

Idlewild Presbyterian Church

Christian Education

Classes, guest speakers, forums, study groups and choirs for all ages and all interests

January–May 2012

Christian education, fellowship and support are vital in the life of our church. From Sunday morning classes and weekday study groups to monthly gatherings and outings — there really is something for everyone!

Adult Church School Classes

Visitors, newcomers, and familiar faces are welcome! All classes meet 9:40–10:40 a.m.

For information contact Gayle Walker, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministry, at 726–4681 ext. 46 or gwalker@idlewildchurch.org.

A COVENANT CONVERSATION

[Room 302W, Jones Bldg.]

JANUARY 15 | JESUS IN CONTEXT: A FOCUS ON THE FOUR GOSPELS

The Bible says what?! Read the Bible together to understand how historical contexts in which its stories arose affect its meaning for today. What did it mean when it happened? What did it mean when it was written down? What does it mean now? Through sustained (sometimes hilarious) conversations, we seek to understand how the Bible continues to be the word of God for the people of God. Led by Dr. Kendra Hotz, Rhodes College Department of Religious Studies.

PATHFINDERS CLASS

[Room 303W, Jones Bldg.]

JANUARY 15-29 | JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN

January 15 | We will discuss the PC(USA) report “Loving Our Neighbors: Equity and Quality in Public Education (K–12)” and Idlewild tutoring and backpack initiatives with Memphis City Schools. The report discusses the challenges to public education posed by growing economic divisions and new demographic realities in our society. It examines the multiple economic, racial and ethnic, and social disparities that weigh down our current education efforts and impede them from fulfilling their societal role. Led by the Rev. Margaret Burnett, Idlewild Associate Pastor and Anne Bradley Thomas, Chair of the Church in the World Committee.

January 22 | Nutrition. Memphis City Schools’ new Director of Nutrition Services Tony Geraci talks about his school meal initiative, aiming to create a large garden to fill menus with fresh produce and expand meals to breakfast and after-school.

January 29 | Shelby County School Unification. Work is already underway to merge Memphis City Schools and Shelby County Schools into one, unified county system by August 2013. Other major metropolitan areas in Tennessee have already completed this process. What can we learn from their experience and how can we ensure our elected and appointed officials create the best possible public education system serving the needs of all children? Led by Gretchen Stroud.

CINDY BOLBACH

PC(USA) Moderator

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

9:40 a.m. Adult Forum and Q&A (T.K. Young Room)

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Ms. Bolbach will be preaching in both Worship Services

12:15 p.m. Reception for Ms. Bolbach and new officers

More details at www.idlewildchurch.org/specialevents

TIMOTHY CLASS

[T.K. Young Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

JANUARY 8 | ADULT FORUM

PC(USA) Moderator Cindy Bolbach, Ruling Elder. For more information, see www.pcusa.org.

JANUARY 15–FEBRUARY 12 | MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

In January, we will seek to understand the different faiths in the Middle East through speakers from the Orthodox Coptic, Jewish and Islamic faiths as we further our understanding of the complex issues, economic, social, political, and religious, that influence the events in the Middle East today. **January 22: Ms. Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein**, Director of the Memphis Jewish Association. **February 5: Dr. Tewfik Rizk** of St. Mary and St. Rueis Coptic Orthodox Church.

FEBRUARY 26–MARCH 18 | AMERICAN CHRISTIANITIES

We look at the torrent of diversity that was unleashed by the Constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion and the religious vitality that still continues to a degree unique in the developed world. Specifically, we will look at Christian denominationalism, homemade varieties, and religious outsiders. Led by Dr. Lucie Bridgforth, who taught for 25 years at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia.

MARCH 25–APRIL 15 | EXPLORING THE CHURCH IN CUBA

March 25 | The History of Cuba and the Church led by Steve Montgomery

April 1 | Adult Forum with Dr. Rob Weingartner, Director of the Outreach Foundation (www.theoutreachfoundation.org)

April 8 | No Class: Easter Breads in the T.K. Young Room

April 15 | Chick Hill and son **Casey Hill** will speak on their experience in Cuba on a trip with the Outreach Foundation.

