

NEXT STEP

Adult Education Newsletter

Grace and Peace!

This is an exciting season at Gurnee Community Church!

As summer winds down, we begin looking ahead to the launch of a variety of new programs and ministry opportunities. Classes and groups for our children and youth will soon be getting started again after a summer hiatus – and everyone is trying to figure out how we will get by when Pastor Brian leaves on Renewal Leave in only a few weeks.

Of course, new Adult Education offerings are rolling out this fall as well, so our goal in this month's edition of the Newsletter will be to highlight many of the opportunities available to you. We trust you will find something that interests you.

In future editions, we will take a closer look at many of these classes and groups – as well as the people who are involved with them. We'll also hear some stories about how God is using the ministries of GCC to help those who participate in them to live and love the Word of God.

But for this month – let's take a high-level view of the incredible learning and fellowship options available to you!

In Christ's love together,

Pastor Paul

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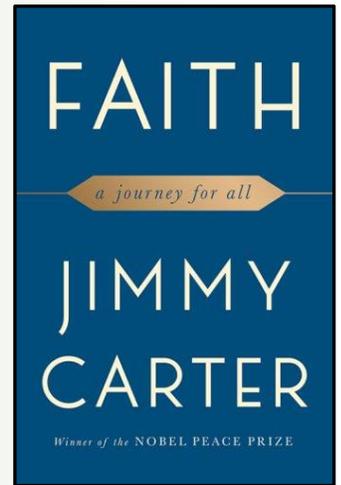
What's Your NEXT STEP?

Thursday AM Men's Group

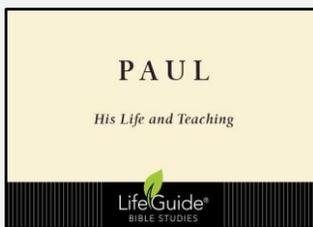
Meeting on Thursday mornings from 6:30 to 8:00 am at the Panera in Gurnee this group of men selects a book and, each week, chapters of the book are assigned, and the discussion is focused on that reading.

The current study is based on President Jimmy Carter's new book: *Faith*. In this powerful reflection, President Carter contemplates how faith has sustained him in happiness and disappointment. He writes, "My primary goal is to explore the broader meaning of faith, its far-reaching effect on our lives, and its relationship to past, present, and future events in America and around the world." As President Carter examines faith's many meanings, he describes how to accept it, live it, how to doubt and find faith again.

For more information on the Thursday AM Men's Group contact:
stephen.j.wantoch@saint-gobain.com.



"he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion"



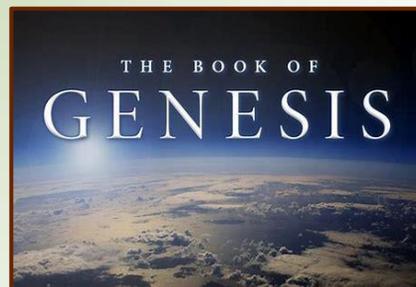
Tuesday AM Women's Study

On Tuesday mornings (9:30 – 11:00 am) you will find a group of women meeting at GCC in the Community Room where they delight in opening God's Word together and then basking in the ministry of the Holy Spirit as they dive into Scripture.

Their new study (Sept) is **Paul – His Life and Teachings**. The apostle Paul led a dramatic and fascinating life from his conversion on the road to Damascus to his trial before the Romans. His letters shaped the believers in the early church just as they do today.

For more information on the Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study contact Diane Jensen at 847-244-4888.

Sunday AM Adult Study



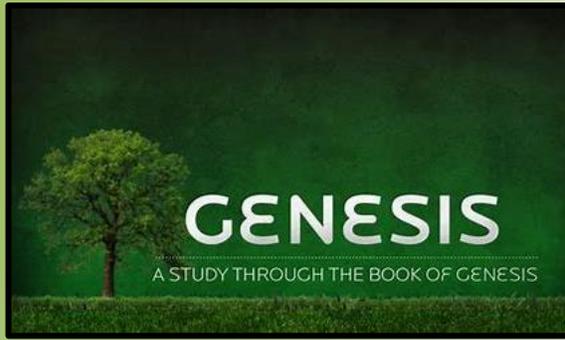
The **Book of Genesis** introduces us to the Creator God and establishes his relationship to mankind as created in His image and likeness.

Several key themes of Scripture are initiated in the Book of Genesis: God is one; the goodness of creation and the world; God's undying love for mankind despite man's sin and disobedience; God as a just and merciful king; God as active in history by making covenants with His people; the proper response of obedience to God's Word; and the gift of Hope through the prophecy of the coming Messiah.

Join us Sunday mornings at 8:00 and 9:15 am (same material repeated) in the Community Room for an in-depth study of the Book of Genesis (**new study begins September 8**) as we examine these themes and much more.

There is no homework or advance preparation needed for this class and all are welcome whenever they can make it.

For more information contact Steve Saunders or Joe Gibes:
saunderstm@sbcglobal.net, jagibes@att.net.



Lake County Bible Study

LCBS meets weekly during the school year on Monday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm right here at Gurnee Community Church (in the Chapel).

This group takes a deep dive into Scripture through daily readings, guiding questions, small group discussion, and real-world application of God's truth into our everyday lives.

