

Adult Education



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life.

Course Catalog
Fall–Winter 2016

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Introduction

Our Savior's lives by five core values: Worship, Service, Learning, Generosity, and Community. Our values shape how we live together and in the world.

What you are holding in your hands (or reading online) is an outgrowth of OSL's core value of Learning, as stated in OSL's Mission and Values: "Because growth in faith is a lifelong endeavor, we provide, promote, and facilitate learning for Christian faith and living." The opportunities detailed in this catalog enable each of us to broaden our understanding and deepen our faith through education, dialog, and reflection. Peruse the options and choose to participate in those that interest you. If

you would like to see something offered that isn't detailed here, mention it to one of the pastors and we'll do our best to work it into the schedule. More than anything, use this catalog to guide you into opportunities that will help you not only engage more deeply the faith you carry but also become more fully the person God is calling you to be.

Note: all information contained in this catalog is subject to change. Watch the worship bulletins, *The Intercom*, weekly email updates, oslchurch.com, and OSL's social media sites for up-to-date information for each learning opportunity. Still have questions? Call the Church Office, 336-2942.

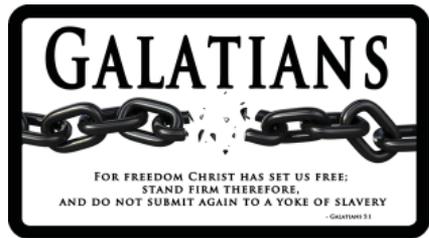


Welcome to OSL U! It's going to be a great year!

Sunday Morning Adult Education 10:00–10:50 A.M., Fellowship Hall

Galatians: Sundays, September 18–October 9, 10:00–10:50 A.M.,
Fellowship Hall

What does it mean to be set “free”? Freedom is something we all desire, to be free to do what we want, without someone there lording over us. See how Paul stands up for Christian Freedom, and against submitting to a yoke of slavery under the law.



Facilitator: Pr. Jared Rakness

Holding Your Family Together: October 16–November 20,
10:00–11:00 A.M., Fellowship Hall

Holding Your Family Together is all about teaching parents and other caring adults simple ways to share their faith “every night in every home” using Faith5. From the course materials: “Faith5 is a simple, easy to implement faith practice, perfect for incorporating into your bedtime routine in five to 15 minutes a night. When done over time Faith5 carries the power to enrich communication, deepen, understanding, aid sleep, and promote mental, physical, and spiritual health. The five steps are: Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless.” The class format is shaped around discussion and video clips. After the introduction, each week will feature one of the Faith5 steps. You are also encouraged to read the book *Holding Your Family Together* by Rich Melheim to enhance your experience of the class. This class is for parents (with children of any age), grandparents, baptismal sponsors, and anyone who wishes to invest in the lifelong faith of a child.

Holding your Family Together Online Option: October 16–November 20
Keeping in mind that there are some who would like to participate in this course but can't attend weekly on Sunday mornings, this class will also be offered online using a closed Facebook group called "Holding Your Family Together OSL 2016." Group members will read the book chapter by chapter each week, and discussion questions will be posted during the week; you are free to respond at your leisure. If you choose, you may do both the in-class and online versions, especially if you'd like more accountability to read the book.

The group will meet on Sunday, November 20, at 5:30 P.M., to connect with conversation partners and share final reflections. Child care will be provided. Location will be announced.

Prophecy Fulfilled: Sundays, December 4–December 18,
10:00–10:50 A.M., Fellowship Hall



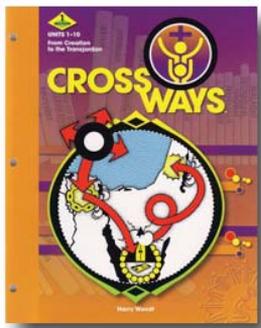
Advent is a time of hope and anticipation. As Christians, we hear again the story of the birth of our Savior, and how God's Messiah came to our world long ago. But the story does not begin with the nativity; in fact, this story begins in

the writings of God's prophets in the earliest stories of the Old Testament. In this three-week series, we will explore the words of such prophets as Amos and Joel, Malachi and Elijah, and Isaiah, and see how their words compare to the people and stories of the New Testament. Although they were speaking to their people long before Jesus, their words would point towards the coming of God's Messiah, both in New Testament times and at a future time when God's Messiah will come again. Join us as we look to the past to better understand how God is with us "today" and "tomorrow."

