



Learning Calendar Winter -Spring 2009

Welcome to the latest edition of our Learning Calendar.

One of the Vision Goals identified by our congregation was to be a Learning Place.

To this end the Learning Calendar programme was established. A variety of Learning activities for all ages are offered, covering topics ranging from general interest to Faith Development .

Most sessions are offered at no charge.

A nominal charge for learning materials applies in some cases.

All sessions are open to the community.

No religious affiliation is required .

All are welcome.

In many sessions , more questions are raised than answers offered.

The joy is in "Living the Questions"

Come and see.



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Children's Programmes

Nursery

Rachel MacDonald and other volunteers provide the Sunday morning nursery supervision. Melissa and Rachel are students who have provided nursery care for our children for the past one to four years.

The goal is to allow the children (0 - 3) to learn through experiences: sharing, exploring, and experimenting. The leaders guide the children as they discover the toys, small books, and play centers. Through stories and pictures, they learn of God's love.

For infants, a change table, rocking chairs, and portable cribs are available to help both the parents/guardians and their babies feel at home.

Nursery care is provided during the Worship Service on all Sundays throughout the year and for special events as needed. A registration form is required. As well, we ask children to wear nametags and tags are put on their diaper bags.

Supervision Provided by: Rachel MacDonald
(and volunteers)

Date & Time: Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Registration Closing Date: Open

Children's Programmes

Joyful Noise

Joyful Noise is Faith United's Children's Programme for ages 3/JK to Grade 6. It runs each Sunday from the beginning of September until the end of June.

On the last Sunday of every month at 10:00 a.m., families (adults and children) are invited to gather in the sunroom where Rev Larry will present a story and music for 20 minutes. At 10:30 there will be an intergenerational service held in the sanctuary where the children are invited to stay for the whole service. There will be no Joyful Noise that week.

On the other Sundays, there will be follow-up activities to reinforce the story (cooking, drama, games, crafts). For these weeks, Joyful Noise will be at the usual time during the service, following children's time. As always, children are invited to return to the sanctuary on Communion Sundays.

Your child is welcome to join us on any Sunday; we'd be happy to have them come and participate in the fun!

Registration forms required for all children.

Planning Committee: Suzanne Prescott, Pauline Garvey,
Renate Belzing, Enid Decoe

Date & Time: Sundays at 10:30 a.m. (last Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m.)

Registration Closing Date: Open

Children's Programmes

Tots on Tuesdays

This programme, for parents and preschoolers, is offered midweek. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for story and song, simple crafts, snacks, music and fun.

It is a casual time for children to meet, learn and play together to spark and nurture their faith journey. Participating together, while celebrating God's presence, parents/care-givers enjoy companionship as well as time for coffee and friendship.

Please invite your friends and neighbours to join in the fun.

Facilitator: Enid DeCoe
Jackie Tanton

Maximum: none **Minimum:** 4

Date & Time:

Begins Tuesday, January 12 running through to June 2010.
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Registration Closing Date: open



Youth Programme

Youth on Fire

This is the third year of Youth on Fire, building on the success of our previous years' joint programme with our sister churches. This programme includes fun and fellowship, spiritual development, creative activities and outreach projects. Last year the youth finished off the season by presenting a multimedia production titled "The Case of the Missing Jesus". This year, the programme will not be rotating but will be held at Faith every Sunday evening. We look forward to more exciting activities for 2010.

Youth Leader: Brian Stevens

Maximum: None **Minimum:** None

Date & Time: Sunday evenings 6:15 to 8: 15p.m beginning January 10, 2010.

Registration Closing Date: Open

Adult Programmes

Lectionary Study

This weekly gathering will look at the upcoming Sunday's lectionary readings (or whatever scripture focus there is that week). It will give participants who choose to attend a chance to ask questions and learn more background about the texts and to get thinking about what they might hear in the sermon the following Sunday. The stories and insights that are shared will assist the minister with his sermon and worship preparation and provide a valuable learning experience for all concerned.

Facilitator: Rev. Larry Doyle

Maximum: None

Minimum: None

Date & Time: Mondays, beginning January 11, 2010
10:00 to 11:30 am

Registration Closing Date: Open

Note: a lectionary study is also being offered in an on-line version this year through our web site, www.faithunited.ca. Just follow the link on the home page to the discussion board.

Adult Programmes

Devotional Classics

Do you find yourself hungering and thirsting for something deeper but you can't commit to a regular set of evenings for a programme? How about something that is internet-based?

"*Devotional Classics*" is a wonderful collection of 52 short selections of writing from some of the greatest Christian spiritual authors of all time. Designed to be read one-per-week each selection features an introduction, the reading, a biblical passage, discussion questions and a reflection.

