

Adult Studies



*Fall
2020*



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



Living as Disciples of Christ – Growing in Heart and Mind – Even Virtually!

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 Studies Team, you are invited to take a moment to review the many course selections for the upcoming 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 Nance-Allbright, M.A, C.C.E., Director of Christian Formation and Education, callbright@fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703 x 223

Since the day we heard about you, we haven't stopped praying for you and asking for you to be filled with the knowledge of God's will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding. We're praying this so that you can live lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way: by producing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:9b-10



SUNDAYS

Sunday Morning (Ongoing)

The Point

Room 227

We are professionals and students, parents and 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.

SUNDAYS

Adult Studies Classes: Online, Hybrid, and Small group in-person

Sunday Studies starting in OCTOBER:

- 9:00 a.m. The Point via Zoom using *Bible Project* curriculum
- 9:00 a.m. Enrichment Class via Google Meetings curriculum tba
- 9:00 a.m. and anytime access. Various studies pre-recorded.

Special Topic All Adult Class —

Season of Peace: Looking at the Border; Immigration Series

Sundays, September, 13, 20, & 27

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. via Zoom

**Led by professionals in the fields of border ministry,
immigration law, and advocacy**

What does a white man from South Carolina have in common with a Mexican woman from Chiapas? What is the current reality of immigration in the US and in NC? What is our Christian response to the immigration debate?

Join us for an opportunity to learn and grow on Sundays, September 13, 20, and 27, 2020 as we explore the topic of immigration. Adult studies classes will be led by experts in the field that have information and wisdom to guide us in dialogue about the immigration debate in the U.S. and our Christian response.

• **September 13** — class will be led via Zoom by leaders of the Presbyterian border ministry Frontera de Cristo. The Rev. Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar, P.C. (U.S.A.) Mission Co-workers, will help us explore theological and biblical perspectives of immigration and an up-close look at Presbyterian border ministry.

• **September 20** — class will be led via Zoom by Gerry Chapman, Immigration Attorney from Greensboro. Gerry will share the history of immigration to the US, the current reality, and his experience as an Immigration Attorney.

SUNDAYS

- **September 27** — class will be led via Zoom by the Rev. Frank Dew, Compassion, Peace & Justice Advocate in Salem Presbytery. Our discussion will include how we can live into our vision as a Matthew 25 church.



More information about each week's conversation can be found online. **Please sign up for the classes by contacting Charlotte Nance-Allbright (callbright@fpcburlington.org or 336-228-1703 x 223) so that you can receive the Zoom link.**

John Knox Fellowship Fall Schedule:

- September** — Immigration class with various speakers via Zoom
- October** — Understanding Revelation with Mickey Efird pre-recorded
- November** — pre-recorded classes by Anthony Hatcher and the Gratitude and Generosity Team
- December** — Celtic Spirituality with Nan Perkins and Bruce Shields

SUNDAYS

John Knox Fellowship: *Understanding Revelation*
Sundays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 (pre-recorded) —
Led by Dr. Mickey Efird

One of the most misunderstood and misused (even abused!!) books of our entire Bible is *The Book of Revelation* (no s, please). It is one of a number of curious books, known as apocalyptic, which were written in the late post-exilic period of Jewish history and was taken up by early Christians. In our Scripture we only have two examples of this type of literature, *Daniel 7-12* and *The Book of Revelation*. This study will try to unravel some of the mis-interpretations of that mysterious book and make sense of its message for today. To be honest, its message is quite appropriate for what is going on in the world in general and in our country in particular. It is fun to study and its message is powerful for Christians today.



SUNDAYS

Poetry Class: Selected Poetry of John Donne

Sundays, October 4–November 22

11:30 a.m. in-person in Mary Helen Long Garden

Led by Dr. Harry Brown



John Donne (1572-1631) is the most important of the seventeenth-century English metaphysical poets, including George Herbert, Andrew Marvell, and Richard Crashaw. He was born into an old Catholic family in an era when Catholics endured discrimination, but he became Anglican, developed into one of the greatest preachers of his day, and served as Dean of St. Paul's. We will read poems selected primarily from *Songs and Sonnets* and *Holy Sonnets*. The more worldly and secular poems — often love poems — sometimes have spiritual themes. Donne's poetry is not conventional or traditional in imagery, language, or theme. It is colloquial/conversational, dramatic, intellectual, psychological, and challenging. His poems are sometimes arguments in form. They use unusual comparisons — "conceits" — and avoid pretty, flowery imagery and mellifluous, regular meter. We will use *John Donne's Poetry: A Norton Critical Edition* (Second or Third Edition). Used paperback copies can be purchased on Amazon.

Please bring your own chair to this class.

