

## SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS

Each Sunday we offer **The Bible Class, The 20-30s Class, The Mystic Tradition Class, The Dreams Class, and as needed, a Newcomers Class. For descriptions of these classes, please read below.**

### I. THE BIBLE CLASS:

Jan 15-Jan 29

Parables: “Meaningful Stories” Charles Boyanton & Charlie Dickerson

While Jesus is probably the single person most associated with parables, the parable has been utilized as an effective way to communicate ideas in all ages and among almost all people. We will open with a discussion of why and how are parables so effective; thereafter, we will move our discussion to Old and New Testament parables, seeking to understand “what and how they mean.”

Feb 12-Mar 18

“1st and 2nd Peter: The Rock” Marigold Watson

These are the last letters of Peter “to the exiles and aliens.” In this class we will first explore the highlights of Peter in the Gospels and in Acts; then afterwards focus on the mature Peter about to fulfill the words of his Master: “You will stretch out your hands and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go.” In culture, history and in the Holy Spirit, we will discover that his reminders remain poignant for today’s “exiles and aliens.”

Apr 15-Apr 29

“Episcopal Church History - the Reformation to the New World” Jim Lynn

The class will cover church history, looking first at the Reformation in England and the evolution of the Church of England, analyzing the initial theological differences that caused the one, holy, catholic church to split into the three major factions of Roman, Anglican and Protestant churches. It will trace the expansion of the Church of England into North America and learn of the Great Awakening of Christianity in the new world. The class will examine the development of the Episcopal Church throughout the new United States as the colonies revolt against England, as the U.S. expands to the west and goes through civil war. You will follow the evolution of the Episcopal Church, understand the main components of its theology, learn of the selection of its first American bishops and know the reasons why all local church vestries play such a major role in the selection of its ministers while in the Church of England ministers are appointed by the local Bishop.

May 6 – May 20

Parables: “Meaningful Stories” Charles Boyanton & Charlie Dickerson

### II. MYSTICAL TRADITION CLASS: “Jewish and Christian Mysticism”

Br. Kenneth Hosley & Al Cedarholm

After a brief study of contemporary Jewish mysticism, we begin with mystical elements in the Old and New Testaments, then move on to cover the gnostic movement, desert spirituality, the Hesychastic tradition, medieval female mystics, Mendicants, English and Spanish mystics and the mystics of the our own era. The course will be taught utilizing the video instruction of Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson of Emory University followed by discussion led by Br. Kenneth who majored in religion at the U. of Georgia.

### III. THE 20 – 30s CLASS: “The Roundtable Discussion Series” Taylor Harper

Join us in an atmosphere where everyone is both teacher and student... a place where ideas and experiences are shared freely. A particular topic of interest will be designated for each session by the group. Each participant may approach the topic according to his or her preference – perhaps from a Biblical, cultural/political, or a personal perspective (or all of the above). Participants are encouraged to conduct independent research on each week’s topic – be it the Bible, Wikipedia, newspapers, the Koran, etc... Come Join the Discussion!

### IV. DREAMS: A WAY TO LISTEN TO GOD

Our Sunday morning Dream Group provides a safe and sacred space to share dreams and help participants find spiritual fulfillment in their dreams. This group does not interpret dreams but rather uses the structured setting to enable the group to explore and honor dreams. We will use a group process to assist the dreamer in determining how God, the dream giver, might be speaking to them. We will discuss various elements of dreams, such as how dreams use symbols and metaphors to communicate. All are welcome to come any Sunday to experience the power of sharing dreams.

### V. NEWCOMERS’ CLASS:

Held as needed, our Newcomers’ Class serves to further introduce our one-time visitors to Saint Patrick’s family. Newcomers have an opportunity to meet the Vestry members and other parishioners in a casual atmosphere, to become better acquainted with the various ministries of the church, and if new Episcopalians, to better understand the liturgy and doctrines of the church.

## SPECIAL CLASSES AND GUEST TEACHERS

We are pleased to bring special teachers to the Parish from time to time. Please note that other adult classes are not held on these mornings.

Jan 8 "Fire in the Head: Holy Women in the Celtic Tradition"

The Rev. Robyn Michelle Neville, Candler School of Theology

The early medieval lives of female saints demonstrate a number of provocative and startling themes. What do these themes tell us about gender, spiritual power, and authority in the early medieval "Celtic" churches? How can Christians today interpret these themes and use them as narrative icons for spiritual exploration and renewal?

Feb 5 The Rt. Rev. Keith B. Whitmore, Assistant Bishop of Atlanta

Mar 18 & Mar 25 "Holy Week Liturgy: From Palms to Passion"

Fr. Dick Game and Br. Stephen. In preparation for Holy Week, these two classes survey the history and theology of the sacred liturgies of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday).

## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Dinner is served at 6:15; Study 7:00-8:00 p.m. Childcare available by reservation to Church office by Monday

**January 11, 18 & 25:** [The Gospel of Mark](#), a short course on our Gospel for Year B, led by Fr. Dick.

**February 1 – April 4:** [Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life](#), by Richard Rohr, a book study led by Fr. Dick and CeCe Balboni. Rohr is a noted writer, inspirational speaker, Franciscan monk and Roman Catholic priest.



## 2012 Spring Term

### Christian Education for Adults

*Sundays at 9:15 a.m.*

*Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.*

*January 8 – May 20*

*All are welcome, anytime, all the time!*

