

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FALL 2011

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39)

The development of a mature Christian faith does not happen accidentally, that is, without intention and commitment. It is prompted by the Holy Spirit, nurtured through *contemplative practices* (such as prayer, meditation, fasting) *communal practices* (such as worship, Bible Study, small groups), and *missional practices* (such as service, giving, showing hospitality) , and leads us over time to become more like Jesus.

Here at West Side, in addition to encouraging you to commit to personal spiritual practices, we are offering the following opportunities this fall to support your spiritual growth. If you have questions about any of this, please contact:

- **Rev. Marc Oehler**, 201-652-1966, ext. 18 or marc@westside.org; or
- **Carol Walton**, 201-652-1966, ext. 11, or carol@westside.org

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE STUDY:

**September 25
through
October 23**
9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Dining Room
Wednesdays
8:10 p.m.
Chapel

Generosity Bible Study: Leaders: Rev. Dr. Gareth Icenogle and Rev. Marc Oehler. This five-week study is part of a congregation-wide focus on the spiritual and Biblical basis for stewardship. There will be reflection on the weekly themes through sermons, the existing Sunday morning groups, and additional small groups.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Sunday 8:45 a.m.

Chapel Service

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Traditional Service

Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Chapel

Contemplative Worship

One Saturday per month
5:55 p.m.

The Saturday 5:55: an informal and interactive worship experience

LARGE & SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES:

Sunday Morning Opportunities: Sunday, 9:00-9:50 a.m. (child care and Sunday School for all ages provided). Sunday 11:15-12:15 a.m. (child care provided). Times and locations are indicated, but there occasionally are changes, so please check the announcements and calendar for updates.

**September 18 through
December 18**

9:00 a.m.

West Side Room.

Adult Bible Study: Leaders: Robert and Ani Chalemian. Studying the book of Acts.

September 25-October 23, this group will participate in the Generosity Bible Study.

**September 18 through
December 18**

9:00 a.m.

Room 303

The Relationship Series: Leaders: Randy and Sharon Ruger, Ray and Adriana Milazzo. Studying the book *Death by Suburb: Keeping the Suburbs from Killing Your Soul*, by Dave Goetz

September 25-October 23, this group will participate in the Generosity Bible Study.

**September 18 through
December 18**

9:00 a.m.

Room 307

Everyday Spirituality: Leaders: Anne Deatly and Mark Babunovic. Utilizes the Rob Bell *Nooma* DVD series as a springboard for conversation and spiritual growth.

September 25-October 23, this group will participate in the Generosity Bible Study.

**October 30 through
November 20**

9:00 a.m.

Room 308 (note room change)

Here I Am, Send Aaron: Leader: James Croasmun. This four-part study of Exodus will focus on Moses, Pharaoh and the Israelites—and what we can learn from their story that we can apply to our discipleship today.

November 6 through 20
11:15 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Chapel (note date change)

God in America: Leaders: Jean Llewellyn and Keith Schnaars. Explore with us the tumultuous 400-year history of religion and public life in America.
www.pbs.org/godinamerica

**November 27 through
December 18**
9:00 a.m.
Dining Room

Varieties of Presbyterian Experience: Leader: The Rev. Dr. William Chapman. During four sessions, the class will explore what it means to be a Presbyterian.

**November 27 through
December 18**
11:15 a.m.
Chapel

Temperament In Spirit...A Visual Guide: Leader: John Butler. This group will explore the spirituality of each of the four basic temperaments consolidated from Meyer-Briggs Types by David Kiersey (author of "*Please Understand Me*"), paying particular attention to how each temperament responds to the Advent Season.

Opportunities for Men:

Every Saturday
9:00 a.m.
Work Room

Saturday Morning Men's Fellowship: Group of seniors meets for fellowship and conversation around Christian themes.

4th Thursday
6:30 p.m.
Barn

The Well: Men's group meets monthly for fellowship, a meal, Bible Study, and conversation. It also provides leadership for Men's Ministry at West Side. Led by Rev. Marc Oehler

2nd Thursday
6:30 p.m.
Barn

The Fountain: Men's group led by men from "The Well." A time for fellowship, faith-building, service and a meal.

Opportunities for Women:

1st Sunday
3:30 p.m.
Chapel

West Side Women's Group: Studying *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Led by Sharon Ruger and Rev. Marc Oehler.

October 15, 2011

Women's Fall Retreat: *Living in Abundance with God.* Leader: Anne Deatly.

Every Tuesday
10:00 a.m.
Dining Room

Feisty Ladies: This group meets to work on a variety of projects, and to share a meal together. They do a lot of crocheting, knitting, including afghans, prayer shawls and baby blankets for West Side members and their families.

OTHER CONTEMPLATIVE, COMMUNAL AND MISSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

3rd Wednesday
10:00—11:30 a.m.
Chapel

Chapel Prayer Group: Group coordinated by Marion Jaeggi and led by Rev. Marc Oehler prays for specific needs of members and friends of West Side.

Wednesdays in Advent
8:10—9:00 p.m., Chapel

Lectio Divina: Advent contemplative Bible study, following Wednesday Evening Worship, led by Rev. Marc Oehler.

October 1, 2011
November 5, 2011
7:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Habitat for Humanity: Work days in Paterson. There will be other days scheduled as well in coming months.

October 16-23, 2011

Family Promise: Staffed by volunteers from West Side and other local churches, overnight housing for homeless families.

October 29, 2011
8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

West Side Complementary Health Expo: Participate in classes that offer an integrative approach to wellness, healing and wholeness that will holistically complement traditional medicine.

December 2-4, 2011

Holiday Marketplace: Explore a host of alternative gift ideas!

2nd Wednesday
4:45 p.m.—6:15 p.m.

Chop 'n Chat: Volunteers take and serve food to those in need at the St. Phillip's Soup Kitchen in Paterson.

Music Program: See *Music at West Side* brochure for music opportunities.

In the Spring: Watch for the Spring 2012 brochure which will include information about opportunities during the second half of the year, including:

- Study: *A Praying Congregation*
 - Women's Retreat
 - Why Hymns Matter
 - New Orleans Mission Trip
 - Men's Retreat
 - Lenten Practices
 - Spring Family Promise
 - Jammers Softball
 - Sacred Storytelling
-

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect."

—Romans 12:2

The West Side Presbyterian Church

Varian Fry Way, 6 South Monroe Street, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

Website: www.westside.org Phone: 201-652-1966