APRIL 22–MAY 13 | LOATHING & LOVING THE BIBLE

Loosely based on *Reading the Bible for All the Wrong Reasons* by Russell Pregeant. The way some Christians use the Bible turns many of the rest of us against the Bible. We know it is central to our faith but we largely trust specially-trained ministers and leaders we like to tell us what it means. This course will offer a fresh set of lenses to help us acknowledge strange and offensive material while centering on the dominant themes and plot. Participants will be exposed to the driving stories and poetic material that puts particular passages in context. The goal is to develop a sense of ownership between believer and text that moves, through maturity in faith, toward the text owning the believer. Led by the Rev. Dr. Walt Tennyson, Chaplain and Director, Bonner Center for Faith and Service, Rhodes College.

FEBRUARY 5–26 | FALLING UPWARD: A SPIRITUALITY FOR THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE

This study is based on the book by Richard Rohr who uses the image of life's two halves. In the first half of life, we focus on the foundations and create a container for life's questions. From there, having taken care of these basic elements of the faith journey, we are ready to fill the container with content. Filling the container means moving into the second half of life where we must be comfortable with change and willing to be stretched beyond our comfort zones, including the recognition of the power of the status quo in our lives. Led by the Rev. Dr. Walt Tennyson, Chaplain and Director, Bonner Center for Faith and Service, Rhodes College.

MARCH 4, 18, 25 | LIVING LENT

Drawing on *Seasoning Lent*, the healthy cooking devotional from the Church Health Center, this class will look at the "historical Lent" and explore ancient Lenten practices in new ways. Topics will include food and fasting, celebration, prayer, and worship. Led by the Rev. Stacy Smith, Idlewild's Parish Associate and Manager, Faith Community Outreach, Church Health Center.

March 11 | No Class: spring break

APRIL 15 & 29, MAY 6 | RELIGION, CONFLICT & RECONCILIATION

This course will focus on the role of religion in the modern world, particularly the ways religious traditions and institutions contribute to, respond to, and attempt to ease conflict. We will look specifically at attempts at reconciliation in post-conflict situations and the resources that religion provides in such situations. We will explore a number of case studies, including post-World War II Europe, post-apartheid South Africa, and Civil Rights era America. Led by Dr. Steve Haynes, Department of Religion, Rhodes College.

April 22 | No Class: NaCoMe Church Camp

STEPHEN CLASS

[Room 306W, Jones Bldg.]

read, reading [ME *reden* to advise, interpret..], from Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

The Stephen Class invites everyone who likes to read. The group chooses what to read, and class members facilitate discussions. We read to find interpretations of important issues in life; and, from time to time, we find advice that proves to be valuable. We pace our reading based on the difficulty of the book and the desire of the class for time for reflection. There are no pre-requisites, and persons who wish to audit the class are welcome! Contacts: Jim Cole, jpcoletn@bellsouth.net, and Bob Llewellyn, rrllewellyn@comcast.net.

JANUARY 1 | TOLSTOY'S "THREE QUESTIONS" A short story, facilitated by Stephanie Rodda and Phil Taylor.

JANUARY 8-29 | HURSTON, *THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD* Facilitated by Caroline Goodman.

FEBRUARY 5-19 | WOODWARD, *THE STRANGE CAREER OF JIM CROW* Facilitated by Jim Cole.

FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 18 | Reading to be decided by the class.

MARCH 25-APRIL 8 | IBSEN'S "HEDDA GABLER" Group reading and discussion; scheduled in advance of a production of the play at Theater Memphis in April.

APRIL 15-22 | TOLSTOY'S *THE DEATH OF IVAN ILYICH* Facilitated by Dorothy Kirsch.

APRIL 29 | RECAP OF "HEDDA GABLER"

MAY 6-20 | KANAFANI, *MEN IN THE SUN* Facilitated by Mimi Phillips.

COVENANTERS CLASS

[Room 106W, Jones Bldg.]

JANUARY 8-MAY 20 | WHAT KIND OF CHURCH IS GOD CALLING US TO BE? This study is based on the Acts of the Apostles, using Luke's narrative of the beginnings of the Christian Church with the Ascension of Jesus followed by the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. We will follow the account of how the earliest disciples spread the Good News of Jesus' life, death and resurrection from Jerusalem, into Judea and Samaria and finally across the Empire to Rome, planting the seeds of what would become "the Holy, Catholic Church." The class will consider the mission to which God may be calling us as a congregation and a denomination in our day and in the decades to follow. Led by Denton McLellan, Parish Associate.

LEMASTER CLASS

[Room 114E, Jones Bldg.]

