

adult learning

program summary

Wednesday Night Programs

This year our Wednesday Night gatherings will be broken into three parts, with all events on Zoom.

You can join fellow parishioners online for Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm, followed at 6:00 pm by our study topic and continued conversation at 7:00 pm. You can choose to come for all or part of our evening together. Register in advance for this meeting <u>here</u>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. This link will be emailed each Wednesday to all registered attendees. Contact for Zoom link: Donna Horizon, 355-1779 or dhorizon@doers.org Contact for Technical Support: Michael Smith (804) 840-2689 or msmith@doers.org Contact for Worship: Mary Brown 355-1779, ext. 313 or mbrown@doers.org Contact for Study: Hilary Streever, 355-1779 ext. 319 or hstreever@doers.org

September 15 • Welcome Wednesday

After worship at 5:30 pm, we'll continue simply with fellowship to catch up with each other since the summer.

September 22 to October 13 ● Arts and Theology

Don't let the word 'theology' scare you off! Come to hear a variety of Christian leaders wax eloquently about the important role the arts play in our Christian faith and religion: from visual arts, to poetry, to music.

October 20 to November 24 • Becoming Beloved Community History Project: 1865-1900 Last fall, a group of Doers began researching the history of St. James's through the lens of race, a few decades at a time. This time, they are asking questions like, what was the parish's involvement in Reconstruction? This series will also include presentations from local and church historians, as well as viewings of the recent PBS documentary How the Monuments Came Down (https://vpm.org/how-the-monuments-came-down-0)

December 1 to December 15 • Embodying the Incarnation

Our Advent series will be led by St. Jameser Sarah Eck, licensed yoga instructor and leader of St. James's Community Yoga, and the Rev. Hilary Streever. We will explore traditional and new

ways to pray with and through our bodies as we encounter again the story of the mystery of the Incarnation.

Small Groups - Sundays

<u>Sunday Bible Study</u> • <u>Most Sundays, October 3 to December 19, at 10:15 am</u> Parkinson Room with the Rev. Doug Wigner

Intentional Spirituality Group • First Sunday of the month, 10:15 am

Peterkin Parlor, with Brother Leo Campos and the Rev. Hilary Streever.

What does it mean to be spiritual as a Christian? How can we develop spiritual disciplines that bring us closer to Christ daily? Led by Br. Leo Campos and the Rev. Hilary Streever, the Intentional Spirituality Group is a holy space for walking in the Way of Christ together. We share ancient and new spiritual practices, prayerfully read relevant books together, hold each other accountable to disciplines, and support each other in the Way. The group also meets for retreats. Drop in or come regularly!

Small Groups - Weekdays

St. James has an active and diverse group of small programs all throughout the week--from book clubs and bible studies to EfM and even yoga.

Education for Ministry (EfM) • Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m., beginning on September 22 Westminster Canterbury Richmond (1600 Westbrook Ave, Richmond, VA 23227)

Are you seeking to deepen and grow your faith? Education for Ministry (EfM) is designed to help us understand our lives and shape our actions and is one of the Episcopal Church's finest educational offerings. EfM is a program designed and directed by the University of the South (Sewanee) and is more than 40 years old.

Its curriculum of study, worship, theological reflection and small group interaction is one of the most comprehensive theological education experiences available, outside of seminary. Through EfM, we learn how we might respond to our baptismal call to represent Christ and his Church; "to bear witness to him ... to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take [our] place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church." (Book of Common Prayer). One EfM graduate said, "EfM has helped me be more aware of the God-full moments in my daily walk – at work, at home, at play – and to discover how I can minister right where I am, right now, and to explore possible new ministry." There is a tuition fee; scholarships are available. Visit the Sewanee EfM website at efm.sewanee.edu for more information.

Contact: Jane Dowrick, 804-334-0117 or efmvirginia@gmail.com

Sacred Ground • Begins October 2021

A curriculum designed by the Episcopal Church's ministry for Becoming Beloved Community, Sacred Ground is a powerful ten-part film and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. This series is especially designed to help white people talk about racism with other white people. You are invited to join one of our small, lay-facilitated groups, which meet once or twice a month. Each small group walks together through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. Learn more at www.doers.org/racial-justice-reconciliation-ministry, www.episcopalchurch.org/sacredground, www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community.

