

Adult Sunday School Class Schedule 2018

January 14-February 4

Encountering the Divine: How to experience love in the midst of all this hate

The class is focusing on spiritual practices that help us listen for and remain centered in God so that we can act out of love in the world around us.

February 11-March 25

The Ridiculous Journey of Following the Nobody from Nowhere

Video and discussion series on discipleship from TheWorkOfThePeople.com that includes footage of Nadia Bolz-Weber, Greg Boyle, Brene Brown, Emmanuel Katongole, Rachel Held Evans, Richard Rohr, and Rowan Williams.

April 1 Easter Sunday—No Adult Class. Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.

April 8-29

To Stand Again: Practices for the Resurrected Life

A video/discussion series in which authors and scholars, pastors and professors, reflect on a life lived on this side of the resurrection. If the resurrection did happen, then there must be some difference not only in our lives, but also for the world. What is the hope when faced with death, decay, and brokenness? How can one survive the destructive powers of this world? The answer to this question involves a journey into the tomb and an emergence out of it.

May 6

Creation Care

Rev. Scott Hardin-Nieri, director of the Creation Care Alliance of Western NC, will look at Creation Care theologically and in the context of our current reality. Will also brainstorm options for hands-on projects the congregation could try.

May 13-20

Read Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

Books will be made available in April so that participants can read ahead, and we can cover the book's insights in two sessions. Will compare this book to issues raised and insights gained when the class read "Waking Up White" and "Just Mercy" in 2017.

May 13—Part 1 (Have read through page 151.)

May 20—Part 2 (Have finished reading the book.)

May 27-September 2—No classes during the summer months.

September 9-30

The Gospel of John: the "I Am" statements of Jesus.

John is a word-made-flesh gospel where Jesus uses aspects of his daily life—bread, light, vines, shepherds, gates—to help people touch and understand who he is and who God is. The class will look at what these metaphors would have meant in Jesus' day and explore how they might still resonate in our world today.

October 7 (Homecoming Weekend)

Rev. Dr. Brian Ammons, Director of Spiritual Life and Chaplain at Warren Wilson College, will share about his work and ministry with the students.

October 14- November 18

The class will be reading ***Always With Us? What Jesus Really Said about the Poor***, by Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign. Dr. Theoharis is a Presbyterian Pastor with a PhD in New Testament and Christian Origins. Her book examines how the Matthew 26:11 text ("the poor you will always have with you") is taken out of context and distorted. "Poverty is not inevitable, Theoharis argues...and all Christians have a responsibility to partner with the poor to end poverty once and for all."

November 25—No Adult Class (Thanksgiving Weekend)

December 2-23 (ADVENT)

"The Messiah", a curriculum by Old Testament scholar Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, examines the four royal titles used in Isaiah 9:2-7: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

December 30—No Adult Class