

Adult Education at Grace Lutheran Church and School

Fall 2017



Learning Faithfully, Living Faithfully

Sunday morning faith formation classes at Grace encourage adults in faithful learning and in faithful living. In observance of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, the Learning Faithfully track includes a seven-part series on church history, Luther, and Lutheran music. Classes in Living Faithfully include discussions on racism and privilege as well as personal reflections from Grace members on vocation and family.

September 10

The Living Universe, *Grace Wolf-Chase, Adler Planetarium*

Based on her annual lecture at the Lutheran Zygon Center for Religion and Science at LSTC, Dr. Wolf-Chase reflects theologically on new discoveries in cosmology.

September 17

Life's Origins and Our Future on a Microbial Planet, *Ted Anton, DePaul University*

We are living through an unprecedented time of scientific insight into the origin of life. But to get the big picture, we must start small, very small. Grace member Ted Anton links astrobiology with a microbial revolution, suggesting that our former enemies, microbes, can be allies in a drive for better health and a sustainable future. Based on his new book, "Planet of Microbes."

September 24

Reformation and Catholic Ecumenism, *Hans Dumpys, Bishop Emeritus of the Evangelical Lithuanian Lutheran Church*

In the first of a seven-part, multi-speaker series celebrating the Reformation's 500th Anniversary, Grace member Hans Dumpys looks at the Reformation through the twin lenses of evangelical identity and catholic universality.

Living Faithfully: Slovakia Mission Trip Report, *The Slovakia Mission Team for 2017*

Come to hear and see reflections of Grace members who traveled to Martin, Slovakia, for our third summer leading VBS. We worked with 200 Slovak children, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in games and music, lessons and craft projects, helping lead youth camp, performing hands-on building renovations, and teaching conversational English at the Center for Christian Education.

October 1

Katharina and Martin: The implications for the Lutheran Reformation, *Karl Reko*

The marriage of the former monk Martin Luther and former nun Katarina von Bora had implications for marriage and family life during the Reformation.

Living Faithfully: Community Organizing, *Anthony Clark*

Clark is a teacher at OPRF high school and a Congressional candidate in the Democratic primary in 2018. He is also the founder of the advocacy group Suburban Unity Alliance, which was created in the summer of 2016 to raise awareness of discrimination and bring diverse suburban communities together.

October 8

Luther the German, *Karl Reko*

Learn about the cultural and political factors in Germany from the Roman Empire to the 16th century that affected when and how the Lutheran Reformation occurred.

Living Faithfully as an Active Family, *Ramona and Chris Koetke*

Grace members explore Christian vocation in the context of family and career.

October 15

Luther and the Reformation, *Karl Reko*

Luther's theology matured as he collaborated with Philip Melanchthon to build the University of Wittenberg and defend himself against the attacks of Rome and the Holy Roman Empire.

Living Faithfully as a Professor of Music and Conductor, *Rich Fischer, Concordia University*

Rich writes: I have been called to a vocation that I truly love, having just begun my 44th year at Concordia University Chicago. I work with wonderful students in my conducting classes and with many more of them making music in the Wind Symphony. I try to take seriously my call to teach, motivate and inspire my students, not only to develop their performance skills, but more importantly to become unobstructed "vessels" through which the music flows. I also try to incorporate *the* most important element of my calling: the sharing of the Gospel with others, either verbally or through the music that I program. My life has not been without tremendous struggles mentally, emotionally and spiritually. I am learning more and more how important it is to pray to God for strength, grace and guidance. This journey continues.

October 22

Music and the Reformation, *Carl Schalk*

How did Martin Luther, the man who "grew up with music ringing in his ears," shape basic concepts in Reformation musical and liturgical tradition?

Living Faithfully: Continuing the Conversation on Racism, *Pastor Sherman Hicks*

How do Christians respond to structural racism in American society? Pastor Hicks leads a conversation on race and faithful living. Hicks was the first ELCA bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the ELCA and served as Executive Director of ELCA Multicultural Ministries.

October 29

Music and the Reformation, *Carl Schalk*

How did Luther see the role of hymnody in worship? How many hymns did Luther "write"? Did he write both words and music? How did they function?

Living Faithfully: Serving in Harmony, *Diane Carioscio and other Grace members*

Hear about the trials and joys of building a church community on Chicago's west side.

November 5

Music and the Reformation, *Carl Schalk*

Luther's ideas continued to influence church musicians in the centuries following the Reformation—from Johann Walter, the first Lutheran cantor, to J. S. Bach.

Living Faithfully: Beer and the Reformation, *Erika Lyle*

Guests at the *Lutherhaus*, the home of Martin and Katarina, were served home-brewed beer. Erika Lyle introduces us to this master brewer.

November 12

Women of the Reformation, *Jennifer McNutt, Associate Professor of Theology and History of Christianity, Wheaton College*

A popular Adult Ed speaker and editor of the essay collection "The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible" offers another perspective on Reformation history.

Living Faithfully: Parenting Children with Disabilities, *Andy and Sara Chizzo, Chrissy and Michael Nelson*

Caring and advocating for a child with disabilities brings significant challenges to family life. How do parents cope and grow from the experience?

November 19

Legal Aid Foundation, *Maja Eaton, Co-President of the LAF Board, and Miguel Keberlein, Director of the LAF Immigrant and Workers' Rights Practice Group*

Hear how this nonprofit organization makes use of the law to protect the rights of the poor in a time of crisis and challenge.

December 3

Putting Christ Back Into Christmas, *Ellie Schnack, Evie Tiemann*

In the rush and stress of our society's celebration of a commercial holiday season, how can we remind our families and ourselves that Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ?

December 10 and 17

Making Social Sense of the Christian Faith: God *con Carne*, *Pastor Dave Wegner*

Today the Incarnation seems about as scandalous as fruitcake, but in the fourth and fifth centuries, no issue more divided Christians than the assertion that almighty God had been joined to frail and fickle human flesh. By probing three early objections to the Incarnation we can better understand its startling assertions about the scandalous lengths to which God will go to redeem us.

Sunday Bible Study

Led by Bob Jandeska the Bible study group meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. in the Conference Room on the lower level. The group is currently studying books of the Old Testament.

Adult Education at Grace **Sunday morning, 9:45–10:45 a.m.**

Adult Education classes meet in the Seminar Room on the lower level. Go down the atrium stairs and turn right and then left.

When there are two classes, the Living Faithfully presentation is in the junior high German classroom. Walk through the atrium, past the elevator, go up half a flight of stairs and turn left.