JANUARY 1 | An in-depth Bible study with strong teaching and careful textual analysis, led by Lewis Donelson. Study: The Gospel of John. Contacts: Tom and Nola McKnight, nolatom@earthlink.net.

JOHN KNOX CLASS

[Conference Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

JANUARY 1 | This intergenerational group discusses the great relevance of the scriptures and how we grow as followers of Jesus, practicing our faith every day. Study is *Six Amazing Bible Stories to Strangely Warm Our Hearts* by James W. Moore. Led by Christy Hasselle and Ken Pfohl. Contacts: Allan and Lois Ruleman, 683-4462 or aruleman@bellsouth.net.

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AND FELLOWSHIP

[Session Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

JANUARY 15 | The Westminster Confession of Faith says that scripture is given by inspiration of God to be the rule of faith and life through the inward work of the Holy Spirit. This group meets each Sunday to study the Lord's Day lectionary texts and grow to form community among the young adults. Scripture selections and guided questions will be posted on the *Idlewild Presbyterian Church Young Adult* Facebook page. In addition this group schedules a once a month fellowship that include serving a meal for the Youth of Idlewild, checking out the Memphis music scene in different locales, pot-lucks in Idlewild members homes and meeting in local eateries. Led by Kevin Getman, Jennifer and Jeff Zsohar.

COLLEGE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Special college class offering in Lent. Look to the Lenten brochure and like us on Facebook: Idlewild Presbyterian Church Young Adults.

REFLECTIONS ON FAITH AND SEXUAL IDENTITY

JANUARY 22 , FEBRUARY 12, MARCH 25, APRIL 15
12:30–2:00 p.m. [Harlan Room, Sanctuary Building]

A four-part series exploring same-sex relationships in light of our Biblical faith and Reformed tradition, along with the latest scientific and medical perspectives.

A light lunch (\$5) will be served at 12:30 p.m. in the Harlan Room followed by a presentation and discussion. Lunch reservations are helpful but not necessary; childcare provided upon request on the Monday before a particular Sunday (contact Brenda Harris, brenda@idlewildchurch.org).

For information or to register, contact Associate Pastor Gayle Walker, gwalker@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681.

Sunday, January 22 | Scientific and Medical Perspectives | This lecture/discussion will speak to two questions. First, where does our sexual identity come from? What are the sciences telling us about the origins and nature of an individual's sexual identity. Second, what effects on health and wellbeing are created by living in a community where one can be honest about who one is? Led by Dr. Jenny Vaydich, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Rhodes College.

Sunday, February 12 | Biblical Perspectives | The first of two presentations will be focused on the biblical texts and how we use the Bible in the Reformed tradition for moral deliberation and decision-making. Led by the Rev. Dr. Kendra Hotz, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Rhodes College; Senior Scholar in Religion and Ethics, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

Sunday, March 25 | Ethical Perspectives
This second presentation by Dr. Hotz will focus on setting forth a spectrum of Christian ethical perspectives on same-sex relationships building on the biblical texts and theological reflection from the previous session.

Sunday, April 15 | Theological Perspectives
This final presentation will address the question: what is the mission and calling of the church with regard to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender folks in its midst? We will look theologically at why we should be a church that commits itself to inclusion and what that might entail for our life as a community. Led by The Rev. Dr. Stacy Johnson, Professor of Systematic Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary, NJ. He is author of *A Time to Embrace: Same Gender Relationships in Religion, Law, and Politics* (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2006).

INQUIRERS CLASS

[Room 304W, Jones Bldg.]

MARCH 4–APRIL 15 | This seven-week series, hosted by the New Member Welcoming Committee, is held twice a year for persons who desire and are discerning a life of discipleship to be lived out through the daily life and work of ministry at Idlewild Presbyterian Church. Pastors and members invite discussion, wonder and testimony about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ at Idlewild Presbyterian Church in worship, bible study, prayer and service with Christ in the church and out in the world.

Topics include: Biblical discernment, what it means to be Presbyterian (theology & history), the history of Idlewild, opportunities at Idlewild, and a tour of the church. If you would like to attend the next Inquirers Class please contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681.

March 4 | We are the Church Together as Presbyterians

What does it mean to be a Presbyterian—and what has that looked like historically at Idlewild? Led by Pastor Steve Montgomery.

March 11 | We are the Church Together as Disciples

What does it mean to be a disciple—looking through the lens of scripture (Matthew 28:1-11) in community? Led by New Member Welcoming Committee members.

