

Sunday Studies

Share Jesus Without Fear by William Fay. Buddy Bounds, Inviting Lay Director, is available to teach this study during the Sunday school hour to classes who are interested in learning to share faith in a natural and welcoming manner. The study is four weeks long. Contact Buddy Bounds to schedule him for your class. Sunday school classes may consider combining for this study.

Step by Step through the New Testament by Thomas Lea and Tom Hudson. The second half of this year-long course begins in Acts and provides a survey of the message and important events, people, places and themes of the New Testament. New students are welcomed. Facilitated by Gay Aycock.

- Sundays, January 11 – May 2 from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. in room L 05
Book - \$15.00

10 Gospel Promises for Later Life by Jane Marie Thibault. *Is there any good news in the "Good News" for older adults?* Out of Thibault's reflection on the relevance of the gospel to later life comes hope. "While secular society offers long-term care insurance, Jesus offers the promise of abundant life in the here and now as well in heaven," Thibault says. Each chapter of *10 Gospel Promises for Later Life* addresses a fear about aging and faith and gives an example of its negative effect on a person's daily life. Identify your own fears (or the fears of a loved one) about aging, and learn from Thibault's sensitive study how to make the most of God's gift of longer life. Facilitated by Lynn Sorrell.

- Sundays, February 14 – March 21 from 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. in room 141.
Book: \$10.00

Listening for the Heartbeat of God: A Celtic Spirituality by J. Philip Newell. Join the Centering Prayer Group for this study of Celtic spirituality as well as the practice of centering prayer. The book presents a spirituality for today modeled on vital Celtic faith characteristics, including the goodness of creation and of humanity made in the image of God.

- Sundays, January 10 – March 21 at 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor
Book: \$10.00

Monday Studies

A Closer Walk: A Spiritual Lifeline to God by Catherine Marshall. Lovingly compiled by her husband of many years, *A Closer Walk* is drawn from Catherine Marshall's personal journals. Here, the beloved writer reveals how she journeyed towards a closer walk with her Lord by using the Bible to give guidance, not just for her spiritual concerns and questions, but in each ordinary occurrence of everyday life. Facilitated by Josie Reid

- Mondays, January 4 – May 10 from 9:45 – 11:00 a.m. in room 141.
Book: \$7.00

Encountering Jesus by Zan Holmes. This study helps laypersons encounter Jesus and live as his disciples. Jesus is sought as healer, comforter, friend, justifier, sanctifier, liberator, and seeker of justice. The author will be our guest evangelist for Revival in May, 2010. Facilitated by Clark Jenkins.

- Mondays, February 22 – March 22 from 12:00 noon – 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be served for \$5.00.

Book: \$11.50

Tuesday Studies

Bad Boys of the New Testament: Exploring Men of Questionable Virtue by Barbara Essex. Another lively and challenging look at the scripture by author Barbara Essex (“Bad Girls of the Bible”). Each chapter tells the stories of selected biblical “bad boys” in the New Testament such as the Elder Brother of the Prodigal Son parable, the Pharisees, Judas Iscariot, Pontius Pilate, and Ananias. Join teacher Barbara Goodlett as she facilitates the study and discussion of some of the most questionable characters of the Bible.

- Tuesdays, January 19 – February 23 at 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in room 141.

Book: \$16.00

Writing Your Own Story with Billie Chesney. Have you ever wanted to write down stories and memories of your life, especially your faith story? Billie Chesney will help you find the right words and offer you tips and encouragement for passing along important stories to your family. There is no book for this class, but there will be homework!

- Tuesdays, March 2 – 23 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in room 141.

Wednesday Studies

Listening for the Heartbeat of God: A Celtic Spirituality by J. Philip Newell. Join the Centering Prayer Group for this study of Celtic spirituality as well as the practice of centering prayer. The book presents a spirituality for today modeled on vital Celtic faith characteristics, including the goodness of creation and of humanity made in the image of God.

- Wednesdays, January 13 – March 24 at 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. in room 232.

Book: \$10.00

Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Study Group. You are invited to join this group of women of various ages for Bible study. Max Lucado’s **Experiencing the Words of Jesus: Hearing His Voice, Trusting His Words** will be the study material this semester. Facilitated by Joy Eastridge and Joyce Brogden.

- Wednesdays, January 13 – April 28 at 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. at Joyce Brogden’s home (1501 Dobyns Drive).

Book: TBA

24 Hours that Changed the World by Adam Hamilton. No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. In this book, Adam Hamilton guides us through the last twenty-four hours of

Jesus' life. Each chapter is designed to help the reader experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you have never done before.

- Wednesdays, February 10 – March 24 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the Theatre Room
Facilitated by Janet Batts (formerly Manning).

