

We Make the Road by Walking

Following the Way of Jesus

Fall 2021-2022 Discipleship Catalog



“We Make the Road by Walking”

Following the Way of Jesus

“We Make the Road by Walking” is the title of a book on intentional spiritual growth by author, speaker, and former pastor Brian McLaren. As McLaren shares in the introduction to his book, however, these words are not his - they come from a book by Paolo Freire and Myles Horton and they speak to the idea that we learn and grow by doing, by going, by making the journey. That was the method and mindset (without the quote) of Jesus when he chose twelve disciples - twelve followers - to travel “the Way” with him during his earthly ministry.

Discipleship, intentional faith formation, spiritual growth, or whatever words you may want to use to describe the process by which one learns and grows in their faith is a journey of sorts; it has a beginning and it has a middle, however, the journey remains endless. We NEVER reach a point of “knowing it all” - there is always more we can learn, always ways in which we can grow in our faith and our discipleship, our following of Jesus Christ. That is the purpose of this system we are offering beginning this fall; to help us either begin or continue the journey of growing in our faith, growing in our knowledge, and growing into mature disciples of Jesus Christ, so that we might fulfill our mission as United Methodists as laid out in our *Book of Discipline*: “The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for the transformation of the world.”

While we have good Children and Youth discipleship programs in place, we have no systematic approach to adult discipleship, so in this catalog you will find class offerings and learning experiences that will be available to help you grow in your faith and discipleship. You’ll find an overview of how we envision this process as well as descriptions of classes and instructions on how to sign up. This is a new process, so we don’t expect everything to go without a hitch, but we hope you will find these offerings to be of value and look forward to your feedback as we go forward.

Our Schedule

With Church of the Master's long historical relationship with Otterbein University it made sense to to structure our course offerings on a schedule that would resonate with an academic flow, so we are organized in quarters. This also works well with our needs from a liturgical perspective as well. So our schedule will look like this:

Fall Quarter (Sept - Nov)	Winter Quarter (Dec - Feb)	Spring Quarter (Mar - May)	Summer Quarter (June - August)
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Each quarter we will have a variety of courses available around various topics, such as Biblical Studies, Theological Studies, Denominational classes, Sacraments, Spiritual Disciplines, Spiritual Gifts, Prayer, Healing and Wholeness, Worship, etc. Some of the more foundational courses will be offered annually while other classes will be offered on a rotating basis every couple of years. We do this knowing that you may desire to participate in a particular class, but the timing of when it is offered does



not work with your schedule. It is our goal to offer classes on various days and times, as well as in both in-person and on-line formats, however that will vary from quarter to quarter, class to class, and leader to leader. We will learn and grow from your feedback regarding schedules. Some course will be stand-alone, while others could be part of a longer track of classes you might want to explore.

For the Fall of 2021 our class schedule is as follows:

CLASS NAME	SCHEDULE	# OF SESSIONS	LEADER
"Making Sense of the Bible"	In-person: Tuesdays at 7:00pm at CoM Zoom: Sundays at 7:00pm	10	Pastor Lucy Kelly
"Three Simple Rules"	In-person: 1st Tuesdays at 7:00pm at CoM Zoom: 2nd Sundays at 6:00pm	3	Pastor Jay Anderson
"How Big is your God?"	In-person: Wednesdays 7:00-8:30pm at CoM	6	John Hinton
"Soul Healing"	In-person: Sundays 5:30-7:30 at the home of Ann and Harry Peat Zoom: Thursdays from 7:00-9:00pm	11	Ann and Harry Peat
Seekers Sunday School "Women of the Torah: Matriarch and Heroes of Israel," by Stephen Binz.	In-person: Sunday mornings 10-10:45am	6-7	Janice Eddy coordinates, class members share in leadership
"When Kids Come Out"	Via Zoom on 4 Wednesday evenings in September from 7:00-8:30pm	4	Rev. Jim Waugh, retired Elder in the West Ohio Conference



Course Descriptions

“Making Sense of the Bible” - Associate Pastor Lucy Kelly - 10 Weeks

- In-person on Tuesdays at 7:00pm at Church of the Master, beginning 9/7/2021
- Online via Zoom on Sundays at 7:00pm, beginning 9/12/2021

Using the book *Making Sense of the Bible* by Rev. Adam Hamilton as a guide, this course invites honest conversation about the Bible, beginning with foundational questions such as, How and when was the Bible written? Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why? How literally must we read it? And, is the Bible ever wrong? From there, we consider the real questions people frequently ask that continue to divide Christians and denominations alike:

Were Adam and Eve real people?

Why is God so violent in the Old Testament?

Why would Paul command women to “keep silent in church?”

Is Jesus the only way to salvation?

How does God view homosexual people?

Is the Book of Revelation a guide to the End Times?