March 18 | We Are the Church Together in this Place

What does it mean to be rooted in a particular church home? How does architecture influence and shape what it means to be disciples in a particular place? Church tour led by New Member Welcoming Committee members and Mr. Jim Eikner.

NOTE: Church tour begins at 9:40 at the sanctuary west doors. This is a walking tour with Jim Eikner, accompanied with a guide book.

March 25 | We are the Church Together Beloved and Baptized

What does it mean to say, “Look what love that God has given us that we might be called children of God, and so we are.” (1 John 3:1) What do you “wonder?” Led by New Member Welcoming Committee members.

April 1 | We Are the Church Together in Ministries of Grace

What are the opportunities for ministry in the life of Idlewild? Who and how do we become involved? Led by New Member Welcoming Committee members and program staff.

April 8 | We Are the Church Together in the World

How is the PC(USA) involved in God's Mission in the World? The class meets in the TK Young Room with the entire church family this Easter Morning to Celebrate Easter Breads Around the World with breads baked by congregation members.

April 15 | We Are the Church Together

What are the opportunities for Adult Education ministry at Idlewild? How do we integrate into a class? Members are escorted to adult Sunday school class offerings. Led by New Member Welcoming Committee members.

Adult Study and Fellowship Groups

Visitors, newcomers, and familiar faces are welcome! All classes meet 9:40-10:40 a.m.

There's more to Christian education than Sundays! Get involved in study programs, discussion groups, and fellowship for adults.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women study circles and fellowship are for women of all ages. Contact Mary Lee Schaefer, 685-1315.

Quarterly gatherings are on the third Tuesday of January, April and May, with programs and lunch. Circles meet the first Tuesday of each month, February–May. (Locations announced in the Sunday bulletin). This fall's study is *Blessed Are You: The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life*.

FRIDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST

[T.K. Young Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

Fridays, 7:00–8:00 a.m. (begins January 13)

All men are welcome! Facilitated by members, the program consists of rotating speakers addressing a variety of topics. For men of all ages, this is an opportunity to hear a timely message while enjoying a breakfast buffet (\$5) and great fellowship. Convener: Ted Cashion, 277-4124 or ted.cashion@mac.com.

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

MONDAY, JANUARY 23 AT 6:30 P.M.

Our friend and colleague Rev. Stacy Smith will lead us in a discussion using stories from her new book *Bless Her Heart*. Written with grace and humor, along with theological reflection, the book, intended to address the challenges faced by young clergywomen, embraces the issues that many women experience in their daily lives at work and play. It is all there: shoes, sex, dating, marriage, remarks that startle.

Join us at 6:30 p.m. for desserts/drinks. Stacy begins discussion at 7:00. Check the Facebook Page, Idlewild Presbyterian Church Young Adult for location. For more information, contact Gayle Walker 726-4681 or gwalker@idlewildchurch.org. Mark your calendar to continue the discussion on February 27, March 19, April 16.

NATURAL SPIRITUALITY

[Conference Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

1:30–3:00 p.m. Alternate Mondays (begins January 9)

This women's discussion group explores ways of getting in touch with one's spirituality through dreams and other less traditional means. Study: Karen Armstrong's *The Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*. Convener: Corinne Nienhuis, 726-4681 ext. 13 or corinne@idlewildchurch.org.

A FAMILY POTTERY EXPERIENCE

Thursday, April 12, 4:00–5:30 p.m. [Pottery Studio, 104W Jones Bldg.]

In baptisms at Idlewild, a child asks the other children gathered on the steps, "Will you teach *him/her* the stories of Jesus?" On Thursday, April 12, the Recreation and Evangelism Committees will host a Family Pottery experience where families of all sizes and formation can come together and form a missional nativity scene to be used in the home, related to a story about Jesus. This will be hosted alongside our More Than Art ministry. A \$5 donation for clay and glaze will be appreciated, but not required for participation. Led by Anne H.K. Apple and Ashley LaRue.

CLASSES IN NEW TESTAMENT GREEK

[Church Library, Sanctuary Bldg.]

Monday, Reading Group 5:00–6:00 p.m.

Thursday, Beginning Group 5:00–6:00 p.m.

Classes in New Testament Greek will continue under the leadership of Dr. Milton P. Brown. A reading group meets Mondays from 5:00–6:00 p.m. in the Church Library. Persons with a basic knowledge of Koine Greek are welcome to sit in as the group translates the book of I Corinthians. A beginning group meets on Thursdays from 5:00–6:00 p.m. in the church library. Anyone interested may contact Ernest Kelly at horselovers@aol.com or 725-9165.

