**Nicodemus Group**

**“He came to Jesus by night …”**

 **John 3:2**

**Nicodemus Group**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brainerd MN**

**2022-2023 Syllabus**

**Synopsis of the group:** This group will meet once a month (second Thursday of the month) from noon until 3:00 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brainerd. We will begin by sharing a meal together and then continue with good, thought-provoking conversation regarding God’s continual guidance and provision in our lives, and throughout God’s world. The participants in this group typically will span from recent retirement, to about ten years’ post-retirement age. We will have the opportunity to cover a wide-span of material (scripture, books, exercises) to include personal devotion and reflection, timeline and life-marker reflections, growing in God’s grace and mercy as we live into the last third of life.

**Schedule for the year:**

**Month Topic Reading discussed**

October 13, 2022 (Journey with God) JWG p.1, intro JWG p.2 John 3:1-15

 Introductions

November 10, 2022 Discuss JWG p.2, intro JWG p.3 John 7:45-52

 Discuss *Pilgrimage and Life of Beloved*  *Pilgrimage* pp. 1-46

 *Life of Beloved* pp. 9-40

December 8, 2022 Discuss JWG p.3, intro JWG p.4 John 19:38-42

 Discuss *Pilgrimage and* *Life of Beloved Pilgrimage* pp. 47-63

  *Life of Beloved* pp. 41-66

January **No Meeting in January**

February 9, 2023 Discuss JWG p.4, intro JWG p.5 1 John 1

 Discuss *Pilgrimage and Life of Beloved* *Pilgrimage* pp. 65-83

  *Life of Beloved* pp. 67-84

March 9, 2023 Discuss JWG p. 5, intro JWG p.6 1 John 3

 Discuss *Pilgrimage and Life of Beloved* *Pilgrimage* pp. 103-122

 *Life of Beloved* pp. 85-104

April 13, 2023 Discuss JWG p. 6, intro JWG p.7 1 John 4

 Discuss *Pilgrimage and Life of Beloved* *Pilgrimage* pp. 123-140

 *Life of Beloved* pp. 105-126

May 11, 2023 Discuss JWG p. 7  1 John 5

 *Life of Beloved* pp. 127-149

**Bibliography (required texts that we will be reading together):**

Nouwen, Henri J.M. *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*. New York, NY: The Crossroad, 1992.

Thiabault, Jane and Morgan, Richard. *Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life: 7 Gateways to Spiritual Growth*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2012.