

ADULT STUDIES, MARCH–MAY, 2019

Faith and Fellowship

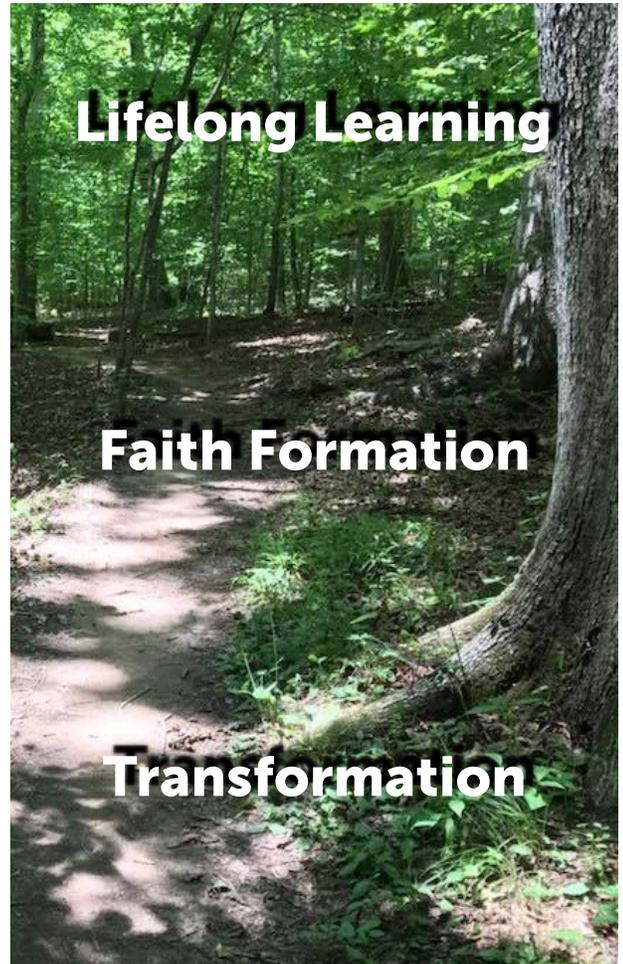
Adult Studies is an opportunity for faith formation and transformation offered by First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, North Carolina. Our hope is to foster lifelong spiritual growth for our congregation and our community.

On behalf of the Adult Ministries Committee, you are invited to take a moment to review the many course selections for the winter/spring 2019 Christian Education year.

We pray as you make a commitment to your spiritual nurture and faith development, that you may bear fruit in every good work and grow in your knowledge of God.



**Charlotte Allbright, MACE,
Certified Christian Educator**
callbright@fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703 x 223



Summer Sunday School will start [June 2 at 9:00 a.m.](#) More information to come!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BURLINGTON
508 West Davis Street
Burlington, NC 27215
www.fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703

SUNDAYS

Every Sunday Morning, 9:45 a.m. (ongoing)

The Point Room 227

We are professionals & students, parents & friends, and we are committed to asking hard questions of faith and walking together in love. For everything we do and everything we are, we ask "What's the POINT?" and we know better than to expect answers. What we do know is that the point – the purpose – of our study and worship and fellowship and faith journeying is that God has called us into Christian community and that we are doing our best to live out that call. We are opening our hearts and opening our minds to be a part of whatever God has called for with this zany and wonderful group of people. Join us as we search, pray, and discover as "The Point." Join our Facebook group!

The John Knox Fellowship John Knox Room

Drawing on scripture, denominational tenets and a quest to understand God's call to us in the world, this class combines lecture and discussion in a weekly format for adults of all ages. Led by a team of class members and guest speakers, this group has varied interests and aspirations, a commitment to life-long learning, friendly relations and open communications. Whether it is exploring particular scripture, a Christian perspective on social issues, a General Assembly position paper or the Holy Land as an armchair tourist, participants seek to grow in their faith as they commit to being active disciples in the world. This call to service is demonstrated through missions and special class projects. We have occasional social gatherings, group trips and discussions that build strong personal relationships in this community of faith.

Enrichment Class Room 228

For over 25 years, this class has studied a variety of topics from atonement to world religions. The discussion-based class, led by Henry Carrouth and Bill Massey, runs year round, even in the summer months. Everyone is encouraged to share opinions as we affirm each other on this faith journey. The Epiphany party held each January is one of the social events for the class. We actively support missions, like rebuilding New Orleans after Katrina or building a wheelchair ramp for a local cancer patient or adopting a Christmas cheer family. This is a place to grow your faith and build new relationships.

