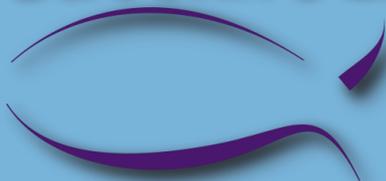


Course Catalog

Winter 2016



St. John's Lutheran Church



2477 West Washington
Springfield, IL 62702
217.793.3933
www.stjohns-springfield.org

Children and Family

SUNDAY

Author Visit: Bullying Presentation

Sunday, January 10 | 9:15-10:15 a.m. | Sanctuary

All St. John's adults and children are invited to a presentation by author, principal, and St. John's Disciple, Matt Rhoades. He will share his book "Tough Luck Tim and the Toilet Twister" and discuss themes of bullying, sibling rivalry, and self esteem. There will be time for a question and answer session for adults.

Sunday School

Classes begin Sunday, January 17 for all ages.

Sock Sunday!

Sunday, February 7 | Shoeman Project Turning Shoes into Water!

This will be our final collection day for shoes. Leave your shoes at church and worship in your socks all morning!

WEDNESDAY

***Sprout!* | January 6 - February 3**

Meal - 5:30 p.m. | Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Step into My Shoes | K-4th Grade | Rooms C and D

*Step Into My Shoes*TM delivers a peek into the daily life of Ugandan Pastor Tom, his wife Nancy and their 12 children, as they gather water, prepare food, find safety when they sleep, go to school, and enjoy time together. Our *Sprout!* class will share in a variety of activities, stories, games, and crafts as we journey with this special family.

Living Well | 5th and 6th Grade | Choir Room

What does it mean to "Live Well"? Classes will explore God's best for us in the areas of money, fitness, and food through games, projects, discussions, and cooking!



Youth

SUNDAY

Sunday School | 7th and 8th Grade

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. | Classes begin Sunday, January 17 | Rooms A and B
Junior High use the Grapple Junior High curriculum. Each week, the tough questions that kids ask are explored through small group conversations, games, Bible study, and zany activities. Please go to Rooms A and B at 9:15 a.m.

STAFF - Students Taking Faith Forward | 5th - 12th grade

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. | 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month

Join us as we plan CONNECT, our 5th - 12th grade worship service which takes place every third Sunday of the month in the gym. Senior High youth plans and executes CONNECT, prepares service projects, and enjoys fellowship every first Sunday of the month! See you in the youth room!

Encounter: Least of These | 7th - 12th Grade

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. | 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month

This generation of students has a natural bend towards doing something to make a difference in the world around them. If we can wrap our minds and hearts around a cause worth investing in, together we can make a global impact for God's glory.

Poverty is a global and local need that is frequently neglected. There are people in our own community who struggle to survive due to poverty. It's an issue that doesn't just impact people down the road, but people around the world, as well. We will continue our meaningful time of Bible study and application, learning exactly what Scripture says about the gospel and poverty. We will explore:

- Why poverty exists
- God's concern for the poor
- God's concern for our attitudes toward the poor
- God's plan to address the needs of the poor
- God's plan to one day relieve the suffering of those who believe in Him

WEDNESDAY

Sprout! | January 6 - February 3

Meal - 5:30 p.m. | Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Our *Sprout!* programming includes classes for Junior and Senior High children. A meal is served from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. and classes are 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

FOCUS: Senior High “Unplugged” Bible Study | Youth Room

You know as well as anyone that teens live each day in a world where image rules. Music videos, movies, TV, and marketing create personas and sell them. Your identity seemingly ebbs and flows as you navigate these cultural waters. Where can you turn for an anchor in the midst of the chaos? Paul’s letter to the Colossians provides just the answer: the person of Christ. Come explore how YOU are called to FOCUS and develop a character and lifestyle that reflects your position a child of God! We will wrap up this study by the end of January.

