

Christian Education at RCPC Fall 2022



RALLY DAY Sunday, September 11

Come to a Rally Day breakfast catered by Scratch Biscuit Company at 10:00 AM. Let's celebrate the start of the fall season and learn about the many new Christian Education opportunities before us!

Adult Sunday School Offerings

September 18 - October 23

Continental Connections: Themes from the Life and Writings of Karl Barth and Eugene Peterson and What We Can Learn From Them

From May through July, Andrew and family traveled through Switzerland and Montana. Andrew's study for his sabbatical was to walk through the life of Swiss theologian Karl Barth and then to see the influences of Barth upon the Presbyterian minister and Montana native Eugene Peterson. Over these six weeks, Andrew will present stories from the lives of both men, tales of his journeys into their homelands and even their homes, and draw out lessons that might generate faithful living in us in the direction of the God we meet in Jesus Christ.

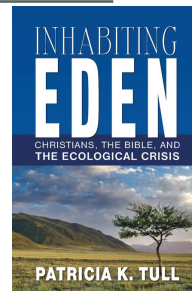
Teacher: Andrew Whaley / Room: Fellowship Hall

October 30 - November 20

The Seekers: Inhabiting Eden by Patricia K. Tull

In this thoughtful study, respected Old Testament scholar Patricia K. Tull explores the Scriptures for guidance on today's ecological crisis. Tull looks to the Bible for what it can tell us about our relationships, not just to the earth itself, but also to plant and animal life, to each other, to descendants who will inherit the planet from us, and to our Creator.

Teachers: Nancy Ayling and David Dixon / Room: 201



This is My Story: "Every Christian story needs sharing. We require a few other persons to whom we can tell our stories." - Eugene Peterson

One of the lessons Andrew hopes to bring more fully to life in our congregation is to see the hand of God working in the ordinary and routine moments of our earthly journey. The story of Christ is not only found in the Bible but in the way that his risen life is manifested in daily living now. This class will be a participatory one with some activities to work on during the week between sessions. We will be working on how to write about the places, the relationships, and the influences that have shaped our knowledge and relationship with God. Participants will be asked to write some of their own stories and to share them with the group. This will be vulnerable. There will be challenges. It might also be the revelation of God in our midst. Please email Andrew at andrew@rcpres.org if you wish to participate.

Teacher: Andrew Whaley / Room: 102

Prophets of God's Power to Save

This Bible discussion group will grapple with the issues raised in the Books of Malachi and Habakkuk, two very short Old Testament books very often quoted or alluded to in the New Testament. Both focus on God's plan, choices, loyalty, and the difficulty of understanding why God does these things. We will discuss traditional and modern approaches to understanding these two books, how they interplay with the rich traditions of Israel's relationship with God and the early Christians' relationship with Jesus shown elsewhere in the Bible, and how their proclamation can inform ours. Malachi (OT, Minor Prophet, 4 short chapters, 2 weeks), Habakkuk (OT, Minor Prophet, 3 chapters of poetry, 2 weeks).

Teacher: Mike Lockaby / Room: 101



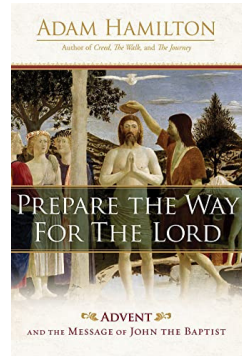
Adult Sunday School Offerings

November 27 - December 18 | Advent

The Seekers: Prepare the Way for the Lord by Adam Hamilton

For two thousand years, Christians have turned to the story and message of John the Baptist in the weeks leading up to Christmas. In *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist*, best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton explores the Advent themes of John's life and ministry, and how John calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts for his coming. (DVD Study)

Teachers: Nancy Ayling and David Dixon / Room: 201



The God of Love

The writer of the Gospel of John is also considered to have written three letters that are among the lesser-read letters in the New Testament. As Christians, and Reformed Protestants in particular, we tend to focus more on the letters of Paul. But John, in his First Letter, lays out an insistent message of love as the basis for life with God and each other, and uses a Trinitarian framework that contrasts with and enriches the Pauline framework. We will address textual issues, how the letter has traditionally been received theologically by different groups of Christians, and how its message of love and human involvement in God's intra-Trinitarian life impact how we might see our Christian lives and proclamation today.

Teacher: Mike Lockaby / Room: 102



Advent Creations: An intergenerational Adventure

Parents, children, and youth come join us for a hands-on exploration of creating some memorable Advent traditions that you can continue year to year. Create an advent wreath and an Advent Candy Land style calendar. Stuff a stocking for Family Promise and create a Nativity set for a church member who has lost someone they love in the past year.

