engage in an honest faith discussion is welcome.

### **Discipleship @ FLPC** - Ellen Skidmore - **E102 - Classes TBA**

This event is casual and participants are given an opportunity to talk with Ellen about three questions. (1) What does it mean to be Presbyterian? (2) What is FLPC about? (Mission and Vision), and (3) What does it mean to join the Church? There is time for questions and the goal is to help you find out more about FLPC. This one-time gathering often happens following a Kirk Night meal and is intended for anyone who would like to know more about Forest Lake. If you have an interest in being invited to the next scheduled discussion, please indicate your interest on the friendship register during Sunday worship or call the church office.