Upcoming Sunday Classes in the John Knox Fellowship

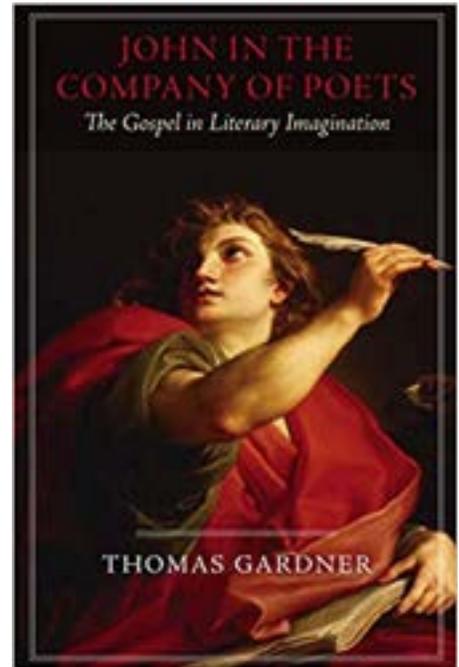
The Gospel of John and Poetry

Led by Tom Gardner

9:45 a.m. in the John Knox Room

Sundays, March 3 & 10, 2019

In the Gospel of John, Jesus describes himself through a series of simple yet enigmatic words — as the bread of life and as living water, for example — and illustrates those words with a series of miraculous signs. John shows those who hear these words and see these signs struggling to understand and take them in, and it gradually becomes clear that the reader is being invited into the same struggle to taste and see and comprehend. We will look closely at a number of such passages and then several of the great poems in the English language which offer detailed, intimate accounts of how one might go about wrestling with and responding to these powerful words.



Biography:

Tom Gardner is the son of Bill and Marion Gardner of our congregation. He and his wife Laura live in Blacksburg, Virginia where he is a Professor of English at Virginia Tech. He teaches courses on twentieth and twenty-first century poetry and writes about poetry as a way of thinking about the world and how we make sense of it. His most recent books are *John in the Company of Poets: The Gospel in Literary Imagination* and *A Door Ajar: Contemporary Writers and Emily Dickinson*. He is an elder at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Blacksburg and regularly teaches adult Sunday School there.

PRITCHETT SYMPOSIUM

JOIN US for the **Pritchett Symposium**

Sunday, March 17, 2019

Guest Preacher/Speaker — Jill Duffield,
Editor of *The Presbyterian Outlook*

***Commonplace Holiness:
God at Work Wherever You Are***



Sunday, March 17 — More Details:

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship

Class One: Looking Out for the Holy, 9:45 a.m. in Witherspoon

We will look at Bible verses where people are told to keep watch and be awake. We will examine what it means to anticipate God's presence and transformation. How will we recognize the holy in our midst? How will we respond when we see it?

Class Two: Faithfulness in Our Sphere, 5:00 p.m. in Witherspoon

What does it mean to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in our daily lives? How do we follow Jesus' commands right where we are on any give day and in every circumstance? We will explore what it means to be faithful in our spheres of influence, no matter how big or small they are.

Scripture for worship: *Psalm 22, Mark 15:33–47*

Sermon title: *A Centurion, Many Women, and a Rich Man*

Jill Duffield Biography

Jill Duffield serves as the editor and publisher of *The Presbyterian Outlook*, an independent publication on the PC (USA). She earned a BA in history from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, graduating *magna cum laude* and as a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*. She graduated with her Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary and was ordained as a teaching elder in 1998. Jill earned her Doctor of Ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She was the 2015 recipient of the Associated Church Press James Solheim Award for Editorial Courage. Jill is a contributor to the forthcoming *Connections* preaching commentary series published by Westminster John Knox Press. She is currently serving on the Austin Presbyterian Seminary Board. Jill is married to Grant and they have three children, Joseph, Jessie and Marissa.

Journey to Canaan: Book of Numbers
Led by Dianna Wright, Associate Presbyter of Salem Presbytery
9:45 a.m. in the John Knox Room
Sunday, April 7, 2019

The Journey to Canaan Bible Study was created to help congregations reflect on their ministry so they can plan for effective engagement in God's mission in the world. The study is based on the Book of Numbers, the fourth book of the Pentateuch that tells the story of Israel's journey from Mt. Sinai towards the Promised Land.



In this study the church has the opportunity to name itself, review at its journey with God and plan for its new life in the present age.

In this class, you will be introduced to the six week study and experience and bit of what it has to offer.