GALLERY1750: The Art of Photography- A Spiritual Discipline-Widening Our Vision and Understanding of God

[Harlan Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

January 5, February 2, March 1, April 12 and May 3.

An Idlewild-based photography group will meet the first Thursday of the month at 6:00pm. The group is open to all but the size is limited to 17 so registration is required. Any skill level and type of camera are appropriate and welcomed. See www.gallery1750.com and contact Page Williamson at gallery1750@gallery1750.com for more information and registration. (Class will not meet June, July or August.)

OLDER, WISER, LIVELIER SENIORS

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors) group meets monthly to take day trips, hear guest speakers, and enjoy great fellowship. Please contact Regina Benson, 458-2970, for more details about these upcoming events.

No trip is planned for January. Programs for February through May will be announced in the church bulletin.

OWLS Book Club meets in the Church Parlor 10:30–12:30 on the 4th Tuesday (January 24, February 28, March 27, April 24 and May 22.) Bring a sandwich for lunch and join the discussion. To find out what the group is reading call Regina Benson, 458-2970.

DINNER GROUPS

FIRST FRIDAY EAT-OUT GROUP

Contact Carol Good, 726-4681

THIRD FRIDAY EAT-OUT GROUP

Contact Ann and John Fain, 682-9813

WEDNESDAY MORNING STUDY

[Room 304W, Jones Bldg.]

Meets Wednesdays, 9:30–11:00 a.m. Led by knowledgeable teachers. Come to any or all classes.

JANUARY 11–FEBRUARY 15 | APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE: GLIMPSES OF THE KINGDOM

A survey of apocalyptic literature from the prophets (Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel) through the extra canonical books, such as Enoch, and into the New Testament (Mark and Revelation). We'll look at the circumstances from which these books spring, typical language and motifs, and the tangible glimpses of God and the kingdom that these books allow us to see. Led by Martha Kelly, Idlewild Member and Artist for *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*.

FEBRUARY 29–MARCH 28 | THE BURDEN OF SOUTHERN HISTORY

From eight different historic perspectives, C. Vann Woodward, dean of 20th century Southern historians, probes deeply into the collective Southern consciousness to explain what makes our region distinct and vitally important. John Brown's raid, the bitterness and unkept promises of Reconstruction, and the Populist revolt are among the themes Woodward examines in a tour de force of historical inquiry, culminating in his classic essay, "The Irony of Southern History." Led by Jim Cole.

APRIL 11–MAY 9 | THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

We celebrate the 400th anniversary of the most amazing English translation of the Bible. Its influence has gone beyond religion to affect all subsequent literature, the speeches of Lincoln, and the rhythm and images of the language itself. We will look at the colorful age and the interesting characters that produced it as well as considering the text itself. For reading on this topic, you will enjoy *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible* by Adam Nicholson. Led by Ernest Kelly.

IRA PROGOFF JOURNALING WORKSHOP: LIFE CONTEXT

For those looking to deepen and nurture their inner lives

Register by January 16: 10 spaces open

Presented by Idlewild Presbyterian and Calvary Episcopal Churches

Gain a perspective on your life. Develop awareness as you explore prior events, interest, and feelings in the privacy of your own journaling. Gain insights about major areas of your life: personal relationships; career, interests, body and health.

JANUARY 28–29

Saturday 8:30–5:30 and Sunday 1:30–5:30

At Idlewild Presbyterian Church

Facilitator Dr. Ellen Faith, professor of teacher education at Christian Brothers University

Cost: \$65 for program fees and materials; generous scholarships available to all participants

More details at

www.idlewildchurch.org/journalingworkshop

For further information and scholarships contact:

Rev. Gayle Walker (Idlewild) 726-4681

gwalker@idlewildchurch.org

RESOURCES FOR STUDY

THE CHURCH LIBRARY has an extensive selection of books and periodicals for loan and on-site study. Acquaint yourself with biblical study guides, theological texts, spiritual formation resources, and Christian fiction and nonfiction. Open Sunday mornings and weekdays by appointment (726-4681).

TEACHER RESOURCE LIBRARY [Jones Bldg., 3rd floor east] Books, CDs, DVDs, teaching pictures, puppets and games for children and parents. Drake Bartley, librarian.

