

YEAR-LONG CLASSES

FORMING US PARENTING CLASS

Want to deepen your connections with other NDPC parents and dialogue about the hard and holy work of parenting? The NDPC Parenting class seeks to foster community among our families and to teach, encourage and support the spiritual formation of children and parents alike. We offer a rotating schedule of topics and facilitators during the Sunday church school hour and hope to get back to in-person quarterly gatherings when it's safe. All parents and those who love our NDPC children are welcome to join us!

Facilitators: Kimberly Broerman, Andrea and John Morgan, and Shelly Roberts

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

THE ANTI RACISM TRACK

As a Matthew 25 church exploring ways to end Structural Racism, we will spend this school year with various classes addressing the approach of being an anti-racist as a Christian.

Facilitator: David Lewicki

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

FALL 2020

INTO THE LIGHT: FINDING HOPE THROUGH PRAYERS OF LAMENT

What is our response when we feel we can no longer manage a situation? We turn in confidence to God. This has been the response of the people for generations. We will examine the forms of lamenting prayers throughout the Bible, and even learn to write some of our own. The resource is the *Horizons Bible Study, Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. Participants are encouraged to purchase the study guide using this link:

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/product/into-the-light-finding-hope-through-prayers-of-lament/>. The guide is not required but is an excellent resource. If you would like the guide but need assistance with the cost please contact Marion (marion-reeves@comcast.net).

Dates: 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/2

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

Facilitators: Sarah Erickson and Marion Reeves

SHE'S MY SISTER: DEVELOPING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS AMONG WOMEN

November's lessons will invite us to discuss how healing, caring, and loving relationships can develop among women (Jephthah's daughter and the mourning women, Sarah and Hagar, Naomi and Ruth, and Lot's wife and her daughters) regardless of different culture backgrounds, race, and economic status. We will examine biblical passages and use our own creative thought to develop possibilities of the passages if the stories were told differently from the original authors. Each lesson will conclude with questions for thought and sharing one's concerns relating to the passage and our world.

Dates: 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

Facilitators: Kendra Peebles (Seminary intern for 2020-21)

ADVENT: WHAT DO WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT THAT BABY

Every year the Advent season generates excitement about the coming of the Christ Child. Which gospels actually tell the story of Jesus' birth? Is it one story? What is the significance of Mary, and why has the Reformed Tradition sidelined her? Join us for lively conversations, some great artwork, and, of course, samplings of the season's wonderful music.

Dates: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

Facilitators: Rick Neale and Rob Schoonover

FALL 2020

ANTI RACISM TRACK: VIOLENCE, NON-VIOLENCE, PEACEMAKING: TOWARD TAKING INFORMED ACTION

Violence is commonplace in our lives. It is in our schools and workplaces, our streets and our institutions, and yes, even in our relationships and our families. Violence is part of our history and a focus of our entertainment. It informs our policy and politics from the neighborhood police to our global politics. In this class, we first look frankly at the origins and forms of violence, in history, our society, and our own lives. In week two we will discuss racial violence in particular and non-violence as a response. In the final week we'll examine how we can become peacemakers as individuals, as a church community, and as a part of God's wider world.

Dates: 9/13, 9/20, 9/27

Location: (Virtual Via Zoom Until Further Notice)

Facilitators: Chet McQuaide, Kathleen Allen, Audra Grace, and Tim Merritt

SPECIAL EVENT WITH REV. BETH WALTEMATH

PRAY WITH YOUR WHOLE LIFE: A CONVERSATION WITH BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR AND SOPHRONIA SCOTT

The conversation takes place on September 10th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. You must register in advance through the Decatur Book Festival website which is listed below. Rev. Beth Waltemath speaks with two beloved writers about their recent books and the spiritual practices that sustain their writing and their living. Taylor is the bestselling author of *Altar in the World* and *Holy Envy*. Sophronia Scott is a journalist, novelist and author of *This Child of Faith: Raising a Spiritual Child in a Secular World*, a book that describes the spiritual practices she and her young son developed to handle his trauma and grief after being present in the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary and losing his close friend. This complex conversation will bring together ideas from Barbara Brown Taylor's work in the anthology, *Anchored in the Current: Discovering Howard Thurman as Educator, Activist, Guide, and Prophet*, and Sophronia Scott's upcoming book, *The Seekers and the Monk: Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton*.

<https://decaturbokfestival.com/session/pray-with-your-whole-self/>

UPCOMING CLASSES

Spring Topics

- Singing the Songs of Injustice (Study of the Psalms)
- End of Life
- Writing as a Spiritual Practice
- Creation Care

FALL 2020



**NORTH
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CHURCH**

We welcome all.

Adult Education Course Catalog