Each participant will purchase the book, read the selection for the week, and participate in the on-line discussion on the Faith United website. Because this is an internet-based group you can read and post responses whenever your schedule permits. You can say as little or as much as you like. (We will coach you in using the technology if you wish!)

There will also be an opportunity to gather in person on the last Sunday evening of each month.

This will be our Lenten Study programme this year, and will then continue on throughout the entire year.

Facilitator: Rev. Larry Doyle

Maximum: None **Minimum:** None

Date & Time: Weekly, beginning February 21, 2010

Registration Closing Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010

Book Cost: approx \$16.50

Adult Programmes

Science and Religion—the sequel!

This 2 part series on Science & Religion continues with a new DVD , based on Michael Dowd's book *Thank God for Evolution*, which lays the groundwork for a reconciliation that offers hope for new life for Religion that works in harmony with Science.

Dowd says "to those with loved ones who have been unable to embrace science because of their religious faith, and those with loved ones who have been unable to embrace religion because of their scientific worldview...discussing *Thank God for Evolution* with those you deeply care about will open new doors of possibility between you and provide common ground where none existed before."

It is not necessary to have taken Part 1 to take this programme as the DVD covers the book in different manner. Anyone with an interest in how science and religion interact is welcome to participate.

Facilitators: John Sylvestervich,
George Tanton

Maximum: None **Minimum:** None

Date and Time: 7:00 pm on Mondays
February 1 and 8, 2010

Registration Closing Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010

Adult Programmes

Misquoting Jesus

Biblical Scholar Bart Ehrman's new book explores how scribes -- through both omission and intention -- changed the Bible. *Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why* is the result of years of reading the texts in their original languages.

Ehrman says the modern Bible was shaped by mistakes and intentional alterations that were made by early scribes who copied the texts. In the introduction to *Misquoting Jesus*, Ehrman writes that when he came to understand this process 30 years ago, it shifted his way of thinking about the Bible. He had been raised as an Evangelical Christian.

See and hear Bart Erhman (on DVD) as he summarizes his book at the Washington National Cathedral. Our discussion will focus on how to discover richer meaning in the text in light of Ehrman's research.

Facilitators: John Sylvestervich,
George Tanton

Maximum: None **Minimum:** None

Date and Time: 7:00 pm on Monday
March 1, 2010

Registration Closing Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010

Adult Programmes

Bible 201

You've begun to dust off, unlock and demystify your Bibles. Now it's time for the next step.

In "Bible 201" we will build on the foundational information from the 101 course and start to explore the New Testament in some detail.

Topics may include: Themes, structure, and context of the gospels—Growing pains in Paul's churches —From oral to print—Literary analysis—Lenses through which we read—How literal readings distort the message—How to read devotionally—Why these 27 books and not any others—Significant Q&A, etc.

A great day to learn and unlearn!

Facilitator: Rev. Larry Doyle

Maximum: None **Minimum:** 4

Date & Time: 10 am to 2 pm :
May 1, 2010
Bring a bag lunch—beverages provided

Registration Closing Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010

Note: this one day workshop will be repeated next year.

Adult Programmes

Thirsty Thursdays

Thirsty for something More in your life? Nurture your faith each week at 7:00 pm with a different spiritual experience!

1st Thursday: *HearSay Café*—coffee house style worship is casual; come as you are and make yourself at home, grab a coffee and don't be afraid to get a refill. Enjoy great contemporary worship music, engaging discussion time, and a hearty cup 'o joe.

2nd Thursday: Sometimes called Centering Prayer or Listening Prayer, *Contemplative Prayer* goes beyond words into a silence that some call God's language.

3rd Thursday: *Faith at the Movies!* Join us to explore how themes of spirituality and faith are presented on the big screen.

4th Thursday: *Taizé* style worship is a pattern of communal prayer based around a time of singing in which short songs are repeated in a chant like fashion interspersed with readings and periods of silence.

5th Thursday: Surprise! You'll just have to come out and see.....

Facilitator: Various

Maximum: None **Minimum:** 4

Date & Time: Thursdays at 7:00 pm
Beginning January 7, 2010.

Registration Closing Date: Open

Monthly Programmes

Faith Reads

Come join us as we explore a new book each month. On the second of each month, we will receive approximately ten copies of that month's book on loan from the public library. On the last Tuesday of each month, we will get together to discuss the book. Some of the aspects we will cover are:

- ◆ Historical/political context and setting
- ◆ Writing style, theme and symbolism
- ◆ Characters/scene development
- ◆ Inspiring, upsetting or ethical issues

Even if readers are unable to finish the book during the month, we will encourage everyone to come out and join in the discussion. This club is meant to be an enjoyable, stress-free event!

