

## Adult Study Opportunities Fall 2009

All Bible study and spiritual formation courses taught at TUMC will be based on good scholarship and will be taught in a way that enables participants to clarify their understanding of the Gospel and readily discern the relevance of the content for faithful living. Ideally, our courses will clearly relate to **head, heart, and hands**.



### Here's how it works...

Unless otherwise indicated, registration is held through the church office by calling 472-3111 or emailing Nancy Russ at [nancy@tarrytownumc.org](mailto:nancy@tarrytownumc.org).

Any costs or other details related to specific courses are listed in the individual descriptions.

Please read them carefully. Throughout the course of the coming year, there will be other opportunities for short-term courses. We encourage you to watch the Chimes, weekly Sunday bulletin, and web site for updates.



## Adult Classes

### Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense

Dr. Robert Hall – Monday evenings, September 10–November 11, 2009

7:00– 8:30 p.m. A 10 week course based on the book by the same title written by N.T. Wright, Anglican Bishop of Durham, England, and materials provided by the Wesley Ministry Network of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.. The subject is the ancient Christian faith applied to the life and work of Christians in today's world. Robert says this about the course: "I taught this class 2 years ago and had so much fun that I wanted to do it again. The video presentations by Bishop Wright are engaging and the discussions are lively. This is an especially helpful course for those seeking an overview of traditional Christian beliefs and how these beliefs make a difference in daily life." Cost: \$25.00 to cover the cost of the book and workbook (Class limit: 12)

### Thank God It's Monday!

This will be a discussion led by Senior Pastor Robert Hall on books that lift up the weekday ministry of the laity in the workplace and beyond. Especially helpful for young professionals! You are asked to read the book in advance of the meeting. Robert will briefly present the gist of the book from his perspective and then we will discuss implications for our lives. Find your own books on Amazon.com or other sources, often at used book prices (since these are probably out of print.). A light meal will be served for an affordable price for those who give us at least 2 weeks notice. Child care available on request at least 2 weeks in advance of the dates by contacting Lauren Price, [lauren@tarrytownumc.org](mailto:lauren@tarrytownumc.org)

September 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Book: "*Half Time: Changing Your Game Plan from Success to Significance*," by Bob Buford, 1994, ISBN: 0-310-21532-3

October 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Book: "*The Monday Connection: On Being an Authentic Christian in a Weekday World*," by William Diehl, 1991, ISBN 0-06-061860-4

### Listening: The Key to Spiritual Growth

Sarah Hales Smith – October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, and 9, Tuesdays: October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10 Mondays 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. (or) Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30 p.m. We live in an environment in which quiet time and inner reflection run counter to the demands of our society. The inner voice is all too often drowned out by increasing demands for instantaneous and continuous communication. The ability to listen plays an important role in the spiritual formation of our prayer life - our connection to God through a deeper place in ourselves. "Listening: The Key to Spiritual Growth" is a six-week study where we will explore the meaning of contemplation, forces that mitigate against it, the prayer of Lectio Divina, Creating Holy Space and Discernment. Cost: \$10.00 (Class limit: 12). Sarah is a member of TUMC since 2003. A mother of two grown children and a grandmother, she holds a B.A. in Child Study from Stephens College, a Master of Arts in Religion from the Seminary of the Southwest, Completed a two year program with The Shalem Institute in Spiritual Direction and practices one-on-one Spiritual Guidance as her vocation.

### Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excuses

Rev. Ron Campbell – Thursdays from October 10–November 12, 12:00-1:30 p.m. or 7:00-8:30 p.m.

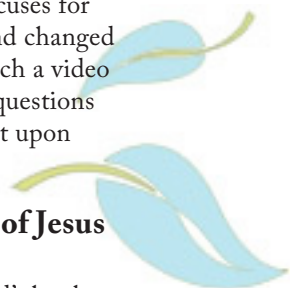
This is a 12 week study of James W. Moore's book by the same name. This video-based study centers on interviews with the author, in which he discusses what he has written and goes "behind the pages" of the book to share additional reflections and viewpoints about the subject matter. Dr. Moore brings years of experience as a preacher, pastor, teacher, public speaker, and author. In this book he takes a look at our human habit of making excuses for the bad choices we make, and describes what God really wants from us in the form of changed hearts and changed lives. Group members will read one chapter prior to the study session; come together as a group and watch a video interview in which the author talks about that chapter; then participate in a group discussion using the questions in the student book for that week. Each person will be encouraged to keep a journal in which they reflect upon what they have learned. Cost: \$20.00 (Class limit: 15)

### A Personal Encounter With The Sermon on the Mount: 40 Days With the Wisdom of Jesus

Dr. Jim Mayfield – Sundays, October 4–November 22 (skip October 11), 7:00–8:30 p.m.

"A Personal Encounter With The Sermon On The Mount" will involve daily readings from Jim Mayfield's book of meditations based on Matthew 5-7 and once a week conversation growing out of Jesus' sayings in Matthew 5-7 and Jim's book. Jim's hope is that for each of the participants this will be more of a personal encounter with the wisdom of Jesus contained in the Sermon On The Mount rather than an academic study about those sayings.

