



Spiritual Formation for Adults

January/February 2019



Sunday Morning Programs for Adults ~ 10:10 a.m.

JANUARY 6

Epiphany

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Bob Cox

Join Bob Cox to celebrate Twelfth Night, the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. Our video study of Epiphany will be led by Dr. Ken Bailey, who has inspired more than a few epiphanies through his videos.

Growing Up Under Occupation in Gaza

Classroom 6

Presenter: Mohammed Eid

Can you imagine what it would be like to live in the Gaza strip? Mohammed Eid, a 29-year-old Palestinian refugee, will share his story of growing up in Gaza under Israeli occupation. Schools are safe havens for young people during conflicts, and Mohammed will talk about the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees and how it provides education, food assistance, and health and job programs for over one million people struggling to survive. A graduate of UNRWA schools and a former UNRWA employee, Mohammed is now a Rotary Peace Fellow pursuing a master's degree in Global Studies and International Development through a joint program at the UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University in North Carolina.

JANUARY 13

Sneaky Salads

Classroom 5

Presenter: Kali Kniel

Perhaps you have seen the headlines related to foodborne illness and contaminated leafy greens. Ever wonder what causes these recalls and cases of illness that seem to be increasingly reported? In this class we will discuss contamination events and delve into the recent Romaine lettuce outbreak investigations. The last 15 minutes or so of this class will be devoted to your food safety questions.

Disadvantaged Students in Delaware Public Schools: What Is Done, What Results and What Does the Delaware Constitution Require

Classroom 6

Recently, the Delaware Court of Chancery declined to dismiss a lawsuit alleging that the Delaware Constitution requires the State to do more for disadvantaged students than is currently being done. Lawyers associated with the case will discuss in this class their differing views on what the Constitution requires, what is currently in place and what are the results of current practice. This class will give you an understanding of this lawsuit, which seeks changes in how the State funds public education.

<https://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/education/2018/01/16/civil-rights-groups-suedelaware-over-education-funding-low-incomedisadvantaged-students/1035423001/>

JANUARY 20

The Delaware Supreme Court: Race and Justice

Community Hall

Presenters: Chief Justice Strine and Justice Seitz

Chief Justice Leo E. Strine, Jr. and Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. of the Delaware Supreme Court will speak about race and justice in the Delaware courts. In the past several years, the Delaware Supreme Court has launched multiple projects to examine the problems of race and poverty in achieving civil and criminal justice and to identify potential reforms. Chief Justice Strine has said that these current efforts recognize that, although our Judiciary and State have had high moments in addressing racial discrimination, such as the iconic ruling of Justice Seitz's father, then Vice Chancellor Collins J. Seitz, in *Belton v. Gebhart* (ordering black students to be admitted to white schools), our state, including its Judiciary, has yet to truly remedy our lengthy history of racial inequality.

FEBRUARY 3

Wilmington's Riverside Community Selected as a 'Purpose Built Community'

Classroom 6

Presenter: Charles McDowell

A partnership among EastSide Charter School, Kingswood Community Center, Wilmington Housing Authority and REACH Riverside Development Corporation is working on a holistic neighborhood revitalization project for the Riverside public housing neighborhood and environs. Riverside is one of the most depressed areas in the state with high unemployment, high crime, low education levels and low incomes. The REACH partnership is following the successful strategies developed by nationally acclaimed Purpose Built Communities (www.purposebuiltcommunities.org), which aims to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty by installing high quality mixed income housing, a cradle-to-college/career readiness education pipeline, and health and wellness facilities/services to serve the revitalized neighborhood. Charles McDowell, Board Chair of REACH Riverside, will discuss this transformational initiative.

<https://www.delawareonline.com/story/news/2018/11/14/100-million-plan-would-revitalizewilmington-neighborhood/1946491002/>

FEBRUARY 10

A Conversation on Prayer: Some Mary Oliver Poems

Classroom 5

Facilitator: Steve Steinwedel

The wonderful poet Mary Oliver has some interesting things to say about prayer in several of her poems. We will take a deeper look into some of these poems in an attempt to further inform and hopefully help deepen our own prayer life.



FEBRUARY 10 – MARCH 3

The Gospel of Mark – Part 2

Classroom 6

Presenter: Greg Jones

This study of scripture will focus on the last half of the Gospel of Mark on the three Sundays of February and the first Sunday in March. Join us for an in-depth look at the life and teachings of Jesus, and the final week of his life. Previous knowledge of the gospels is not a prerequisite.

FEBRUARY 17

Let's Talk About It

Ruth Christie Room

White people are unaccustomed to talking about race and its implications in their lives. Yet, at some level, everyone recognizes that racism and prejudice have a profound impact on our communities and our country. We need opportunities to experience the challenges and benefits that come from bringing racial issues into the light of day. All are welcome to join in these conversations!

FEBRUARY 17 AND 24

Holy Partnership: Drawing Closer to Your Divine Companion

Classroom 5

Presenter: Chris Hyde

This program will explore how the mystics' experiences of divine companionship fits with modern psychology. The experiences of Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, and Julian of Norwich will be woven together with psychologists like Richard Schwartz (Internal Family Systems). This program uses didactic teachings, metaphors, images, poetry, music and experiential activities to explore how the insights of the mystics can help us as we face our human struggles and dreams.