Facilitator: Gail Sylvestervich
Gladys Davidson-Lake

Maximum: none **Minimum:** 4

Date & Time: Held on the last Tuesday evening of the month from 7 to 9 p.m.
January 26: *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*
February 23: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*
March 30: *Water for Elephants*
April 27: *The Birth House*
May 25: *The Book of Negroes*
June 29: *Three Cups of Tea*

Registration Closing Date: Open

Monthly Programmes

New Song Sundays

Once a month come early for worship and sing some great Praise and Worship music. Bring your guitar or bass along and jam - or come and drum - or just sing your heart out and enjoy this wonderful music. This is also a chance to learn some of the music in Voices United and More Voices that we have not yet had the chance to get to know.

There is a huge repertoire of inspired music just waiting to be discovered. Come and worship! Come and sing a New Song!

Facilitator: Rev. Larry Doyle

Maximum: None

Minimum: None

Date & Time: Held on the third Sunday of the month (excluding December) at 10 am —just before worship.
January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, and May16

Registration Closing Date: Open

Wellness Education Team

The Wellness Education Team is offering a number of events through the winter and spring. Please check the bulletin for more details. Things to watch for are:

4 Pillars of Health & Fitness

JAN 05: Prevention through NUTRITION (7:00—8:30 pm)

JAN 12: Treatment through FITNESS (same time)

JAN 19: Health Promotion through SUPPLEMENTATION

Special Presentation by Rajesh Ragbir, ND. Rajesh is a Naturopathic Doctor of acupuncture, herbs, homeopathy, diet, lifestyle and mind/body treatments helping you to restore balance back to your system.

JAN 26: Re-Enforcement through daily ACTIVE RECOVERY

Mood Disorders Association of Ontario

FEB 27: Karen Liberman speaks on "Journey Back to the Light" (2:00—3:30 pm)

Special Saturday afternoon event. Join us as Karen continues this important work of MDAO in supporting 1 in 5 people affected by devastating depression, bipolar and mood disorders.

Yoga Half-a-Day

APR 24: Vicki instructing (10:00—noon and 12:30—2:30)

Enjoy 1 or 2 classes of yoga and the possibility of more fall sessions. Bring a yoga mat and a smile!

Cost: \$25 per person

Faith Walking Club

Late MAR or early APR will be starting up again—watch the bulletin for more details

Creative Programmes

These programmes will help you exercise your creativity while learning and growing in faith.

Knitting with Donna

Our knitting group continues to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We knit for the bazaar or mitten tree, contribute to needy causes such as the hospital or Pregnancy Clinic, or any other project that interests you.

Adult Choir

If you like to sing and have fun, then this is the group for you! We meet Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm in the Sun Room.

Quilters

Here is another opportunity to stretch your creative muscles. We get together on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Sun Room to work on both individual and group projects.

Children's Choir

Children are invited to join our Children's Choir on Sundays after worship in the Living Room for a chance to learn new songs and prepare for participation in worship.

Chancel Bands

If you play an instrument and are interested in joining one of our chancel bands (Sunday mornings or Hear Say Café), we'd love to have you! See Brian Stevens, our Music Facilitator.

Other Opportunities for Learning

This group of activities is for learning through fun, fellowship, and service!

Men's Gathering

Thursday mornings at 9:30 am in the Living Room

Euchre

Twice a month on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the Sanctuary—call the Office for specific dates

United Church Women (UCW)

The third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Living Room

Men's Breakfast

The last Sunday of the month at 8:30 am in the Living Room

Community Care Luncheons

Second Wednesday of each month in the Sanctuary (and adjacent kitchen!)

Church Council and Committees

Council meets the third Monday of the month in the Living Room and Committees meet throughout the month.

We also provide volunteers for Meals on Wheels and St Vincent's Kitchen.

For more information on any of these activities, please call the Church Office.



Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I would like to register for the following
programme(s):

Payment enclosed \$ _____

For children's programmes:
Allergies/medical conditions:

Parent/Guardian signature:



How to register

In Person:

Registrations will be accepted throughout the month of January 2010. You can sign up after worship or any time during the week at the Church Office.

By Telephone:

You can sign up by calling the Church Office during regular business hours. Please pay programme fees prior to the start date so that we can order enough materials for all participants. This can be done over the telephone by credit card or directly to the facilitator of the programme.

By Fax:

You can fax a registration form to the Church Office at 905-433-9642. Please pay any fees for programmes to the facilitator of the programme prior to the start date so that we can order enough materials for all participants.