Participants will be expected to do the daily readings and participate in all the sessions. Cost: \$15 (Class limit: 15).





## Adult Classes continued...

### Disciple II

Rev. Barry Fulton – Beginning in September, a men's group will meet on Monday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and an open group will meet on Tuesdays from 12:00-2:00 p.m.. This class is a 32 week in-depth study of Genesis-Exodus in the fall and Luke-Acts in the spring. (Pre-requisite course is Disciple I) Requires 4-6 hours of reading per week outside of the 2 hour class. Cost: \$35.00 (Class limit: 12)

### Disciple III

Rev. Helen Almanza – Mondays, August 24 and run through mid-May with breaks for holidays. Mondays 12:00-2:00 p.m. or Mondays 7:00-9:00 p.m. This class is a 32 week in-depth study of the Prophets in the fall and Paul in the spring. (Pre-requisite course is Disciple I and II) Requires 4-6 hours of reading per week outside of the 2 hour class. Cost: \$35.00 (Class limit: 15)

### Embracing the Journey: The Way of Christ is the first section in the Companions in Christ series.

Leader: Cindy Stone – Wednesdays September 16-October 21, 12:00-1:30 p.m. or 7:30-9:00 p.m.

This is a small group course that focuses on an exploration of spiritual formation as an individual and corporate journey toward wholeness and holiness through the grace of God. "A spiritual life is simply a life in which all that we do comes from the centre, where we are anchored in God: a life soaked through and through by a sense of divine reality and claim, and self-give to the great movement of God's will." (Evelyn Underhill) Join us for this study where we look at Jesus' journey as inspiration and grounding for our own journey into spirituality. Cost: \$8.00 (Class limit: 15)

### The Third Generation Letters

Rev. Barrett Renfro – Mondays, September 28-November 2, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

We sometimes miss this group of New Testament letters written between 120- 130 BC. These letters are concerned about the growth, organization, and spirituality of the early church. These are letters of the next generations of Christians and they are good for lively discussion. Books considered: I & II Timothy, Titus, James, I & II Peter, I, II, III John, and Jude. Cost: \$25.00 (Class limit: 15)

### From Belief to Enlightenment

Rev. Barrett Renfro – Mondays, September 28-November 2, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

There is movement in the Christian life. We sometimes stagnate at the beginning beliefs and do not decide to move to enlightenment. This movement can be described in many ways. Lost to Found, Loss to Renewal, Pain to Blessing, Sick to Cured, Defeat to Victory, Exhausted to Restored, Diminished to Refreshed, and Death to Resurrection. This movement requires a self-conscious decision on the part of every Christian that seeks to grow in grace. The class will seek to outline and discuss this spiritual movement. Questions from each topic that will be considered: Who is God? Do you know Christ as Savior and Lord? Have you received the Holy Spirit? Do you know what the New Testament teaches about Spirit? As a Baptized Christian, do you know your work in the Spirit? Cost: \$25.00 (Class limit: 15)

### Men's Wednesday Morning Conversation

Dr. Robert Hall – All men are invited to gather at 6:45 a.m. each Wednesday in the conference room of the administration building to have conversation about the scripture text for the next Sunday's sermon. Coffee and snacks are available for breakfast. The group ends at 7:45 a.m. with prayer.

### Marriage Exploration Class

Led by Mart and Sue Hoffman

This course is a six week seminar given for couples that are newly married or are planning to marry. The goal of the seminar is to study and develop an understanding of the purpose, process, and pitfalls in the Christian marital relationship. Emphasis will be on the marriage vision, the strengths of the partners, expectations, communication, change management, sexuality, possessions and planning for the future. Sue & Mart Hoffman have been active Tarrytown UCM members since 1977. Sue is a licensed psychotherapist and Mart is an MSSW (retired) and now retired 4th grade teacher. They have two children, Andrew, 31 and Grayson, 28. Please register by Tuesday, September 8th. If you have questions, please call the church office or you may call Sue and Mart at 458-1711.

## More Information About Adult Courses at TUMC

### Child care Reservations

For all church events other than worship services and Sunday school, child care is available by reservation only. RSVP's are made directly through our Child Care Coordinator, Lauren Price, no later than 3 days in advance. Contact [lauren@tarrytownumc.org](mailto:lauren@tarrytownumc.org) or 797-9890. We will make every effort to provide childcare at the church for each of our course offerings. Occasionally, due to room or worker availability, we are unable to provide this service for daytime classes. Reservations for child care are not taken through the church office.

### Costs

The requested fees for the courses are based on the cost of the materials used.

We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity for these courses for financial reasons, so please contribute what you are able. Costs are listed with each course as needed.

### Registration

Registration is held through the church office by calling 472-3111 or email to [nancy@tarrytownumc.org](mailto:nancy@tarrytownumc.org). You are welcome to call the church office "after hours" or over the weekend and leave a message for Nancy.