By exploring the often misunderstood biblical themes in an approachable and inviting way, we seek a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life-changing and life-giving.

Materials: *Making Sense of the Bible*, by Adam Hamilton. ISBN 978-0-06-223498-8

For questions or to register for this class, contact Pastor Lucy at Associate@chmaster.org

"Three Simple Rules" - Rev. Jay Anderson - 3 Sessions

"There are three simple rules that have the power to change the world. While they are ancient, they have seldom been fully put to the test. But when and where practiced, the world of things as they were was shaken until a new formation, a new world was formed...

"We live in such a fast-paced, frenzied, and complex world that it is easy to believe we are all trapped into being someone we do not wish to be and living a life we do not wish to live. We long for some way to cut through the complexities and turbulence of everyday life. We search for a way to overcome the divisiveness that separates, disparages, disrespects, diminishes, and leaves us wounded and incomplete. We know deep within that the path we are on is not healthy or morally right and that it cannot lead to a positive ending. We fear that there is no way out."

In this three week study, we will explore the late Bishop Reuben's thoughts and teaching on "Three Simple Rules," small in their number but huge in their impact, that have shaped Methodism from its earliest days and that have the potential to reshape our modern life if re-introduced into modern practice.

Utilizing two books, the pocket-sized *Three Simple Rules*, by Bishop Reuben Job, and the accompanying study guide, *Three Simple Rules for Christian Living*, we will explore each of the three rules, learning first how to understand the rule and then how to practice it. In practical steps to application we will delve into how to make a difference in our own lives and the lives of others by making these three simple rules the rules we live by, and the rules we love by.

In person on the **1st Tuesdays** of September, October, and November at 7:00pm
(Sept. 7, 2021, Oct. 5, 2021, Nov. 2, 2021)

By ZOOM, on the **2nd Sundays** of September, October, and November at 6:00pm
(Sept. 12, 2021, Oct. 10, 2021, Nov. 14, 2021)

Books for the class:

"Three Simple Rules" by Reuben P. Job, ISBN: 978-0-687-649662

"Three Simple Rules for Christian Living" by Jeanne T. Finley ISBN: 978-1-426-70025-5

For questions, or to register for this class, please contact Pastor Jay at
Pastor@chmaster.org.

"How Big Is Your God?" - John Hinton - 6 weeks, 3 possible times (for time and date options see below)

"How Big is Your God?"... Should "your God" be "resized"?

An Exploration of—with helpful answers provided from—Cosmology, Christology, etc. and a myriad of additional resources!

Is "your God" sitting on a throne far away? OR... Is "your God" more like a Santa Claus with a long beard...or perhaps a 911 operator? OR ... Is "your God" more like a policeman, with rules and punishments? OR ...Is "your God" more like a wise gentle loving grandmother? Or...

"How we perceive/conceive of God will have enormous impact on how we behave toward each other, what we believe is possible, and what we find sacred..."

(from A God That Could Be Real, by Abrams, p.147)

Do you realize what wonderful companions science and religion have become in the last 50 years? *How big IS your God?* 20th century science rewrote the universe story. *Are you up to date?* Cosmology is more encompassing than science; cosmology is not identical with theology! Yet the more immersed in cosmology we become, the more likely our perception/conception of God will probably expand. At the same time, Christology (*big word*) discusses who Jesus/Christ was and more importantly the role Christ played in the divine plan; and, how Jesus was crucial in helping you form "your current God". *Who are we on this planet earth? What role should we be playing (ecologically, ethically, morally, spiritually, etc.) in the drama of the new universe story and the connectedness of all creation?*

Using the references of: Your God Is Too Small (classic by Phillips); Radical Amazement (great paperback by Cannato); Indescribable (a super DVD); An Introduction to New Testament Christology (Brown); Jesus and the Cosmos (excellent resource by Edwards); and I AM (a DVD that will knock your socks off) ... we will explore the intricate inter-relationships between your perception of God, cosmology, and Christology. Please come join us for what will prove to be a most enlightening six week mini-course study and discussion. All materials will be provided for you; a free will offering of \$6.00 would be helpful to defray duplicating costs. You will obtain many, many handouts and resources!

Three separate "sections" of the mini-course will be offered. Pick one section (each 6 weeks) from these: (A) Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 (dates to be announced); OR (B) Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 (dates to be announced); OR (C) Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 (dates to be announced). Enrollment may be limited to 8 per people per section. Please contact the John Hinton (614) 891-7814 if interested, OR please call John if you have any questions whatsoever!

Please join us for what certainly will be an engaging, informative and enlightening group study. Hope you can make it—invite your friends—ALL are welcome!

"Soul Healing" - Ann and Harry Peat - 11 weeks

- In person on Sundays from 5:30pm - 7:30pm, beginning September 19, 2021.
The in-person study will be held at the home of facilitators, Ann and Harry Peat, 86 E Broadway Ave, Westerville and will be limited to six persons so register early.
- Online via Zoom on Thursdays from 7pm-9pm, beginning September 23, 2021.