WEEKDAYS



Galatians Mid-Week Study

Join us for a six-week Zoom **Bible Study of Paul's Letter to the Galatians** led by Dr. Lewis Galloway, a resident of Black Mountain and the former Senior Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. Galatians, which is one of the earliest letters of Paul, explores the question of how we are put in a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Knowing that our life in Christ is established by grace alone, we are called to live a life of Christian freedom.

Choose from one of two opportunities each week:

- **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday or**
- **10:00 a.m. on Thursday**

beginning Sept. 15/17 and ending Oct. 20/22

Each class is limited to 20 participants. Visit this link to be directed to the Signup Genius to register for one of the classes: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a44adae2ca4fe3-galatians>.

WEEKDAYS

FPC Lunch Bunch Book Club *READS* Again!

The FPC Lunch Bunch Book Club is ready to resume via ZOOM in September. The book club has chosen an exciting and diverse list of titles for this year's reads — titles that explore a number of topics and are sure to generate good discussion. We will also welcome several guest presenters this year which always is a treat. The club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon. Members who are already on the email list will receive a reminder email with the ZOOM address the week before the meeting. If you have not participated in the book club previously but would like to join now, please let Gayle Gunn know by email (gaylegunn@bellsouth.net) and she will include you in the meeting notifications.

This year's dates and titles include:

September 8, 2020	<i>The Dutch House</i> by Ann Patchett
October 13, 2020	<i>The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life</i> by David Brooks
November 10, 2020	<i>Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others</i> by Barbara Brown Taylor
December 8, 2020	<i>Maisie Dobbs</i> by Jacqueline Winspear
January 12, 2021	<i>The Life and Times of Persimmon Wilson</i> by Nancy Peacock
February 9, 2021	<i>Olive Kitteridge</i> by Elizabeth Strout
March 9, 2021	2021-2022 Selection Party
April 13, 2021	<i>Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption</i> by Bryan Stephenson
May 11, 2021	<i>The Hundred Story Home: A Journey of Homelessness, Hope and Healing</i> by Kathy Izard

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

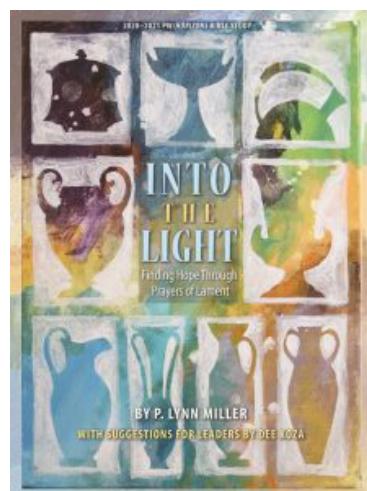
Any woman in the Church may choose to be active in Presbyterian Women. Join women of all ages, young and old, who are active in our circles. Your experience will include:

- Yearly dinner meetings in September and May for all circle members
- Special luncheons that highlight missions or spiritual enrichment
- Monthly circle meetings that offer fellowship, prayer and Bible Study
- Local and international mission opportunities
- Lifelong friends that are made in circles as we support one another in all aspects of our lives.

Current Study: *Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament* by P. Lynn Miller with suggestions for leaders

by Dee Koza.

The 2020-2021 PW/Horizons Bible Study revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world. One of the foundational points of the study is that, in scripture, lament usually leads to hope. After crying out to God, the one who laments remembers God. And while that doesn't fix things in the moment - the injustice, the loss, and the wrong still exist - the one who laments is strengthened to face the world and to hope. When we lament, we move from suffering to faith. In our faith there is hope. We lament in order to hope. Recovering lament may be one of the church's most timely gifts to the world. Explore lament with PW!.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle #	Day of Month	Time	Place
1	2nd Sunday	6 p.m.	John Knox Room
2	2nd Monday	10 a.m.	John Knox
3	TBA—Meets for lunch in December and May		
4	2nd Tuesday	7 p.m.	John Knox Room

Check the monthly church calendar to confirm dates, times and locations before you attend.

Please note:
Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the circles are currently not meeting at the church, but online via Zoom.

Please contact Elizabeth Bailey at jbailey15@triad.rr.com or 336-580-5807 for a copy of the new Presbyterian Women brochure!



CONTEMPLATIVE MINISTRY

Quiet Space for Reflection — Weekly Meditations from Jane Wellford

Tuesday mid-day Christian Meditation, 12:15-1:15 p.m. via email

This one-hour of *Lectio Divina* short reading and meditation is currently for you as an individual to read and meditate by yourself at your own pace through a guided one-page email weekly topic. When we resume in person meetings at the church after the COVID-19 virus, we will again use music and guided meditation to complement our shared reading discussions regarding our faith.

Jane Wellford, wellford@elon.edu

The reflection will be posted on our website on Tuesday mornings. Other meditations and spiritual practices are posted on our website, as well.