Book: \$14.00

The Orthodox Heretic and Other Impossible Tales by Peter Rollins. Rollins recasts some of the most familiar parables of and stories about Jesus, sometimes subversively. His point? That Christians are the body of Christ, and when we oppress the poor and hoard scarce resources, we are saying that represents the kind of God we serve. Rollins challenges Christianity-as-usual and urges all of us to deeper relationship and commitment to God in Christ. Facilitated by Jim Welch.

- Wednesdays, February 24 – March from 6:00 – 7:15 p.m. 24 in room L 14

Book: \$14.00

Thursday Studies

Doing Justice in a Purple Congregation by Jim Ryan. “Jim Ryan brings his humor, compassion and pastoral experience together in framing the essentials for “speaking the truth in love” in theologically, politically, and culturally diverse mainline congregations.” (Warner H. Brown, Jr. Bishop, UMC) Facilitated by Zellie Earnest.

- Thursdays, January 14 – 28 at 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in room 141.

Book: \$10.00

“Breaking Free - The Journey, the Stories” by Beth Moore. Based on Isaiah 61, Beth Moore has revived and edited one of her most beloved studies. This in-depth Bible study draws parallels between the captive Israelites and today's believers. Reedited Bible study content with testimonies of how women have found freedom and have been delivered from their personal captivity will make this a study you can't miss. Facilitated by Terry Tolson.

- Thursdays, January 14 – March 25 from 9:30 – 12:00 noon in room L 44.

Book: \$15.00

“The Multi-site Church Revolution” by Surratt, Ligon and Bird. Is First Broad Street the kind of church that God can use to reach the 75% of persons in Sullivan who are unchurched? Come to the book study and discerning prayer group continuing from last year. Facilitated by Andrew Amodei and Mike McIntire.

- Wednesdays, January 13 – March 10 from 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. in room 141.

The Read ‘Em and Reap Book Club – Join the ***Read ‘Em and Reap Book Club*** at First Broad Street to discuss popular and challenging books. The schedule is:

January 21, 2010: ***Eat, Pray, Love*** by Elizabeth Gilbert

February 18, 2010: ***Three Cups of Tea*** by Greg Mortenson

March 18, 2010: ***The Help*** by Kathryn Stockett

April 15, 2010: ***Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate***
by Jerry Bridges

May 20, 2010: ***Julie and Julia*** by Julie Powell

Mingle and munch begins at 6:15 in the church library followed by discussion from 6:30 to 7:30. For more information, please contact Beth Geno (iegeno@embarqmail.com) or Kay Ann Smith (288-2468). Everyone is encouraged to come reap the benefits of belonging to a book club!

Christian Living Workshops and Small Groups At First Broad Street UMC

“Love and Logic: Helping Parents and Teachers to Raise Responsible Kids” presented by Holly Roe from Kodak UMC. Holly is the mother of three children. With a degree in psychology and human services, she teaches practical techniques to help parents and educators work with kids of all ages. This workshop is open to all parents, grandparents, teachers, and mentors.

- Friday, February 19 (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.) and Saturday, February 20 (10:00 – 12:00 noon). Childcare will be provided. Reservations deadline February 14, 2010.

Cost: \$10.00 / single

\$20.00 / couple*

*Couples must reside in the same household or parent the same children.

Marriage Enrichment Retreat with Pete and Ginny Rowlett, Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment, UM General Board of Discipleship.

- Friday, April 16 – Sunday, April 18, 2010 at First Broad Street UMC. Limited childcare will be provided (Friday night, and Sunday morning). Reservations deadline April 11, 2010. Limit 12 couples.

Cost: \$50.00 / couple

The Role of Faith in Challenging Times: A Stephen Ministry Focus. Faith for Jesus is *the opposite of anxiety*. If we are anxious, if we are trying to control everything, if we are worried about many things, we have not trusted that God is good and is on our side. We're trying to do it all yourself, lift ourselves up by our own bootstraps. The Stephen Ministry is here to help us learn how to develop our faith in the face of life's challenges. This is one topic in a series that will be led by Stephen Ministers at our church. If you are interested, please call Nick Grabar at 288-2320 for more information and meeting times.

God Sightings – Intergenerational discipleship groups for all members of God's family.

First Broad Street U.M.C. is trying something new this semester. Using a resource that focuses on reading the Bible together, and sharing stories of God's work in the world (“God Sightings”) groups will meet 2 – 4 times per month to share scripture, prayer and fellowship. Resources include a One Year Bible (reading the Bible through in one year), and a journal for recording stories of where God's work has been sighted in the world.

These home-based groups will be open to all members of First Broad Street U.M.C. as well as neighborhood friends, colleagues and others who are hungry for the word of God and fellowship with those on the faith journey. For more information on “God Sightings” go to www.mygodsightings.com.

If you, and your family or friends are interested in being a part of one of these small groups, **please call Margaret Deans at 224-1513 or email mdeans@fbsumc.org**. Groups are intergenerational (that means all ages are welcomed to study and fellowship together – children, too!) Groups will form in February 2010.