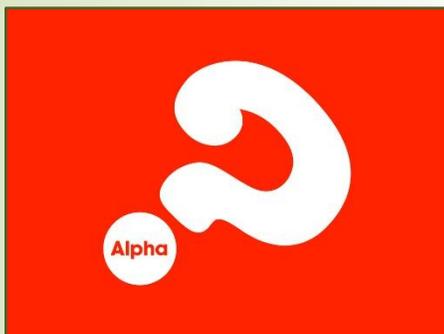
The current course of study will be a 30-week review of the **Book of Genesis** and begins on **September 10, 2018**.

Genesis explores the nature of God and humanity's relationship with our creator. It then turns its attention to the ancestral history of God's 'chosen' people. Why did God choose a people for himself and what purposes existed in his choosing?

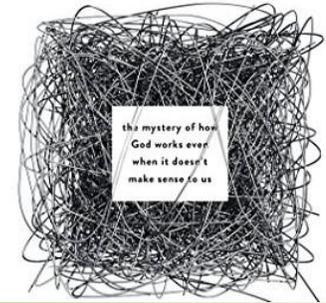
In Genesis, God also establishes a series of covenants, which shape not only the balance of the Old Testament but also run through the New Testament. Interested in learning how and why? Join us!

For more information on LCBS contact Keith and Tracy Kreb (keithkreb@aol.com, tracykreb@aol.com).

Starting September 26, 2018!



MESS-I-OLGY



Monday PM Men's Group

This group has been meeting on Tuesday evenings for a while now but made the move to Monday nights in late spring. If you've been looking for a group but Tuesdays didn't work for you this is your big chance.

This summer the men will be completing a series of short book studies interspersed with some field trips and other events. For example, one of their studies this summer is "Messiology" written by the founder of the largest missions organization in the world!

Summer schedules can be challenging so their goal is to provide some flexibility and a sense of welcome. Now is a great time to stop by and get to know the guys and see if this group would be a good fit for you.

The Monday PM Men's Group meets from **7:00 to 8:30 pm** at the **Panera** in Gurnee.

For more information on the Tuesday Men's Group contact John Skillman (ibresqone@sbcglobal.net).

Parenting Through the Phases

Parenting is hard. It's complicated. It's messy. It's not a sport with clearly defined wins and losses. In fact, it doesn't even come with a rulebook. Parenting is a *relationship*.



As your child passes through various stages of growth and development, are there different tools and strategies you should be using to get the most out of each phase? After all, isn't a three-year-old different from an eight-year-old? And what about teenagers?

Join us beginning the week of October 7 as we launch a six-week class/study entitled **Parenting Through the Phases**. You must register for this program! Visit the table in the narthex or sign up via www.gcchome.com.

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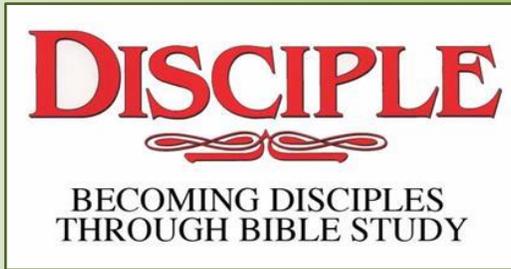
General E-mail address:
gcoffice@gcchome.org

For Our Neighbors

Find us on the Web:
www.gcchome.org

NEXT STEP

Disciple Bible Study



Jesus issued a challenge to those who would follow him; he said, *"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples."* Jesus invites us to take up residence in his teaching, to spend time with him; and in exchange he promises that we will find a home in His way.

The **Disciple Bible Study** is designed to help you establish a place of growth and nurture, refuge and redemption, trust and hope. We invite you to put yourself under the power of God's Word and experience the transformation Jesus promised to those who would follow him as disciples.

Join us beginning **September 12, 2018** for an in-depth **34-week** study of Scripture. The course includes video teaching, a study guide, and a Wednesday evening small group class session. Out-of-class reading will require a few additional hours each week (\$50). To register stop by the table in the Narthex or visit gcchome.org. See Pastor Paul for more information (paulkattner@gcchome.org).

"It's Just a Phase" Mini-Retreat

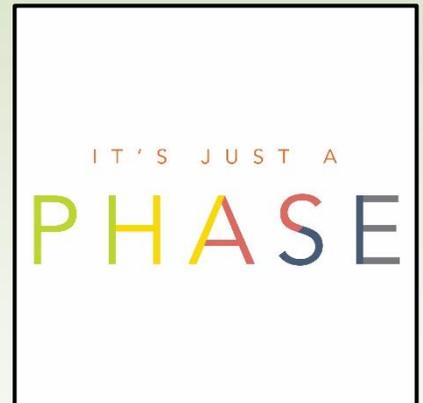
936 weeks

That's how long the average child spends under the direct care and nurture of his/her parents. That's 936 weeks in a kid's life when we can leverage distinctive opportunities to influence their future. **Not much time is it?**

When referring to our children we often say, "they're just going through a phase." Well, that idea takes on a new importance when it comes up against the reality of 936 weeks, doesn't it?

Join us on **Saturday afternoon (September 29) from 3:00-4:30 pm** for a Mini-Retreat that will introduce you to the Phase Project: a synthesis of personal experience, academic research, and hours of focus groups with leaders designed to provide parents with exactly what they need to make the most of each phase in their kid's life.

To register stop by the table in the Narthex or visit gcchome.org. For more information see Pastor Paul (paulkattner@gcchome.org), Carrie Yeaman, or Josiah Goering.



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