ALL ABOARD! Soul Healing Class. You are invited to begin a healing journey with Jesus. Leave your baggage behind with God and board the Soul Healing train. The destination is deeper relationship with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Find your true identity and walk in freedom from the wounds of your past.

"Soul Healing: Living beyond the pain of your past," by Dr. Tammy Smith, a local Christian psychologist, is being offered on:

The cost for the class of \$21 covers the book and study guide and video booklet.

For question, or to register for this class please contact Ann or Harry Peat, annpeat@columbus.rr.com, or hgpeat@columbus.rr.com.

"Women of the Torah: Matriarchs and Heroes of Israel"

Seekers Sunday School Class - 6-7 Weeks

Sunday mornings from 10:00am - 10:45am in the Wagner Hursch room, just off the Narthex, beginning Sunday 9/12/2021

The Seekers class will meet during the regular Sunday School hour on Sunday morning. We will meet in person in the Wagner Hursch classroom. We have been meeting during the pandemic on-line and are looking forward to being with each other in person. We usually choose a book and then we share leadership in leading the discussions. We choose a book and then each person buys the book in a book store or online. The book we chose to read and discuss when we go back in person is Women of the Torah:Matriarchs and Heroes of Israel by Stephen Binz.

For questions, or to register for the class, please contact Janice Eddey at jemeddey42@gmail.com

“When Kids Come Out” – A Four-Session Class for Parents of LGBTQ Children
offered on Zoom

When a child comes out to his/her/their family, it often raises many questions for both the child and for the family. For example:

- What does it mean for the family when a child comes out to his/her/their parents?
- What does it mean for the parents’ relationship to their church?
- What does it mean for the parents’ own faith?
- How do parents navigate their own “coming out” after their children have come out to them?
- What do I/we need to know as parents of an LGBTQ child about the decisions that will be made at the next General Conference?

The sessions are designed to provide a safe space where questions and concerns can be dealt with openly and honestly.

These questions are among those that will be addressed in the series of four classes that will be held on Wednesday evenings:

Wednesdays, September 8, 15, 22, 29

This session of the class will be held on Zoom this fall. The meetings will begin at 7:00 pm and conclude by 8:30 pm.

If you want to participate in the class, or if you have questions, please email Jim at jwaugh3@mac.com. Put “Kids Class” in the Subject line. A few days prior to the class session, you will receive a Zoom invitation from Jim for the sessions.

The Rev. Jim Waugh, retired pastor in the West Ohio Conference, will lead the group. Jim and his wife, Carol, have an adult daughter, Lisa, who came out to them several years ago. Jim is also the chair of the Parents Reconciling Network Board (a group related to the Reconciling Ministries Network).

Guidelines for Holy Conferencing

Guidelines for Holy Conferencing: What God Expects of Us

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly ... And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:12-16a,17).

- Every person is a child of God. Always speak respectfully. One can disagree without being disagreeable.
- As you patiently listen and observe the behavior of others, be open to the possibility that God can change the views of any or all parties in the discussion.
- Listen patiently before formulating responses.
- Strive to understand the experience out of which others have arrived at their views.
- Be careful in how you express personal offense at differing opinions. Otherwise dialogue may be inhibited.
- Accurately reflect the views of others when speaking. This is especially important when you disagree with a position.
- Avoid using inflammatory words, derogatory names, or an excited and angry voice.
- Avoid making generalizations about individuals and groups. Make your point with specific evidence and examples.
- Make use of facilitators and mediators.
- Remember that people are defined, ultimately, by their relationship with God -- not by the flaws we discover, or think we discover, in their views and actions.

We believe Christians can discuss important issues without the acrimonious debate and parliamentary maneuvering that can divide a group into contending factions. We see too many examples of that in secular society. We believe the Holy Spirit leads in all things, especially as we make decisions. We want to avoid making decisions in a fashion that leaves some feeling like winners and others like losers.

We can change the world through honest conversation on matters about which we are passionate.

How to Register

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FALL 2021-2022

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Discipleship Series List and Contacts:
To register for each class and for information on materials, please contact the class leader.

Making Sense of the Bible

Contact:
associate@chmaster.org
*P & Z

Three Simple Rules

Contact:
pastor@chmaster.org
*P & Z

How Big is Your God?

Contact:
jhinton@otterbein.edu
(614)891-7814
*P

Soul Healing

Contact:
annpeat@columbus.rr.com
(614)890-3802
*P & Z

Women of the Torah: Matriarchs and Heroes of Israel

Contact:
jemeddey42@gmail.com
*P

When Kids Come Out

Contact:
jwaugh3@mac.com
*Z

***P=IN-PERSON *Z=ZOOM**