

Seminars

Overcoming Our Fear of Transformative Change in the PC(USA)

Southeastern Presbytery November Meeting
Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, Stated Clerk of PCUSA
will present *Overcoming Our Fear of Transformative Change in the PC(USA)*. \$10 fee for lunch.

November 15, 2018

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Sanctuary

Becoming the Hands and Feet During Transformative Change

A special program, *Becoming the Hands and Feet During Transformative Change*, by Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, Stated Clerk of PCUSA. Welcome offering taken for lunch.

November 16, 2018

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM Westminster Hall

✚ What are ChristCare Groups?

ChristCare Groups are one of the many opportunities for adult spiritual formation at First Presbyterian Church.

ChristCare small groups are based on a model of small group life developed by the Stephen Ministry. Each group and facilitator incorporates four key components in their unique way.

Leader/facilitators study the ChristCare approach and participate in monthly small groups (SEA groups) facilitated by **Pastor Eric Corbin** that provide ongoing support, encouragement/education and accountability.

Groups listed with a ✚ preceding their names are part of the ChristCare ministry.

YES, I would like to be a part of a small group!
More information about small groups and adult education opportunities at First Presbyterian Church is available at the information table in Westminster Hall and through the church website.

If you want to list your group, contact Marcia Franks (marcia@firstpres.church)

updated 8/2018



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

www.firstpres.church

Small Group & Adult Education Opportunities

Fall 2018

First Presbyterian Church offers a variety of small group and educational opportunities for adults during the week to support spiritual formation and growth.

Here are some groups planned for Fall/Winter 2018. Watch for updates.

Opportunities

Sundays...

✚ Easy English Christian Fellowship

starts September 23, 2018 (ongoing)

10:15-11:05 AM CE Building, Room 204

This group is open to all English learners interested in growing in the Christian Faith. We offer an easy English, informal setting to help English learners develop language and learn worship elements such as hymns, liturgy, and prayer. Most of our time is spent on study of the Word using an easy English Bible. We welcome all members of the international community, immigrants, guests and their families.

Feasting on the WORD

August 26 and September 2, 2018

10:15-11:05 AM Parlor

Guest Facilitators

We will follow the lectionary passages for Sunday and offer a place for people to reflect on the Scriptures as well as the messages from that day's sermon. Materials will be provided.

Presbyterian 101

September 9 and 23, 2018

10:15-11:05 AM Parlor

Curious about the Presbyterian Church? This 2-session study of the denomination will provide an overview of the history of the denomination, including organizational and governing structure, and how to connect at First Pres Champaign. This class will be of interest to visitors, those new to the church and long-time members. All are welcome at each session. *The Presbyterian Handbook: Revised Edition* published by Geneva Press is recommended reading but not required to participate.

One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race

October 7 – November 18, 2018

10:15-11:05 AM Parlor

Some of us “woke” up with *Waking Up White*. Others were already awake. Join us in taking the next step together in our awareness journey. We will read *One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race* by Dr. John Perkins and examine his thought on race, reconciliation and God's commandments to the church. Now 87 years old, Dr. Perkins shares his heart and hope for the Church. A son of Mississippi sharecroppers and a self-described 3rd grade dropout, Dr. Perkins is author of several books, including *Let Justice Roll Down and Justice for All*. He is recipient of 14 honorary doctoral degrees in recognition of his many and varied contributions. This class is open to all throughout the 7-week study.

Presbyterian 101 with French Translation

October 21 & 28, 2018

10:15-11:05 AM TBA

Curious about the Presbyterian Church? This 2-session study will provide an overview of the history of the denomination, including organizational and governing structure, and how to connect at First Pres Champaign. This class will be of interest to visitors, those new to the church and long-time members. All are welcome at each session. *The Presbyterian Handbook: Revised Edition* published by Geneva Press is recommended reading but not required. Class will be presented in English with translation into French.

Advent & Christmas: Wisdom from G.K. Chesterton

November 26 – December 23, 2018

10:15-11:05 AM Parlor

We will be reading *Advent and Christmas: Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton*. G. K. Chesterton was an English writer, poet, philosopher and lay theologian most famous for his fictional detective Father Brown. His book *The Everlasting Man* was a crucial turning point for C. S. Lewis to become a Christian. This Advent and Christmas study promises to be a refreshing, prayerful preparation for the coming of Christ.