Teacher: Leigh Sackett / Room: Fellowship Hall

Adult Small Groups

The Small Group lessons are based on the Sunday sermons and scripture. Being a part of a small group is an experience rich in personal connection and spiritual growth. In small groups we discuss what is shared in worship, therefore the experience of worship is more deeply ingrained into our minds and hearts. As we contemplate it all together the concepts take root and our faith grows! Small Groups begin the week of September 12.

Schedule:

Monday 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM - "The Pastor's Porch," led by Andrew Whaley

Tuesday 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM - "The Parking Lot Fools," led by David Dixon

Tuesday 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM - "Soul Sisters," led by Emilie Biddle - meets in various homes

Wednesday - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM - "The After-Dinner Crowd," led by Leigh Sackett, Room: 102



Young Adult Ministries

Young adults, you are invited to a dinner on Leigh Sackett's famous back deck on Friday, September 23 at 6:30 PM to ponder and discuss Christian Education opportunities for young adult ministries at RCPC. Come join us for discussion, fellowship, food, drink, and some rounds of Nine Square in the Air!



Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women is an organization for ALL women of Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church. Traditionally and currently our morning meetings occur during the months of September through May on the second Tuesday of every month from 10:15 AM-12:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Women gather to sign cards for shut-ins, collect donations for Turning Point, and leave a least coin offering for worldwide missions. The business meeting starts at 10:30 followed by a Bible study led by Ruth Marple. This year the Bible study curriculum is called *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. This study will examine the lives of women whose stories may have impacted Jesus, such as Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. The morning ends with a time of fellowship over a delicious lunch provided by Lisa Goad. In addition to the monthly morning meetings, a nighttime or weekend event is planned each month for all women to allow bonding and ellowship with the women of the church who work, have small children at home, or cannot attend morning meetings. Those events are advertised each month.



Youth Christian Education

Theme: Patterns of Discipleship



This year Youth Ministry is all about Patterns of Discipleship. As disciples of Jesus, we're called to be dedicated to the teachings of the church, the fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42). Jesus set before us a pattern to follow, he gave us actions that allow faith to take root in us and shape the way we live. These patterns of discipleship aren't big things rather small ordinary actions that reveal God's goodness more clearly to us like

prayer, reading scripture, serving the church, participating in worship, living the church calendar each year, and loving our neighbors As we explore these patterns of discipleship, we hope they become the patterns of our lives individually and ours as a youth group.

Sunday School follows a monthly pattern allowing youth 6th-12th grade to engage scripture in a variety of ways and to engage with each other.

- 1st Sundays - we'll practice Lectio Divina - an ancient form of reading the bible reading the passage being preached on.
- 2nd Sundays - we'll pray in Color - we'll engage the scripture being preached on with a prayer practice that doesn't require feeling like a creative person but a willingness to do a new thing.
- 3rd Sundays - We'll use the ELCA's Current Events for Youth Curriculum engaging scripture with a current event to grow in our skills of connecting scripture to the everyday.
- 4th Sundays - We'll play games together and continue growing together as a group.
- 5th Sundays - We'll engage the Scripture being preached on through role play.

Youth Group

From 6:00 PM-8:00 PM on Sunday evenings, we'll gather together for a meal, games, a lesson, and time in small groups. Within the pattern of our gatherings, we'll learn and explore various ways to pray, the church calendar, worship, and about Jesus' life and the patterns he set out for us to follow. During the year we'll have a chance to serve the church and participate in worship through Youth Sunday, Youth Choir and Youth Bells, and serve as acolytes. We'll love our neighbors through our HAT Collection, serving at the PCC, and building on what we learned this summer during our Hometown Mission Week. We'll have fun together, delighting in God, each week together, during special things like our Lock-Ins, Progressive Dinner, and looking ahead to summer trips.



Children's Christian Education

Nursery

Our nursery ministry provides the opportunity to introduce our littlest ones to their church and church family in a safe, fun, and nurturing environment. We provide care for infants through toddlers 3 years of age. The fall that your child is 4 years old we encourage you to make a transition to participate in the 11:00 AM service and Children's Worship.

The nursery is available on Sundays during the 9:00 AM worship service, Sunday school, and the 11:00 AM worship service. The nursery is also available for many of the special services and programs throughout the year.