Christian Meditation Wednesdays, 7:45–8:45 a.m. by Zoom

One hour of conversation, reflection on a spiritual text, and silent meditation, for those seeking to create space in lives to become more aware of the Divine and to travel their faith journey with other pilgrims.

Contact Nan Perkins at 336-380-1778 or perkinsn@elon.edu

BIOGRAPHIES

BIOGRAPHIES FOR FALL TEACHERS

Immigration class:

Mark Adams is a native of Clover, South Carolina, and a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. He was ordained in 1998 and has served as U.S. Coordinator of Frontera de Cristo since that time. He is married to Miriam Maldonado Escobar, also a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-worker since 2011, and they have three children. Mark sees his 1994 border mission experience in Piedras Negras, Mexico, as foundational to his present ministry.



Miriam Maldonado Escobar is from the Mexican state of Chiapas and left home at age 18 to work at the border in U.S.- owned factories to help support her family. She and Mark Adams met when Mark came to Agua Prieta to serve at Frontera de Cristo. After working for several years alongside her husband, Miriam was invited in 2011 to serve as a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-worker. She works with DouglaPrieta Trabaja to help rehabilitation centers and families of the church, community and schools to grow their own food. She and Mark have three children.



Gerry Chapman has been a Board Certified Immigration Specialist since 1997. He graduated from UNC-CH in 1973 with a BA in International Studies and received the UNC Educational Foundation Award the same year. In 1978, he received his JD, cum laude, from the University of Georgia School of Law. Mr. Chapman is co-founder of the North Carolina Legal Immigration Coalition. Mr. Chapman has authored articles in several AILA publications, co-edited the 2007 AILA Handbook on Workplace Enforcement, has lectured at immigration seminars in the United

States and abroad, and served as Immigration Commentator for Triad Business Journal in 2011. He has been heavily involved in AILA's efforts to secure immigration reform on a national level. Mr. Chapman and his wife, Linda, have two children and five grandchildren.

BIOGRAPHIES

Frank Dew is the founding pastor of New Creation Community Presbyterian Church and Chaplain at Greensboro Urban Ministry. Currently serves as Peace and Justice Advocate for Salem Presbytery and encourages churches in Salem Presbytery to embrace the Matthew 25 vision.



Galatians class:

Dr. Lewis Galloway is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Presbyterian Seminary (D.Min.; Th.M.). He is married to Dr. Eleanor (Bunny) Alexander who is also a Union graduate, a PCUSA pastor and a Pastoral Counselor. They are the parents of three grown children and have two grandchildren. They have recently moved to Black Mountain after serving in Indianapolis for 14 years. Bunny served as a pastoral counselor at Centerpoint Counseling Center and Lewis served as the Senior Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church. Prior to moving to Indianapolis, Lewis served churches in eastern North Carolina, Norfolk, Virginia and Columbia, South Carolina. When he served as Pastor of the Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, he was active in racial reconciliation ministries, social justice issues and homeless concerns. He was the President of the South Carolina Council of Churches, the Cooperative Ministry and the Chair of the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness. He has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Union Presbyterian Seminary and is currently on the Boards of Davidson College and Montreat Conference Center. While he was at Second Indianapolis, he served as the Program Director of the Lake Fellow Residency Program in Parish Ministry and the Chair of the Interfaith Hunger Initiative.



BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. James "Mickey" Efird received his A. B. from Davidson College in 1954, his M. Div. from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1958, and his Ph. D. from Duke University in 1962. He has taught in the Duke Divinity School since 1958 and was a full-time member of the faculty since 1962. Dr. Efird is now honorably retired by New Hope Presbytery and is presently Professor Emeritus of Biblical interpretation. Further, Dr. Efird is an ordained Presbyterian (USA) minister and has served as interim pastor for churches when they are without a full-time minister, mainly Presbyterian, for over 50 years. Dr. Efird is the author of fourteen books and the editor of three others. He has published over sixty articles, many in the Harper Collins One Volume Dictionary of the Bible. A video series of Dr. Efird's teaching the entire Bible has been produced by the Carolina Broadcasting Company in Raleigh.



Dr. Harry Brown holds degrees in English from Davidson College, Appalachian State University, and Ohio University; he has published six collections of poetry and co-edited an anthology of Kentucky writing. After teaching for over forty years in the English Department at Eastern Kentucky University, he has returned to NC and lives with his wife, Alice, at Twin Lakes.



Jim Pace is Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies at Elon University. He received a B.A. degree from Birmingham-Southern College, a M.Div. degree from Emory University, and a Ph.D. degree from Emory. His area of specialization is Old Testament Studies and his major research has been in the field of archaeology. Jim has traveled and excavated in the Middle East for over forty years. He has served as co-director of the Karak Research Project, an archaeological project that conducted excavations in central Jordan, and has led numerous study tours and travel seminars throughout the Middle East. Jim retired in 2010 after teaching at Elon for thirty-seven years.

