2019 ADULT FORUM FALL SESSIONS, Sundays: 9:15am to 10:15am, Parish Hall

September 8: Sunday School Kick-off, Children’s Christian Formation begins! Adult Forum begins!

September 8, 15, 22: “Where are right-wing and conservative Christians attitudes coming from these days?” Father David Harper, They claim to base their social, political, economic, and environmental positions on Scripture. What Scripture might that be? Understanding that would go far in understanding them.

September 29: Effective Team Building through One on One Listening, Nathan Sooy, 2 sessions—several weeks apart—so that participants have the chance to do one on ones with other St. Luke’s members in between and share results.


October 13, 20: Invite, Welcome, Connect, Deb Eibin, A ministry of personal invitation; a theology of welcome and hospitality; and a way of connecting in hearing people’s stories.

October 27: The Episcopal Home in Shippensburg, Jo Mitchell and Ann Talbot, An update on the life and needs of residents at our Episcopal Home in Shippensburg. St. Luke’s has a long history of supporting the Home and we are indeed Woven in Mission—just as the Episcopal Home needs us, we need the Episcopal Home.

November 3: Effective Team Building through One on One Listening, Nathan Sooy, 2nd session—participants have the chance to share the results of one on ones with other St. Luke’s members.

November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 8: Ways to Share Our Story and Follow Jesus, Marsha Roscoe, Stephenson School for Ministry for Parish Life School, “Explores how to seek, name and celebrate Jesus’ loving presence in the stories of all people. Students engage scripture and prayer practices that help us identify and name our own encounters with Jesus and that seek and name where we see the presence of Jesus in our communities and neighborhoods (five-week course).” All are invited to be a part of the optional Monday evening zoom sessions: November 4, 11, 18, 25, December 2. The course resources—such as readings will be emailed to each participant, and presented/discussed during Sunday’s Adult Forum.

December 15: A Conversation with Bishop Audrey Scanlan, An opportunity to discuss the life of the diocese, hopes for the future and how St. Luke’s is a part of the Church’s common life together. Led by Bishop Audrey Scanlan.

December 22: Christmas Break

December 29: New Year’s Break

2020 ADULT FORUM SPRING SESSIONS, Sundays: 9:15am to 10:15am, Parish Hall

January 5: New Year’s Break

January 12, 19, and 26: The ‘Good Samaritan’ Parable in Word & Deed: Examples from Christian History, Dr. Emerson Powery, The “Good Samaritan” is one of Jesus’s best known parables and has significant relevance for every age. Of particular interest is the hermeneutical nature of Jesus’s initial response. To the lawyer’s opening query, Jesus replies, “How do you read?” Indeed, the way one reads the Bible defines and determines the way a person thinks about life. We will explore how various Christians—in distinct cultural settings—have interpreted this parable in order to grapple with it for our contemporary age.

February 2, 9: A Different Perspective on Spirituality, via Native Americans, Deacon Eric Henry, A look at the divine spiritual being we all are, through unique perspectives, and practices.


March 1: Annual Meeting of the Congregation

March 8, 15: Christians and Social Justice, Nathan Sooy, A Christian commitment to justice leaves open the question of how Christians should move for justice. I will comment on the three most common approaches to justice: social service, advocacy and organizing.

March 22, 29: In a world where you can be anything...choose to be kind, Antoinette Dziedzic, Have you noticed that people seem to be less civil towards one another? Regardless of age, gender, religion, nationality, economic status, or education, basic kindness can go a long way in creating a world that God intended for us to live in. It’s time to plant seeds of kindness so that we can grow a more loving world!

April 5: Palm Sunday, Holy Week for Kids and Adults, Intergenerational, Donna Harper.

April 12: Easter Break

April 19, 26, May 3: The Synagogue, The Church, The Mosque: Three Sanctuaries, Sr. Susanna Bede Caroselli, We see three magnificent places of worship, in Sardis, Rome, and Damascus, discussing how beliefs and liturgy shape architecture.

May 10, 17: No Longer Strangers: Exploring Immigration Issues, Deb Eibin and Jennifer Weber, A prayerful reflection and respectful discussion about migration/immigration issues through the lens of scripture and shared values.
ADDITIONAL FORMATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES:

CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES: Sundays, 9:15 to 10:15 am, for ages 3 to 12, Using SHINE, LIVING in GOD’S LIGHT, the younger and older children share the Bible story together as they build a strong community of faith. SHINE, start small, let faith grow!

EDUCATION for MINISTRY (EfM): Sundays, 12:15–2:00 pm, For those interested in the practice (or praxis) of our theological beliefs and our relationships with others who believe as we do or who live out a different faith. The Fall Term for EfM begins on September 22 and will meet in one of the upstairs rooms. The program is developed and administered by Sewanee, the (Episcopal) University of the South. This is our 4th year and the emphasis will be on theology and ethics. EfM is all about lively discussions and sharing of our faith with our small group. PHD’s are not required. If you are interested in what God is up to in the world and what that has to do with Christians like ourselves, ask Fr. Dave for more information.

ECW WOMEN’S RETREAT: Friday, September 13 to Sunday 15, Adventures with the Psalms, Janet Strikler, the Third Order, Society of Saint Francis, Rev. Linda Watkins, St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, Retreat will be in Waynesboro, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Shippensburg, $75 includes Saturday lunch and dinner. Hotel on own. Scholarships available.

FALL QUIET DAY: Saturday, October 26, 9 to 11:30 am, “Healing the Ordinary—Relationships and Creativity” Cathleen Lauer, author and spiritual director, and Kathy T. Hettinga, designer. Cathleen’s book, Calling Mother, Out of Darkness to Light, contains conversations with her mother that show how being present in ordinary conversations allows space for the Holy Spirit. Kathy will discuss how art reveals the extraordinary within the ordinary. Books purchased for participants. Light brunch served.

ADVENT QUIET DAY: Saturday, December 14, 9 to 11:30 am, Bearing Gifts, Sue Schmidt, Sue brings her interests in the Spirit and co-creation to this Advent Quiet Day. Like Mary, who bore the amazing gift of the Christ child, we are bearers of gifts, and like Mary, the Spirit is at work in us both inspiring and assisting as we say yes to God’s invitation to join the Spirit’s work. Using creative prompts and suggestions we will spend the morning with the Spirit, making and then sharing our gifts with each other. Light brunch served.

LENTEN SERIES: Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1; 6 to 7:15 pm, Who Is Jesus?, Father David and Donna Harper, As we walk our annual Lenten journey with Jesus toward the cross and resurrection, have you ever wondered just “who is this Jesus?” we are trying to keep up with, to keep in step with, and to follow throughout our lives? Through these sessions, we will be exploring the question of “Who is Jesus?” through the lenses of Mark, Matthew, Luke, John, Paul, Hebrews etc., keeping in mind that each of us who reads the New Testament is viewing Jesus through our own lenses. Light supper provided.