ChristCare Groups

Join a ChristCare group—a small community (5–12 people) sharing a common interest or life experience. Led by committed members of the church, the groups meet regularly to care for one another, help one another grow in faith, and support one another in Christian discipleship. Contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681 ext. 43.

ADDICTION CONCERNS: IMPACT

(EJ Baird)

This group meets monthly in members' homes. Members of this group are people affected by addiction: some are addicts; some are married to addicts; some have children or siblings who are addicts. Members support each other, read and discuss books with a common interest, and are available for prayer requests and personal contact between meetings.

IDLEWILD GAY STRAIGHT FELLOWSHIP GROUP

(Martin Donaldson)

Called by God, this group with open minds and loving hearts gathers to celebrate God's vast love, to strengthen and be strengthened by one another amidst our diverse sexual identities, and to share the good news that at Idlewild "all who enter find a home." This group meets the fourth Sunday of each month in members' homes following the 11:00 service and serves at MTAM on the last Thursday of each month.

KUM BA YAH: NOT EMBARRASSED STRUMMING

(Steve Berger)

People of all skill levels gather to play and sing gospel folk music. Bring your instruments and/or voices to share and learn new and old familiar songs, and along the way, get to know your brothers and sisters in Christ a bit better. This group meets once a month in members' homes. The group occasionally plays in worship and serves with their musical gifts at MTAM each 5th Thursday.

MEN IN MID-LIFE

(Steve Haynes)

[Room 305W, Jones Bldg.]

This group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening of each month from 6:00–7:30. This group is for men in the middle of life who are looking for a place of support, encouragement and challenge. It will deal with the tensions in men's lives between family and career, success and fulfillment, ambition and service. Men of any age are welcome.

MEN IN MID-LIFE (Mike Bruno)

[Room 305W, Jones Bldg.]

This group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening of each month from 6:00–7:30. This group is for men in the middle of life who are looking for a place of support, encouragement and challenge. It deals with the tensions in men's lives between family and career, success and fulfillment, ambition and service. Men of any age are welcome.

PARENTING YOUNG CHILDREN

(Blake and Catherine Schuhmacher)

[Room 301W, Jones Bldg.]

This group is for both men and women and will focus on the joys and struggles that accompany raising young children in today's society, as well as general daily struggles, faith in families, and ways to get involved in church and community activities.

Childcare available. The group meets bi-monthly from 6:00 -7:30 on Wednesday nights at the church.

PARENTING

Meets every other week during the day in women's homes to discuss issues of parenting, and focuses on the joys and struggles that accompany raising young children and seeks resources to undergird parenting.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND PRAYER

(Mimi McDugle)

Meets every other Monday evening, rotating through group member's homes. Women and men of all ages explore spiritual formation and prayer through directed reading.

SPIRITUAL THEMES IN MOVIES

(Roscoe Feild and Phil Taylor)

Meets once a month, rotating through group member homes, and shares a meal and discusses a film.

THEOLOGY AND THE ARTS

(Corinne and Art Nienhuis)

Explores ways to experience the Transcendent through art forms such as music, painting, theater, and literature. The group meets in homes or at art events as decided by the membership.

WEDNESDAY WOMEN GROUP

(Anne H.K. Apple)

[Room 303W, Jones Bldg.]

Open to women of any age who seek to create a caring group of women who study the bible or a theological reading and meets the first three Wednesday evenings of the month from 6:15–7:30 p.m. to study and pray and the fourth Wednesday evening to fellowship with both the Wednesday and Sunday evening fellowship.

WOMEN'S SUNDAY EVENING CHRISTCARE GROUP

(Anne H.K. Apple)

[Pottery Studio, Room 104W, Jones Bldg.]

This group seeks to create a caring group of women who study the bible or a theological reading and meets the first two Sunday evenings of the month from 6:15-7:30 to study, pray and play in clay and join with the Wednesday evening group the fourth Wednesday evening of the month to fellowship with both the Wednesday evening Women's group meeting in people's homes.

DISCIPLE: INVITATION TO ROMANS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11–MARCH 14

6:15–7:30 p.m. | Room 304W Jones Bldg.

Led by Pastor Steve Montgomery

It is difficult to overstate the importance of Romans in Christian tradition. Some of the great formers and reformers of church teaching were themselves formed by their reading of Romans.

As a result, Paul's teachings in Romans come to us mediated through the history of the church's interpretations of his letter.

