



SUNNYVALE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

728 West Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087
(408) 739-1892 • <http://svpc.us/groups/learning.php>

ADULT LEARNING

Sundays at 8:50 & 11:30 AM, Monday nights • [Winter/Spring 2010 Class Schedule](#)

8:50 AM Classes

Classes meet in Room 303.

Figures in the New Testament: Peter

January 10 – Jeannette Krogstad

Move past the larger-than-life cultural representation of Peter to discover more about his character, role, and influence in the Gospel stories and beyond.

Figures in the New Testament: James

January 17 – Laura Craine

Meet James, the brother of Jesus and explore his transformation from unbeliever to strong leader of the early church.

Figures in the New Testament: Mary, Mother of Jesus

January 24 – Elsa Amboy

Explore the character and personality of Mary the mother of Jesus by examining New Testament Scriptures.

Figures in the New Testament: Lazarus

January 31 – Alex Zonoff

Gain insight into the character of Lazarus and explore the meaning and implications for new life in Jesus' raising Lazarus from the dead.

Figures in the New Testament: Mary and Martha

February 7 – Diana Aldrich

Discover what the figures of Mary and Martha tell us about discipleship and service; and reflect on how different perspectives and

approaches to following Jesus strengthen the church.

Figures in the New Testament: Priscilla

February 14 – Nancy Ewing

Explore the role of Priscilla, a woman who worked alongside Paul and her husband as a partner in witnessing to the faith.

Steadfast Hope: The Quest for Just Peace for Palestine and Israel

February 21, 28 and March 7 – Miriam Kishi

Miriam Kishi will reflect on her experiences visiting Israel and Palestine in October 2009. The book *Steadfast Hope* is available on the church book cart. Participants are encouraged to purchase and become familiar with the resource before the class.

Gospel Portraits of Jesus: A Lenten Study

March 14, 21, 28 – Nancy Ewing and Bethann Merriam

What can we learn about Jesus from the multitude of names he is given in the New Testament? Plenty! We will explore a number of the names and titles for Jesus that appear in the four Gospels.

Easter

April 4

No Classes

Contemplation and Action

April 11, 18, 25 – Jim Peterson

Contemplation and action often seem to be at odds with one another. Yet both contemplation and action are a needed and necessary part of a full and balanced life. As Parker Palmer puts it, "We may think of the two as contrary modes, but they are one at the source, and they seek the same end—to celebrate the gift of life." This class explores these two seemingly contrary modes, seeking to show how each, by itself, is incomplete, yet how each, in connection with the other, is fulfilled. We will explore and share our own experiences with these modes as a way of coming to an understanding of each and of finding an appropriate balance and connection in our own lives.

Coloring in Prayer

May 2 – Ginna Traina

Do you often find that when you are praying the words escape you? Do you journal and struggle with what to say? In her book *Coloring in Prayer: Drawing a New Path to God*, Sybil MacBeth encourages the use of lines, shapes, and colors as a way of centering and of keeping the individual or situation being prayed about before God. Join us as we find visual ways to pray using coloring pens, crayons and quiet time. Feel like you have no artistic abilities? Fear not! This class is for all.

Creeds and Doctrines of the Reformed Church

May 9 and 16 – Val Weirauch

Long-time SVPC member Val Weirauch is concluding her seminary studies and is serving as an intern at SVPC this year. She will discuss the creeds and doctrines of the Reformed church. Three creeds adopted by the reformed church centuries ago summarize the most important tenets of our faith: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. Reformed doctrine is expressed in various confessions and different denominations use different confessions.

Pentecost

May 23 – The Rev. Karin Hejmanowski

The word Pentecost comes from the Greek and means fifty. Pentecost was a celebration on the fiftieth day after Passover. For Christians Pentecost is the arrival of the Holy Spirit for the church (Acts 2). The season of Pentecost is between the Day of Pentecost and the first Sunday in Advent and is a season for growth, renewal, and learning. Join us as we learn more about the lessons of Pentecost and how to make those lessons part of our daily lives. 🌱

11:30 AM Classes. Classes meet in Soulé Hall. Childcare is provided. 🌱

The Church and a World of Displaced Persons

January 10 – The Rev. Dr. Mark Douglas, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, Columbia Theological Seminary

We live in the most mobile age in history. As a result, billions of people live where they were not born and, among them, many live someplace other than the place they call home. While some of this movement is voluntary, much of it is not. Displaced peoples—whether they are refugees, aliens, expatriates, or some other group—are both a fact of global movement and an issue of global stability and security. So: how might the church, which carries its own theological sense of being displaced, understand displacement and address the concerns of those who have been displaced?

