



## Adult Education

# Sunday Classes and Groups

## September-October 2017

Classes and small groups play a key role at First Church in building community, providing space to reflect, ask faith questions, and support each other's faith journey.

### **Called to be Peacemakers?** -- *Sept. 10 and 17, 9:15 a.m., in Glenna Hall.*

We are called to be peacemakers and at the same time called to witness to acts of injustice; these callings require us to be good listeners, sound interpreters and fair participants in our various communities. This conversation will explore the ways in which we gather, interpret and act upon the news & information that we regularly receive about the world around us. Facilitated by Mitchell Jackson, First Church member and U of C Divinity student.

### **Christian Unity & the Protestant Reformation** -- *Sept. 24, Oct. 1, and Oct. 8, at 9:15 a.m.*

Did the Protestant Reformation restore or destroy Christian unity? Is Christian unity a possibility, five hundred years after the Reformation? What constitutes Christian unity, and what external forms secure it? We'll explore these questions, considering present divisions in the church in light of the 16th century movements that revolutionized the western world. Led by Hauna Ondrey, church historian at North Park University.

### **Young Adult Class** -- *Sundays at 9:00 a.m. at Panera (1700 Sherman Ave.). Begins Sept. 10.*

Twenty- and thirty-somethings gather weekly in at Panera for discussion on the scriptures of the week using the "Feasting on the Word" lectionary curriculum. This class is designed for young adults to come when they can; new participants and those who haven't come in a while are most welcome. Mollie Foster leads this class; for more info, please contact her at [mollie@faithatfirst.com](mailto:mollie@faithatfirst.com).

### **Faith and Parenting Class** -- *Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in Room 24, begins Sept. 10.*

This group of parents gathers weekly to grow in faith and support each other. This fall we are focusing on core practices of the Christian faith. New participants very welcome. Please come when you can.

**Abide** – *Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in Dean's Office. Begins Sept. 24.*

*Abide: To dwell, inhabit; to be held, kept; to be present with; to remain; to endure; to wait for; to be steadfast, faithful.* This weekly adult class provides ongoing space for spiritual connection to God, mutual support in community, and faith formation. Although many members are parents of youth, this gathering is open to all who seek to abide with Jesus through the Spirit in the company of friends. Facilitated by Tim and Becky Eberhart and others.

**Mindfulness Meditation Group** -- *Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in Tittle Chapel. Begins Oct. 8.*

Plans are in the works for a group that gathers Sunday mornings in the chapel for quiet meditation and reflection around a bit of Scripture or inspirational text. All welcome. Facilitated by Helen Damon-Moore.

**Faith Builders: Everyday Theology**

*Sundays at 9:15 a.m., dates being confirmed.*

We draw on faith and specifically our theological understandings to make everyday decisions, particularly around global and national crises, family issues, health, and employment. Research shows theology is not abstract, but deeply connected to our lives. In this class, participants will consider a wide range of perspectives about Jesus, God, and the Kingdom of God, and use that insight to reflect on decisions they face in their daily lives. Led by Jack Seymour, Jane Currie, Dean Francis, Ron Anderson, and Mai-Anh Le Tran. *Advance registration strongly recommended. Please visit [www.faithatfirst.com/registrations/](http://www.faithatfirst.com/registrations/).*



This class is one of three Faith Builders classes designed for new members, church leaders, and anyone desiring to establish or reinforce a firm faith foundation. *Everyday Theology, Intentional Living,* and *What is the Bible?* are offered on a rotating basis and are part of the Adult Education program at First Church. The next Faith Builders class offering, *Intentional Living*, is scheduled for winter 2018.

**Please also see the listing of weekday classes and groups.**

*Want to be added to the Adult Education electronic communications loop? Please contact Mary Taylor-Johnson, Adult Education and Membership Coordinator, at [mary@faithatfirst.com](mailto:mary@faithatfirst.com) or 847-864-6181.*