The challenge of reading Romans, then, is to learn to have our own interpretive conversation with the text itself, in spite of centuries of commentary on the text.

One of the aims of this study is to invite us into conversation around several key themes: (1) Paul's emphasis on communal salvation; (2) the centrality of God's righteousness; and (3) the relationship between Jews and Gentiles and the relationship of both to God.

Participants make commitment to study the lesson, which is built around reading assigned passages (about 30 minutes a day). Classes are scheduled around holidays and special church events. Cost of the book is \$10. For more information or to register, contact Gayle Walker, gwalker@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681 ext. 46.

Childcare available through senior kindergarten. Older children attend the WELL programs.

TESTING THE WATERS...

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18–APRIL 11

6:00-7:30 p.m. | 302W, Jones Bldg.

"It is not often that I engage in something that I know for sure has changed my life, rearranged my thought process, made me look at things in a whole new way; you could say 'the way'. But Servant Leadership has been that experience for me. The questions planted in my brain reverberate, deepening."—Ellen Morris Prewitt, award winning author.

This course affirms that we are chosen as the beloved children of God and called to take on the nature of Christ in all our endeavors and relationships. Embracing this truth is a journey into the very heart of servant leadership. Over a 12-week period, participants will be challenged to...

EXPLORE core servant leadership themes of Being and Becoming the Beloved, the Dream of God, Building the Beloved Community, Power, Money, Reconciliation and Call;

EXAMINE the relationship between the inward journey of prayer, contemplation and study of scripture and the outward journey of relationships with those made poor and/or marginal. During the class we will experience living into the spiritual disciplines of a covenant life;

ENGAGE in weekly assignments, share our stories and reflections as they relate to the one holy story, listen with curiosity to the stories of others and do all of this with commitment and consistency.

The class will read *Cry Pain, Cry Hope* by Elizabeth O'Conner, *Tattoos of the Heart* by Gregory Boyle, and *Let Your Life Speak* by Parker Palmer.

Led by the Rev. Billy Vaughan, an ordained United Methodist pastor and the founder and staff member of the Memphis School of Servant Leadership; and the Rev. Gayle Walker, Associate Pastor at Idlewild Presbyterian Church.

Registration limited to ten people. For further information or to register, check Idlewild's website www.idlewildchurch.org or contact Gayle Walker at gwalker@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681.

Children's Church School Classes

Church school is Sunday from 9:40 to 10:40 a.m. Classrooms and nursery are in the Jones Bldg. For information about children's programs contact Elizabeth Houston, Director for Children's Ministry, at 726-4681 ext. 33 or ehouston@idlewildchurch.org.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP & CHILDCARE

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship services!

8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

Childcare for infants through kindergarten is offered Sundays during the 8:30 service. [Nursery, Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east]

11:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Nursery care for infants through two-year-olds is offered during the 11:00 service. [Nursery, Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east]

For ages three through kindergarten, Children's Church Continued (C3) begins after Time with the Younger Church in the 11:00 worship service. Children leave the Sanctuary and go with helpers to Rooms 203–204W for worship, Bible stories, crafts and playtime. Parents should pick up their children immediately after the service.

INFANTS, TODDLERS, TWO-YEAR-OLDS

All infants through two-years-olds go to the Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east.

Infants [Nursery Room] Loving, nurturing care is provided for the littlest members of our church family.

Toddlers [Room 211E] A monthly theme and weekly routine provide these active members with lots of learning opportunities.

Two-Year-Olds [Room 212E] explore simple Bible stories using Cokesbury's Rock-A-Bye curriculum, and have lots of time for active play. Led by Sam and Melanie Stewart.

PRESCHOOLERS

Preschoolers are in the Jones Bldg., 2nd floor west. Using the BibleZone Live! curriculum, preschoolers explore the world through Bible stories, songs, play and joyful noise as they experience sights, sounds, tastes, smells and textures.

Choirs for All Ages

For more information about music programs please contact Ted Gibboney, Organist and Music Director, at 726-4681 ext. 12 or gibboney@idlewildchurch.org.

ADULT CHOIR

New members always welcome! Rehearsals are Thursday evenings in the Choir Room. Rehearsal for worship is 7:00-8:00; rehearsal for concerts/special projects is 8:00-9:00.

YOUTH CHOIR ENSEMBLE

Middle and high school (grades 7–12) youth prepare for special projects. Dates/times TBA.