Living Scripture Junior High Confirmation | Rooms A and B



Young Adult

TUESDAY

Young Adult Bible Study

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. | First Tuesday of Every Month

On the first Tuesday of every month (starting in February) we will learn together how to follow Christ's example and leave our circle of comfort to help those who may not know God while growing in our own faith. All are welcome to join this group and are encouraged to bring friends! We will hold this study at the homes of disciples. Light snacks will be provided. Contact Amanda Johnson (ealynn@hotmail.com) for more info.



SUNDAY

Why is Grace So Amazing?

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. | Adult Meeting Room

Everyone is invited to join us every Sunday morning from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Adult Meeting Room for the Adult Forum as we start back exploring the question, "Why is Grace So Amazing?" Pastor Greg, Pastor Ladd, and St. John's disciple Reggie Wagner co-lead this engaging Bible study looking at key texts that help us more fully understand this core teaching of our Lutheran faith.

January 17 - Shouldn't people clean up before they come to God?
(Romans 5:1-11)

January 24 - Is it okay for Christians to smoke?
(Romans 14)

January 31 - Why would God want to make an example of me?
(Ephesians 2:1-10)

Christians and World Hunger

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. | Begins February 14 | Adult Meeting Room

Starting on Sunday, February 14 at 9:15 a.m. In the Adult Meeting Room, Pastor Greg, Pastor Ladd, and St. John's disciple Reggie Wagner will begin co-leading a six week journey reflecting on hunger, hope, and God's love in a world of both abundance, and need. Each weekly session is based on a devotion from The ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, a special devotional for our congregation to use as we take up the challenge to respond to hunger. So join us as we learn more about God's word and how He is calling us through it to live out our faith.

New Disciples' Classes

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Classes begin Sunday, February 21 | Adult Meeting Room

Our next series of New Disciples' Classes for anyone interested in joining St. John's or learning more about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus begins on Sunday, February 21 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and continues through Sunday, March 20. The class meets in the Adult Meeting Room (AMR). Supper and child care are provided. To sign-up or for more information, contact one of the pastors or Alison Storm, New Disciples' Coordinator, at newdisciples@stjohns-springfield.org.