Nursery Caregivers: Courtney Ralston, Kylie Ralston, Ayla Lampros

Youth Volunteer: Milee Hoffman

Infant Nursery: Room 1

Toddler Nursery: Room 2

Children's Worship

Following Children's Time in the Sunday worship services, children ages 4 through 1st grade will experience a worship service created for a young child. This service has the same four parts of worship that are experienced in the sanctuary but it has been designed for a child's developmental level. Together we "Assemble in God's Name," Proclaim God's Word, "Give Thanks to God," and "Go in God's Name." Adult and youth volunteers lead Children's Worship. You can be a leader too. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry please come attend the Children's Worship Workshop in the Fellowship Hall on September 18, following the 11:00 AM worship service.



Children's Sunday School



Frolic: 2, 3, and 4 year olds

As children grow they become more inquisitive about the complex world around them. They desire to hear the stories of the Bible, but they also desire to learn these stories in relationship to all that they encounter through their senses and experiences. Our curriculum, *Frolic*, provides our preschool-age children opportunities to encounter the stories of the Bible and to explore biblical concepts through role play, art, dance, and music.

Teachers: Courtney Ralston and Kylie Ralston / Assistant: Milee Hoffman / Room: 7



Holy Moly: Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Holy Moly for Kindergarten through 1st graders provides open ended opportunities of exploration where children learn the arc of the Biblical narrative by connecting the Bible to their life experiences. This year we will be incorporating role play and theater as the response time element to the Holy Moly curriculum.

Teachers: Kathy Sebolt and Jessi Beckett / Room: 9



Our Faith: 2nd Grade

Second grade is a BIG year of faith milestones at RCPC! Our second graders receive their Bibles, they graduate out of Children's Worship, and they learn all about the sacrament of Holy Communion and Baptism. We have incorporated these wonderful milestones and much more into a year-long curriculum exclusively for second graders. This class will prepare our second graders to attend worship in the sanctuary, familiarize our second graders with using the Bible and most importantly give our second graders a greater understanding of what we believe and why

Teachers throughout year: Susan Kessler, Frankie Doyle, Lisa Goad, Anne Travers, Debbie Nash, Ellen Austin, Andrew Whaley, Wade Whitehead, Isabella Fagiani, and Leigh Sackett

Room: 4



Bible Depths: 3rd-5th Grade

Upper Elementary age children are developing their abstract cognitive skills and are ready for a more intense and deep study of the Bible. We provide a 3-year study of the Bible for 3rd – 5th graders that allows children the opportunity to develop a thorough understanding of the Bible, which as they mature enables them to become better-informed Disciples who are ready to interpret how they feel called to serve God in the church and world. This year we begin in the Old Testament with Genesis!

Teachers: Jimmy Ward, Abby Pierson, Charles Richards, and Leigh Sackett
Room: 12



God Alive

Theme: *Do Not Be Afraid*

"DO NOT BE AFRAID, FEAR NOT, HAVE NO FEAR!" These words appear a lot in the Bible! God said to Abram - Do not be afraid. Joseph soothed his conniving brothers with these words, as well. Moses told God's people as they wandered through the wilderness - Do not be afraid! The Lord told Daniel in the face of a lion - Do not be afraid.

Many ordinary and extraordinary people acted bravely in the face of fear within the Bible - Joseph, Noah, Moses, David, Esther, Daniel, Mary, and Jesus, to name a few. And many people hid in fear - Adam, Eve, Jonah, the Disciples, and many more.

God does not expect that we will not experience fear. We are here on this planet today because a healthy dose of fear made us run from sharp-clawed predators! God does not leave us alone in our fear ... that is the biblical message! Courage is not about being fearless. Courage is stepping forward in faith even when things scare you.

There is a lot to scare us today! Our children struggle to manage anxiety and fear. This is nothing to feel shame about. The best way to manage fear and anxiety is to understand it. God Alive will spend the year learning the stories of fear and courage within the Bible. We will relate these stories to our own fears. And we will do some courageous things together as a God Alive family!

God Alive is a ministry for elementary school-age children. God Alive meets on Wednesdays from 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM. All are welcome!



Living the Word

Once a month on a Saturday from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM the 3 and 4-year-old children of the church will meet in Ms. Leigh's backyard and rotate through three Bible story stations. At each station, they will hear the Bible story come to life with puppets that our youth animate. The children will then participate in outdoor activities that reinforces the concepts of that story.



Vacation Bible School

Winter VBS: *The Amazing Race, Bible Timeline*

February 11, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

All 3-year-olds through 1st graders are invited to attend. 4th and 5th graders and our youth will serve as leaders.

Summer VBS: *Adventures in the Parables of Jesus*

July 31 - August 3

All rising Pre-K through rising 5th grade are invited to attend.