Three-Year-Olds (out of diapers) [Room 204W] Led by Paula Gartrell and Catie Ward.

Junior Kindergarten [Room 203W] Led by Martha Young, Anne Phillips and Margaret Burnett.

Senior Kindergarten [Room 202W] Led by Leslie Aclin, Jenny Haddad and Ali Hill.

Cherub Choir [Room 201W] for junior/senior kindergarteners rehearses Sundays at 9:40 a.m., the first half of church school. (See choir section for more details.)

ELEMENTARY (GRADES 1-6)

Classes are in the Jones Bldg., 3rd floor east. Grades 1-4 use the PC(USA) We Believe curriculum.

Grade 1 [Room 310E] Led by Amy Sharp and Nancy Wilson. Shepherds: Marcus and Jessica Scott.

Grade 2 [Room 311E] Led by Jennifer Vest and Maizie Rhea

Grades 3-4 [Room 312E] Led by Ruth and Scott Young, Dawn Kvande and Naomi Ragsdale. Shepherds: Lane Faughnan, Ray and Dana Brandon.

Grades 5-6 [Room 309E] Led by Michael and Melissa Peeler, Mac and Ashley Coffield, Melissa Grimes and Jonathan Jones. This class has units on Sacraments, God's Covenant and Kingdom and Justice.

Primary & Junior Choirs for first-sixth graders rehearse Wednesday evenings. (See choir section for more details.)

SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 | CHILDREN'S COMMUNION WORKSHOP for first graders and parents

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | BIBLE PRESENTATION TO SECOND GRADERS

MONDAY, JUNE 4–THURSDAY, JUNE 7 | VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep with God"

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Cherub Choir (junior and senior kindergarten) rehearsals are Sundays at 9:40 a.m. (first half of church school) in Room 201W. (Rehearsals begin January 8.) Cherubs will sing in 11:00 worship on April 1 and May 13.

Primary and Junior Choirs rehearse Wednesday evenings in the Choir Room: Primary (1st–3rd graders) 5:00–5:40, Junior (4th–6th graders) 5:00–5:50. (Rehearsals begin January 11.) These choirs will sing in 11:00 worship services on January 15, February 12, March 4, April 1 and May 13.

Youth Study and Fellowship

There are two youth groups: Junior High (7th-8th graders) and Senior High (9th-12th graders). For youth information contact Frank Kelly, Director of Youth Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 14 or fkelly@idlewildchurch.org; or Dara Bigger, Assistant Director of Youth Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 37 or dbigger@idlewildchurch.org.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Classes are 9:40-10:40 a.m. A lectionary-based curriculum of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is used.

JUNIOR HIGH

[Room 105W, Jones Bldg.]

SENIOR HIGH

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

SUNDAY EVENINGS

Youth groups share dinner, games, worship, discussion and fellowship. Details about Sunday programs and other events are sent to youth and parents each week.

JUNIOR HIGH | 4:30-6:15 P.M.

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

SENIOR HIGH: 6:00-7:30 P.M.

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

SR. HIGH PRAYER BREAKFAST

Beginning Wednesday, January 11, youth will meet each Wednesday morning at Panera Bread (4530 Poplar), from 6:30-8:00 a.m. Youth provide their own transportation. No meetings during holidays.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | YOUTH SUNDAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 2-SUNDAY, MARCH 4 | PYC JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH RETREAT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 | BASIC SENIOR NIGHT

SUNDAY, MAY 13 | CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JULY 8-SATURDAY, JULY 14 | MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE

IDLEWILD MINISTERIAL AND PROGRAM STAFF



Stephen R. Montgomery
Pastor

Elizabeth Gayle Walker
Associate Pastor for Adult Ministry

Margaret Burnett
Associate Pastor for Outreach Ministry

Anne H.K. Apple
*Interim Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life*

Ted Gibboney
Organist and Music Director

Denton McLellan
Parish Associate

Stacy Smith
Parish Associate

Corinne Nienhuis
Lay Pastor

Stephen R. Haynes
Theologian in Residence

Elizabeth Houston
Director of Children's Ministry

Ashley LaRue
Director of Recreation Ministry

Anthony Albonetti
*Assistant Director of Recreation
Ministry*

Frank Kelly
Director of Youth Ministry

Dara Bigger
*Assistant Director of Youth
Ministry*

Rita Halpern
Children's Center Director

Cheryl Ward
Kindergarten Director

Henry B. Strock, Jr.
Minister Emeritus

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