TUESDAY

Women's Bible Study

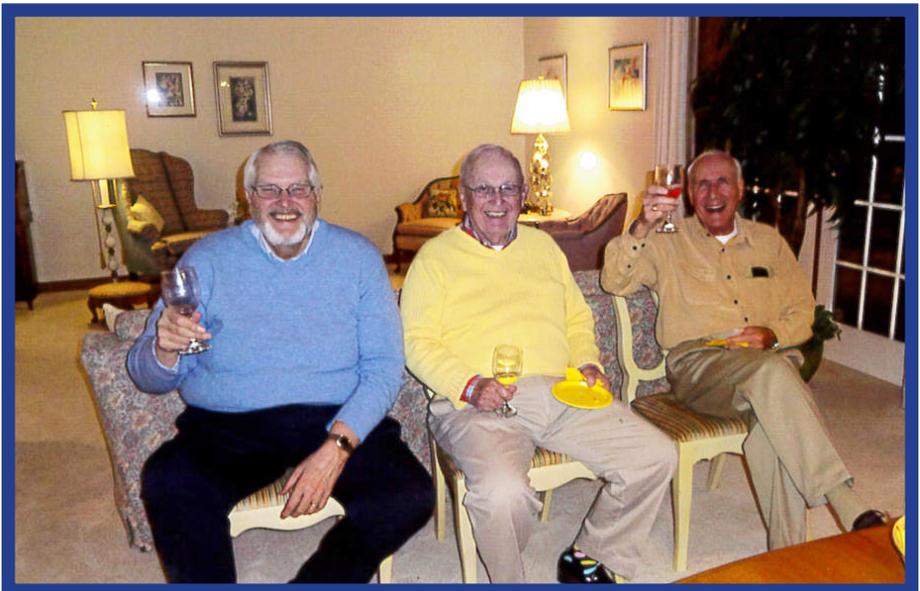
9:00 a.m. | Adult Meeting Room

Join us every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. as we begin a study entitled *A Confident Heart* by Renee Swope. Renee is co-host of Proverbs 31 Ministries Radio Show, a popular conference speaker, and a best selling author. In the study, Renee shows us through scripture a closer walk with God as we study His word. Come join us as we experience the journey Renee has walked and as we experience the gift of God's security, fulfillment, and confidence we all long to experience in our lives. Looking forward to having you join us! Questions? Call Marilyn Witkop at 546.8769.

Men's Bible Study

9:00 a.m. | Parlor

Join us every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. We meet in the Parlor with George Lambert. Please feel welcome. Classes resumed on January 5 with *The Book of Revelation*. Craig Koester is Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota where he has taught since 1986. Over six podcasts, Dr. Craig Koester will guide you through the visions of Revelation and emphasize the centrality of God and Christ who hold our future. Some of the images are disturbing and others are encouraging, but when read together, the visions continue to point us to the God who has created us and the Lamb who redeems us by his blood. When Revelation awakens a renewed sense of faith and hope in its readers, it is having the effect for which it was written



WEDNESDAY

Sprout! | January 6 - February 3

Meal - 5:30 p.m. | Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation for Adults | Narthex

Each Wednesday starting January 13, Pastor Ladd is leading a five-session series for all parents of 7th-12th graders in the congregation titled "Confirmation: It's Not Just for Kids Anymore!" Our confirmation ministry here at St. John's is such a hit with the kids, why not share it with their parents?! During this initial five-week session, Pastor Ladd will lead parents on an exploration of the life of Jesus, looking at how each story applies to our lives of faith today, particularly as we share that faith with our kids. This highly energetic and interactive class meets each Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parlor as part of our midweek *Sprout!* ministry. Come and grow in your relationship with Christ and with others!

Study of Job | Adult Meeting Room

This study is loosely based on the book "Let God Be God" by Ray Stedman, this study of Job explores suffering and the character of God. The Book of Job is classified by scholars as Wisdom literature, along with Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. Generations of readers have pondered the perspective on suffering presented in this ancient text. In an era when prosperity is equated with blessing, God's perspective on suffering is revealed through the drama of Job's life. Ultimately, God enters fully into the suffering of our world and redeems it through the cross of Christ.



SMALL GROUPS

Baking with Jesus

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Eleana Fielding

Deborah Circle

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Marcia Burris

Dinner Night Out

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Becky Smith

Faith Book Club

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Francine Biasin

Field and Streams

Meeting frequency: TBA

Contact person: John Moulton

Friends in Christ

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Evelyn Lageman

Golf Group

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: Mike Bohl

Group LOYAL

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Bob Borcharding

Home Repair Group

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Jim Sanders

Joyseekers

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Kathy Lasley

Knitting/Crocheting Group

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: Lynne Ewan

Men's Bible Study

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: George Lambert

New and Expecting Parents

Meeting frequency: TBA

Contact person: Sonnenbergs

SMALL GROUPS

Parents in Christ

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Greg and Alicia Huntley

Parenting the Early Years

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Sonnenbergs/Butlers

St. John's Bell Choir

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: Royce Hubert

St. John's Chancel Choir

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: Sue Hamilton

Stamp Up! for Jesus

Meeting frequency: Once per month

Contact person: Pat Caley

Sewing Ministry Team

Meeting frequency: TBA

Contact person: Mary Ann DeFend

Sunday Evening

Meeting frequency: Twice per month

Contact person: Elaine Birtch

Women's Bible Study

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person:

Young Adult Bible Study

Meeting frequency: Once per week

Contact person: Amanda Johnson

For more information about St. John's small groups or to start a small group of your own, contact Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg, psonnenberg@stjohns-springfield.org