Contact: The Rev. Hilary Streever, hstreever@doers.org or 355-1779, ext. 319

St. James's Community Yoga • Mondays at 4:00 pm

via Zoom

Led by St. Jameser Sarah Eck, classes are generally one hour in duration and include an asana practice, breathwork and a short meditation. The classes are designed for all levels. Participants would need a mat, two blocks and a strap for most classes, or reasonable facsimiles.

Contact: Sarah Eck, ecksaraha@gmail.com

The Tuesday Readers • Fourth Tuesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Michaux House, Fagan Parlor

Transitioning from the Age of Covid, autumnl beckons with a new normal and gratitude for our connectedness after challenging times. Tuesday Readers 2021-2022 meets the fourth Tuesday of each month for an evening of book discussions and fellowship. Please join us! See the Fall or Spring Study Guide for book list.

Contacts: Mary Lou Rumble, 804-874-6374 or marylouise.rva@gmail.com Diane Dodd McCue, 804-690-4316 or ddoddmccue@vcu.edu

Brown Bag Book Group • First Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 pm

Michaux House, Room 306

The Brown Bag Book Club Group reads and discusses both fiction and non-fiction selections, recommended and selected by members. The book list is determined in late summer for the next year and is available on the church website and calendar publications. All interested readers are invited to bring a lunch and join in the lively and thoughtful discussions. See the Fall and Spring Study Guides for book list.

Contact: Linda Owen, 240-5546 or lindaowen23@gmail.com

September 2 – The Nickel Boys, by Colson Whitehead

- October 7 The Yellow Wife, by Sadega Johnson
- November 4 The Book of Longings, by Sue Monk Kidd
- December 2 How the Word is Passed, by Clint Smith
- January 6 Thick and Other Essays, by Tressie McMillan Cottom

Tuesday Men's Bible Study • Tuesdays 7:30 to 8:30 am

Valentine Hall

A weekly hour of fellowship, discussion and good food. Areas of study for this group have included the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the Book of Acts, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Genesis, and Exodus.

Contact: Patrick Strickler, 539-1306 or <u>jpstrickler@verizon.net</u> or Stephen Spraker, 282-6773, <u>sspraker@bbtscottstringfellow.com</u>

Women's Bible Wisdom ● 2nd and 4th Tuesday, beginning Sept. 14 - 5:00 pm. via Zoom
This Bible study meets twice a month to read together through a biblical book or theme at a
time. We explore when and under what conditions the passages were written, and prayerfully
ask how God is speaking through them now to us as Jesus Christ's followers. This year we
continue our study of the highlights of the Christian biblical story using Seamless:
Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story, by Angie Smith. Next stop: the New
Testament!

Contact: Mary Lou Rumble, 874-6374 or marylouise.rva@gmail.com

<u>Living Faith Bible Study</u> • <u>Wednesdays, 10 to 11:30 am, beginning September 15</u> Michaux House, Room 205 or Zoom

This opportunity for fellowship, spiritual refreshment and enlightenment begins with prayer and a period of silence for meditation, followed by study and discussions that help to make our Christian faith a "living faith" and apply the witness of the Scripture to our everyday lives. The subjects for discussion each week are the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday. Leadership of the study is a shared effort among the participants and from time to time our clergy drops in to lead our discussion. Come join us! We plan to begin our Fall session on September 15.

Contact: Betse Trice, 282-4726 or betset@hotmail.com

<u>Thursday Men's Bible Study Breakfast</u> • <u>Every other Thursday, 7:30 to 8:30 am</u> Valentine Hall

We are a lay-led group that meets every other Thursday to read and discuss the Lectionary Readings for the upcoming Sunday. It's a great way to learn the scriptures and build deeper relationships with other St. Jamesers. We start off with fellowship over coffee and breakfast, then move into the readings then comments from the speaker before we engage in an open discussion. We usually pitch in \$5 to contribute to the breakfast and try to conclude right at

8:30am. This group was started by Buzz Valentine in 1984 and has been faithfully meeting ever since. Let us know if you're coming so we can save a space for you or get on our email list!

Contact: Drew Lichtenberger, drewlichtenberger@gmail.com or (804) 396-3002