Martin Luther King, Jr.: Minister First, Civil Rights Leader Second

January 17 – The Rev. Dr. Jim Bennett, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University

For all his work as a Civil Rights Leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. was, first and foremost, a Baptist clergyman. This class will examine the role of the church and of Christian faith in King's life and leadership.

Step Beyond

Sunday mornings: January 24 – February 28

Monday nights: January 25 – March 1, 7:00 PM

Step Beyond is a pastor-led series of classes designed to encourage spiritual practice and service. The class will be offered at two different times: Sunday mornings and Monday evenings. Our goal for this series is to offer an opportunity for the congregation to be involved in a more intentional life of discipleship by implementing spiritual formation practices and a commitment to service. The series features five classes taught by pastors as well as small group time for reflection and response. There will be no classes on February 14 or 15. For more information and to register for this class visit the church website.

Three Faces of Human Trafficking

Sunday morning: March 7 – Una Stevenson

Monday night: March 8, 7:30 PM – Una Stevenson

Mission and Service established a Lectureship in memory of Charlie Jensen, who was a faithful peacemaker and seeker of justice. Our first Lectureship speaker is Una Stevenson from Longmont, Colorado. Una has been educating Christians about human trafficking since 1991. In this lecture Una addresses sexual exploitation of children in developing countries, internationally, and in the United States.

Religion and Race: The Intersection of the two most important themes in American History

March 14, 21 and 28 – The Rev. Dr. Jim Bennett,

Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University

We will explore the complicated and often conflicting relationship between religion and race in U.S. history, including the emergence of slavery, the Civil War and Emancipation, and the role of the church in the Civil Rights Movement.

Buddhism

April 11 and 18 – Prof. David Gray, Department of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University

Professor Gray will provide an introduction to the founder of Buddhism, Gautama Siddhartha, exploring the legend of his life and how it has provided a powerful model for Buddhists through time and around the world. He will then describe the basic teachings of Buddhism, with a focus on the Buddha's first, and most famous, sermon, which introduced the "Four Noble Truths."

Exploring the Dynamics of and Our Response to Violence

April 25 – The Rev. Geoff Browning, Peacemaking Advocate, Presbytery of San Jose

We will explore the reasons for violence and our perceptions of what constitutes violence, including a definition and discussion of the various forms of violence.

Exploring Creative Nonviolence

May 2 – The Rev. Geoff Browning, Peacemaking Advocate, Presbytery of San Jose

We will explore the history, legacy, and effectiveness of nonviolent social change. We will also discuss nonviolence as an alternative to war.

Mother's Day

May 9

No Class at 11:30 AM

The Interfaith Movement—Let's All Just Get Along

May 16 and 23 – The Rev. Aimee Moiso, Campus Minister, Santa Clara University

In this class we will examine the baby steps necessary in striving toward the unity of Christ's church. What exactly is the interfaith movement anyway and how can we work to increase interfaith dialogue? 🌱

Rooted in Christ...Reaching Out in Love

Adult Learning Schedule at a Glance • Winter/Spring 2010



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- Apr. 4 Easter: No classes
11 Contemplation and Action
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25 Contemplation and Action
- May 2 Coloring in Prayer
9 Creeds and Doctrines of the Reformed Church
16 Creeds and Doctrines of the Reformed Church
23 Pentecost



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Join us for a cup of coffee, refreshments, and thoughtful conversation.

Childcare for the 11:30 AM Sunday classes is up to age 12.

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Monday Evenings, Soulé Hall

- Jan. 25 Step Beyond
- Feb. 1 Step Beyond
8 Step Beyond
22 Step Beyond
- Mar. 1 Step Beyond
8 Three Faces of Human Trafficking

*"...let us love,
not just in word
or speech, but in
truth and action."
I John 3:18* 