Mondays...

✚ Rantoul Women's Bible Study

September 10 – November 19, 2018

1:15-2:45 PM Rantoul

This is an ecumenical group with participants representing seven different denominations from Champaign and Rantoul. Our emphasis is on what we can learn from the Bible to inspire each of us to live our faith and serve as members of our own congregations. Our religious backgrounds are varied. Our discussions are lively. New members are always welcome to join us on this journey as we grow in our shared faith. This Fall we will be reading *Not a Fan: Becoming a Completely Committed Follower of Jesus* by Kyle Idelman.

Prayer Circles (French Language)

ongoing

12 - 1 PM; 5 - 6 PM 508 East Michigan Ave. #33 Urbana
811 South Mattis Ave. #6 Champaign

This prayer oriented French speaking small group meets weekdays, Monday through Friday for community prayer. The group is open to all and meets year round.

Knifty Knitters – 2nd & 4th Monday of the month

September – June except holidays

1-3 PM Westminster Hall or Parlor

We knit and crochet together in fellowship. We gather together to learn knitting techniques and create items to be given to those

who could use a warm hat or scarf, such as the children at Kemmerer Village and prayer shawls that our Care Deacons give those who are dealing with transitions or some loss in their lives. We have prayers as we knit and bless each item to be given. We always welcome new members. Anyone wanting to knit and crochet and give to others can start any time.

✠Monday Night Bible Study – 1st and 3rd Mondays
September – May (Breaks...Holidays/Christmas break tbd)
6:30-8 PM Homes

In this group for women, we share leading the weekly sessions, among those who are willing to do so. Participants give ideas of what they would like to study. Our mission is to be encouragers to group members and to others in the church and community. We close our meetings with prayer reflecting this mission. Anyone who wants to seriously study what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ in a nurturing and caring atmosphere will find a warm welcome. Group is open to new people throughout the year.

Tuesdays...

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

ongoing
7-8 AM Centennial Hall

We meet for breakfast and to study selected books of the Bible. This is a relaxed Bible study facilitated by several members of our diverse multigenerational, multicultural group. No advance preparation is required. Members include retired and active pastors who share their knowledge and understanding. We attempt to translate the Word to practical use for ourselves and our congregation. And we try to start on time. Breakfast is prepared and served by some of the group members. A donation of \$5 per session is accepted for the cost of food. Extra collections are donated to a mission program of the church. We meet year round. Men interested in growing in Christian faith are welcome at any time.

Prayer Circles (French Language)

ongoing
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811 South Mattis Ave. #6 Champaign

This prayer oriented French speaking small group meets weekdays, Monday through Friday for community prayer. The group is open to all and meets year round.

Classic Christian Book Study

September 11, 2018 – May 2019
NOON-1 PM U of I Atkins Bldg. 2nd floor Conference Rm

We get together to discuss a variety of Christian authors and apply the book we are studying to Christian daily living. This Fall we are reading *Friendship of Women* by Joan Chittister. Each week we discuss a designated number of pages in our book of choice. We aim to broaden our knowledge of classical Christian books but also read current Christian authors. We spend 10-15 minutes at the beginning of the hour on pertinent issues in our lives. Always open to new members, we would love to have you join us.

✠Cuba Study

September 4 – October 30, 2018 (break October 9, 2018)
6:30 PM-8 PM Homes

This 8-week small group study of Cuban culture and the Presbyterian Cuba. We study the Scriptures chosen by the Presbyterian Reformed Church of Cuba for their annual scriptural theme. We talk about the significance of the texts in the context of both countries. Learning includes limited introductory Spanish conversation and limited exploration of various aspects of Cuban culture. The group uses active learning, asking group members to assume some responsibility for learning by researching specified topics. New members may join during first two weeks of the study. (Note: While all are invited and welcome to participate in the group, only members or regular guests of a Presbyterian Church or their staff are eligible to travel to Cuba under current US government travel license requirements for religious groups.)

Wednesdays...

✠ChristCare Facilitators SEA Group

2nd Wednesday of the month
Starts September 12, 2018 – June 12, 2019
8:30 AM Parlor

This monthly small group for ChristCare leaders/facilitators provides ongoing support, encouragement/education and accountability (SEA). Each month includes time in Scripture, prayer, sharing and a discussion of readings and a topic related to leadership training from ChristCare Facilitator materials.

