



GCPC FALL KICK-OFF – SEPTEMBER 17

*** On Sunday, Sept. 17 all Adult Education classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall for our kick-off!**

Adult Education Fall Term / Sept. 24 – Nov. 19 / 9:15 AM

Digging In: Creation Care & Scripture | Atrium

Fall Term | Over the nine weeks of this course we will look at Scripture in relation to contemporary concern for Creation Care. We will begin with a look at some ways Scripture has been said to be an obstacle for Creation Care, suggesting alternative readings of such “problematic” parts of the Bible. Then we will look at the implications of Scripture’s accounts of creation, covenant, redemption for humanity’s calling to care for creation. The class will conclude with a look at Scripture’s hints about the relation of humans to other animals and about God’s good future for all creation.

Facilitator | Cam Murchison

This class reads the Bible, as well as other works that engage the Bible, with the expectation that the Bible has something to say about who God is and who we are, both of which are deeply important for how we live.

Pressure Points: Religious Violence | Choir Room

Fall Term | We will examine how misreadings of Biblical passages have been used to rationalize and even promote religious violence. Midrashic reading of Genesis stories foundational to Christianity, Judaism, and Islam help us gain new insight to sibling rivalry, dualism, scapegoats and more. "All the major figures of the first book of the Hebrew Bible are complex characters...Dividing the world into saints and sinners, the saved and the damned, the children of God and the children of the devil, is the first step down the road to violence in the name of God" according to Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, author of *Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence* which will inform the study although reading it is not required for the weekly discussions.

Facilitators | Keaton Hill and Denise Snodgrass

This class explores thorny issues and new ideas that challenge us, the 21st century church, where we live—at the intersection of our faith and the world.

The Improv: Boundaries | Jerusalem Room

Fall Term | The Boundaries class will explore how to establish healthy boundaries with friends, parents, children, coworkers, self, and God. We will discuss when to say no and how to say yes, how to respond to individuals who don't recognize or respect personal boundaries, and why it is important to respect other people's boundaries without resentment. The reference for the class will be the Boundaries book by Dr Henry Cloud and Dr John Townsend. Join us for an interactive discussion on how to incorporate boundaries into your life.

Facilitators | Paul Rogers and Christi Mobley

The Improv class looks at scripture, life, and practice through various theological lenses, seeking to discover credible and promising ground for faithful improvisation in our lives.



GCPC FALL KICK-OFF – SEPTEMBER 17 **Children & Youth Education Fall Term | 9:15 AM**

Preschool/Kindergarten | Preschool Sunday School Room

3 year olds through Kindergarten aged children, will meet in the Preschool childcare room (drop off can be as early at 8:30) and travel as a class to the Sunday School room on that hall for their lesson. Godly Play explores the core stories of our faith in a Montessori style involving storytelling, individual work to react to the story, prayer and a classroom feast. After the lesson, children will return as a class to the Preschool childcare room and can either be picked up or stay for the duration of the 10:30 worship.

Elementary School | Promise Zone Classrooms

Children first grade through 5th grade meet in the Temple Room as we start off our first Godly Play session of the fall. Through the year, we will be exploring the core stories of our faith in a Montessori style involving storytelling, individual work, prayer & a classroom feast.

Middle & Senior Highs | Promise Zone Classrooms

Meet in the Middle School & Senior High rooms and get ready for an awesome year of diving into our faith together. Middle Schoolers will be utilizing the re:form curriculum, which helps us study our many unique and inspiring Biblical ancestors. Senior Highs will be using the Echo the Story curriculum, which uses storytelling and dialogue to creatively engage the Biblical narrative.

Children, Youth, Adults: Other Activities

Youth Group | Sundays | Often 5:00 – 7:00 PM | GCPC

Middle School & Senior High (6th – 12th grade) are invited to join in the fun! This year's youth group theme is "Moving Mountains." Together, we will seek to do God's work in the world by engaging in exciting opportunities at church and out in the community. Questions? Contact Samantha at sgblock@gcpcusa.org. Kick-off will be 9/17 during Education hour (9:15 AM) in our classrooms.

Children's Choir (Cherub/Treble) | 5:00 – 6:00 PM | GCPC

Please join us tonight, September 10, for our opening night, which will include refreshments, music games and a time of rehearsing. Cherub Choir (Grades Kindergarten through 1) meets in the Choir Robing Room and Treble Choir (Grades 2 through 5) meets in the Choir Room. Registration forms will be available tonight prior to rehearsals.

Handbell Choir | Mondays | 5:30-6:45 PM | Choir Room

Handbell Choir will begin on Monday, September 25th and is open to adults and high school age youth. A musical background and music reading abilities are helpful but not necessary.

Chancel Choir | Wednesday rehearsals | 7:00-9:00 PM | Choir Room

If you're a musician (high school and older) who enjoys singing, then Chancel Choir is for you. We are always happy to welcome new members.

Questions about music? Please contact Jeff at jjones@gcpcusa.org.