



Lifelong Faith Formation Winter 2021 Registration

In these challenging and uncertain times, our Synod is offering online classes this winter. While discussions through computer screens are not ideal, online learning presents an opportunity to connect people from across the synod—people who share a love of learning and have discovered that adult studies help them to grow in faith.

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon-Elect Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.

Registration closes for all classes Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 5 pm ET or when enrollment for a class reaches 20 participants.

A Zoom link will be sent to you by your instructor prior to your first class.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Telephone _____

There are 6 classes to choose from this winter (please see more class descriptions on page 2).

_____ **Introduction to Biblical Greek II with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn of Salem & Zion, Ironwood**
Every Sunday, January 10 — February 28 (8 weeks) from 6-7 pm CT / 7-8 pm ET

Materials needed for this class: *A Primer of Biblical Greek* by N. Clayton Croy, notecards (to create your own flashcards), pens or pencils in at least 8 distinct colors (more details to come at nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation).

This class is designed for people who took Greek I this past fall or for people with some understanding of the language. We will continue to learn the basics of Biblical Greek to gain a better appreciation for the difficult work of translators, the common choices that translators have to make, and the beauty of this language. Learn some tools that can help you dive deeper into the scripture.

_____ **Reflections on Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*, While We are Apart with Pastor Lisa Ubbelohde of Bethlehem, Florence**

Every Monday, January 11—February 15 (6 weeks), with two choices of meeting time:

Please check which class time you would like to participate in: 2-3 pm CT / 3-4 pm ET

7:30-8:30 pm CT / 8:30-9:30 pm ET

Materials needed for this class: *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“The Christian classic, *Life Together*, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, outlines the essential principles of Christian fellowship, gleaned in the backdrop of the pre-war German underground. At a time when Hitler’s hate was on the rise, Dietrich lifted up Christ’s love within a community of faith. Bonhoeffer begins *Life Together* by quoting the Psalmist, ‘Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.’ (Psalm 133:1). At a time when there was precious little in Germany that was good and pleasant, he saw and experienced the sweetness of Christian fellowship.” (Synopsis by Joel Mark Solliday, M.Div.)

Please return your registration form to:

1029 N. Third St., Suite A | Marquette, MI 49955
or email Deacon-Elect Lori at lori.ward@nglsynod.org

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The Doctrine of Discovery: From Myth to Reality with Pastor Bucky Beach, Good Shepherd, Houghton and others

Every Monday, January 11—February 8 (5 weeks) from 5-6 pm CT / 6-7 pm ET

Materials needed for this class: *Unsettling Truths: The Ongoing, Dehumanizing Legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery* by Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah and *The Rediscovery of North America* by Barry Lopez.

Additional resources will be available soon at nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation.

The Northern Great Lakes Synod Council declared May 2020 to May 2021 as a “Year of Discovery.” It is a call for our synod members to better understand and appreciate the history, heritage and culture of Native American peoples, as we reflect on the historical content of the Doctrine of Discovery and its impact on American and religious psyche, creating a society that harmed, and continues to harm, our Native siblings. And perhaps this Year of Discovery can also take you to a sacred place...a place of discovering and learning from a valuable culture; a spirituality filled with grace and gratitude; and an awareness that we are all related.

Bias in Our Communities: Addressing Race in Rural America with Pastor Christina Forsythe of Porterfield, Porterfield & Beaver American, Pound

Every Tuesday, January 12 — February 9 (5 weeks) from 5-6:15 pm CT / 6-7:15 pm ET

Optional materials needed for this class: *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo and an online course in implicit bias (more details on nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation).

How do we talk about racial injustice or address biases in our community? This class will look at what is going on in our nation through the lens of history and scripture. We will then learn to identify bias as well as the ways it plays out in ourselves and our communities. Finally, we will practice having conversations in community that help to address biases. You are invited to a safe space where we can talk about the challenging realities in our country.

Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania with Luanne and Rev. Thomas Skrenes

Every Wednesday, January 13—February 17 (6 weeks) from 4-5 pm CT / 5-6 pm ET

Materials needed for this class will be sent by e-mail.

For thirty years the people of the Northern Great Lakes Synod have shared our Christian life with the people of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. This class will explore that relationship and the history of our companionship with the Lutheran Church in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. With guests from our synod and from Tanzania who have been involved in this relationship, the class will learn of the theory of “companionship” and the projects that our people have worked on together in the service of our Lord Jesus.

The Gospel of John with Pastor Tommy Richter of Zion, Manistique

Every Wednesday (no class Ash Wednesday, February 17) January 13-March 10 (8 weeks) from 6-7 pm CT / 7-8 pm ET

Materials needed for this class: a Bible.

A darling text of the Reformation, one of the most poetic Gospels, and everyone’s favorite non-synoptic book, the Gospel of John is unhinged in time and ready to shine light into the darkness of our days (and the darkness shall not overpower the light!). The Gospel of John promises to create faith in its hearers in an intimate way that we can taste, smell and touch. So come discover why this book was written: “so that you also will come to believe and have life” (John 20:30-31).

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