Biography:

Dr. Dianna Wright, the Associate Presbyter for Equip and African American Ministries for Salem Presbytery in Clemmons, NC. An Education Consultant and Founder of Kuumba Center for Christian Education and Spiritual Growth. Past President of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators, and currently serves on the General Assembly's Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations. Dr. Wright is a graduate of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond Va. and Columba Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga. She served the church as curriculum writer for *These Days Devotions and Bible Study* and *Reflections on the Ecumenical Stance* for the PCUSA called "God's Unity... Our Journey." She is committed to the ministry of education and using creative ways to teach the gospel story. She believes that we must find a way to strengthen one another as we together build up the one Body of Christ and serve our Living Lord. She continues to glorify God through the use of the liturgical arts including dance, storytelling, music and drama. She enjoys walking, sewing, crafts, reading tutoring children and traveling.



breadfor**theworld**
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Bread for the World
Led by Rev. Frank Dew
9:45 a.m. in the John Knox Room
Sunday, April 14, 2019

Based on Micah chapter 6 and Frank's work with *Bread for the World*, learn more about the connection between justice and compassion leading toward advocacy.

Biography:

Frank Dew is the founding pastor of New Creation Community Presbyterian Church and Chapel at Greensboro Urban Ministry. Now serving as peace and justice advocate for Salem Presbytery.



The Torah, Part II
Led by Mickey Efirm
9:45 a.m. in the John Knox Room
Sundays, May 5, 12, 19, & 26, 2019

The Torah, also known as the Pentateuch or the Books of Moses, remains the basic religious foundation for the Jewish faith — and to a certain degree for Christians also. This second half of the study will focus on significant passages which are often misunderstood. We can really have some fun with this one!!!!



MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY



Peculiar Treasures of the New Testament

January–May in the Witherspoon Room

- Tuesday Morning Men 6:45 a.m.
- Wednesday Morning Everyone 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday Morning Women 6:45 a.m.

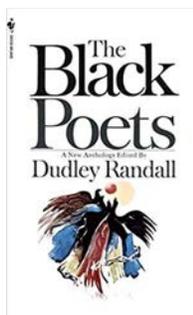
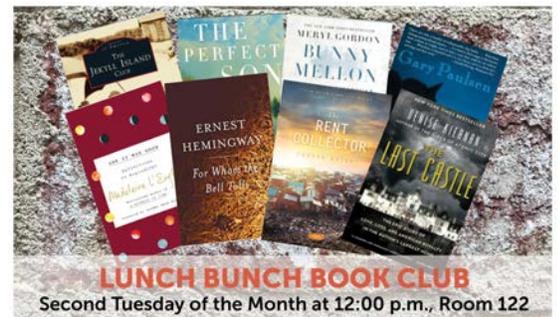
This winter and spring we will examine 17 of God's peculiar treasures from the New Testament. Most of them are odd, strange,

or eccentric, and yet they still have the power to make us feel more alive for having known them. Hopefully this study will at times bring a tear to your eyes and at other times send a shiver up your spine, but you will walk away with an insight of living as Christ's more faithful disciple. The following peculiar treasures will be studied. If you have any questions or would like a schedule of our winter study, please contact Ron (336-228-1703 or rshive@fpcburlington.org).

Lunch Bunch Book Club

Second Tuesday of Each Month, Noon in Room 122

- **February 12** — *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway
- **March 12** — *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright
- **April 9** — Bring in suggestions for next year! Planning time!
- **May 14** — *The Last Castle* by Denise Kiethan — (Covered dish in John Knox Room)



**508 Partnership Discussions of African American Poetry
Led by Homer Ashby, Harry Brown, and Vickie Morrow
Noon-1:00 p.m. alternating church campuses
Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, & 26, 2019**

Join us from 12–1:00 p.m. as we discuss selected poems from our suggested textbook, *The Black Poets*, ed. Dudley Randall. Come for

fabulous discussion and wonderful fellowship. Bring your lunch if you would like.

- **March 5** First Baptist Church on Apple St.
- **March 12** First Presbyterian Church on W. Davis
- **March 19** First Baptist Church on Apple St.
- **March 26** First Presbyterian Church on W. Davis

Contact Charlotte Allbright at 336-228-1703 x 223 or callbright@fpcburlington.org for more information.

Presbyterian Women

Even if you have not had a chance to jump into a Circle, you are always welcome at any of our Presbyterian Women gatherings and Bible Studies (Circle). Contact the church office for information on location 336-228-1703.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

- **Circle 1** meets the 2nd Sunday at 6:00 p.m. in the John Knox Room at FPC
- **Circle 2** meets the 2nd Monday at 10:00 a.m. in homes of other Circle members and friends
- **Circle 3** meets the 2nd Monday at 10:00 a.m. in homes of other Circle members and friends
- **Circle 4** meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the John Knox Room at FPC

Vacation Bible School – Yes! VBS is for Adults!

The Congregation's Song

Led by Patrick Murphy

Sunday through Tuesday Evenings

June 16-18, 2019

6:30-8:00 p.m.

The congregation is “the true choir” of the church, for the congregation is the voice of the people. Our faith foundation is formed through our singing, for it is the song of the congregation we first sing with our lips and believe in our hearts. Over the course of three nights, we will explore our “song,” walking through the hymnal and singing our faith.