✠Education Is Path to Peace

September – TBD
10 - 11:30 AM Parlor

Our group focuses on learning about Pakistan and their culture and supporting the work of the Presbyterian Sangla Hill School. Study leadership is shared among the members of the group and biblical studies follow the theme for the day. All who want to learn more about our PC(USA) school in Pakistan, who want to support those schools and learn more about Pakistan, Islamic religion, their culture and current events are welcome to join us throughout the year.

Prayer Circles (French Language)

ongoing
12 - 1 PM; 5 - 6 PM 508 East Michigan Ave. #33 Urbana
811 South Mattis Ave. #6 Champaign

This prayer oriented French speaking small group meets weekdays, Monday through Friday for community prayer. The group is open to all and meets year round.

Covenant Bible Study

September 5 – May 15, 2019

(break October 10 and Thanksgiving thru Christmas)
6:30-8 PM Centennial Hall/Westminster Hall

This is a 24-session, yearlong, in-depth group Bible study. We will read and discuss the Bible together, learning how to love God- and each other- better. Covenant represents a relationship- a living breathing conversation. Each week we reflect on God's Word and get to listen in on a video conversation about the readings. We will explore what Covenant is, and how we fit into the story of God and God's people. Our study runs from 6:30- 8 PM but we plan to gather an hour early (5:30- 6:30 PM) to have a quick bite of dinner, catchup with each other and be ready to dive deep into the Word.

Thursdays...

Men's Bible Study

ongoing
7:30 AM Church Library

We meet to study the Old and New Testament in a side room on the southeast corner of Hardee's Restaurant. Coffee or breakfast can be purchased individually. Various members of the group share leadership and lead studies on selected books with study guides. This is the fiftieth year as a group. Men and women are welcome. New people are always welcome any time of year.

✠Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

September 13 – November 15, 2018

9-10:30 AM Parlor

We are a large, encouraging and supportive group of caring women who are studying and praying together. Currently we are reading *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. Our mission focus is support for our local community and our churches. Starting early September would be best for continuity of study, but anyone, whether as a visitor or new member, is welcome anytime.

Presbyterian Women – 4th Thursday of the month

September 2018-May 2019

9 AM, 1 and 7 PM Church

Plus Gatherings for all members and guests 4 times a year

Presbyterian Women are an integral part of the ministry of the church, providing ministry, support for mission projects, leadership training, education, fellowship and service locally, regionally and internationally. The PW/Horizon Study guide is *God's Promise: I AM With You* by Amy Poling Sutherlun. Study guides, \$10 each, are available at the "Welcome Center" in Westminster Hall. Circles and Gatherings are always open to new members throughout the year. Additional information is available on the church website.

Prayer Circles (French Language)

ongoing

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Courageous Conversations

2nd Thursday of the month

5:30 PM Parlor

Through workshops and other events, Courageous Conversations aims to engage the congregation and community in purposeful conversations on topics and issues of justice, mercy and caring for our fellow human beings. These often require courage to address. The purpose of these conversations is mutual education, better dialog, deeper understandings and relationship building among our congregation. We welcome all to participate in our group and in the programs and events we host.

Fridays...

Men's Prayer Group

8:30-9 AM Chapel, CE Building

We gather weekly for general prayer and prayer requests. This group is open to new members anytime.

Prayer Circles (French Language)

ongoing

12 - 1 PM; 5 - 6 PM 508 East Michigan Ave. #33 Urbana
811 South Mattis Ave. #6 Champaign

This prayer oriented French speaking small group meets weekdays, Monday through Friday for community prayer. The group is open to all and meets year round.

✠Friday Night Lights

September 2018 – August 2019

7:30-9 PM Homes (with breaks throughout year)

Our studies are Biblical or topical. Our current study is titled *Sermon on the Mount: A Deeper Look* by John Stott with Dale and Sandy Larsen. The group decides together what to study next. We meet in group members' homes, but it is not necessary to "host" to participate. Our evenings together include study, sharing, prayer and simply enjoying each other's company. As a group we participate in some of the activities sponsored by the Church Outreach Committee. The group welcomes new members any time throughout the year.