Facilitator: Pr. Tim Lemme

Weekly Adult Education

Crossways Bible Study: Mondays, September 12–April 2,
6:30–8:00 P.M., Friendship Room



Crossways can change people's hearts and lives profoundly. With 40 units on the Old Testament and the intertestamental period, plus 20 units on the New Testament, Crossways serves as the ultimate travel-guide for an unforgettable, in-depth journey through the Bible. Having offered Year 1 of this two-year course last year, this year's course will focus primarily on the New Testament.

Facilitator: Pr. Jared Rakness

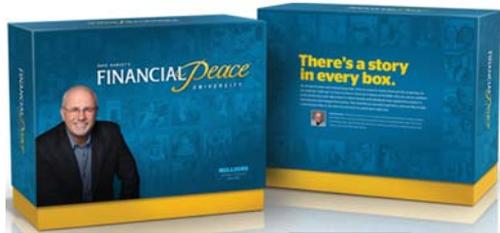
Be an Everyday Evangelist: Mondays, 6:30 P.M., September 12–
October 17; Wednesdays, noon, September 14–October 19

The title "evangelist" is a loaded term. People usually think of people living in far-off lands in difficult or dangerous circumstances when they think of evangelists, but Jim Henderson has something else in mind in his book *Evangelism Without Additives*. "Evangelism can be as normal as asking great questions and paying attention to people who need Jesus," Henderson writes. "It involves doing things you already do, but with a new purpose. . . . This isn't another program or pitch. It's a handbook on how to make real connections with nonbelievers. Think of it as evangelism for the rest of us." Group members will walk through this simple book, chapter by chapter, and challenge themselves to become Everyday Evangelists by employing its ideas. The chapters are short and will be read in class together. Thanks to a gracious donation from the Women of the ELCA, the book will be free to the first 35 women to register and will be

available for pick-up on the first day of class. A sign-up is available at the Information Center. This class is open to all women of the congregation, and friends.

Financial Peace University: Tuesdays, 6:30–8:00 p.m., September 13–November 8 (session I); January 10–March 7 (session II); Office Conference Room

We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!



Facilitator: Pr. Randy Gehring

Cost: \$100 per household, payable at registration (includes FPU lifetime membership)

To register for September class: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1022309>

To register for January class: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1022310>

Adult Confirmation: Wednesdays, September 14–April 2, 6:15–7:15 P.M.,
Friendship Room

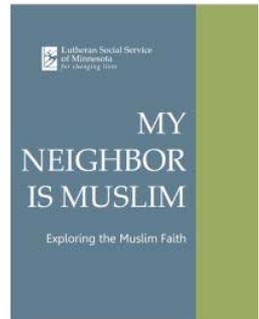


This year will include study of a number of Luther's writings including the Large Catechism, the Freedom of a Christian, and the Heidelberg Disputation. Everyone is welcome to come as we engage some of Luther's best theological writings.

Facilitator: Pr. Jared Rakness

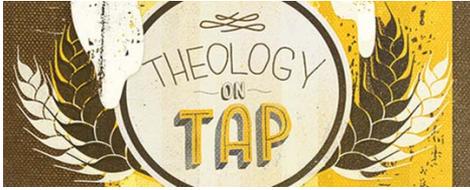
My Neighbor Is Muslim: Wednesdays, October 19–November 9,
6:15–7:15 P.M., Office Conference Room

Back by popular demand, this short course explores the basic beliefs of Islam in an accessible read-and-discuss format. The primary resource was assembled and distributed by Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota and has received high praise from within the Muslim community as a "useful educational tool, not only for non-Muslims but also Muslims." If possible, the fourth session (November 9) will include interaction with a member of the Muslim Community Center of South Dakota.



Facilitator: Pr. Randy Gehring

Theology on Tap: Third Thursday of the Month, 8:00–9:30 P.M., beginning September 15, Monk's House of Ale Repute, 420 E. Eighth St.



Using Martin Luther's approach to discussing theology with his students, we'll gather monthly around a pub table to share in conversation, reflection, and prayer as we

seek together to connect faith with everyday life.

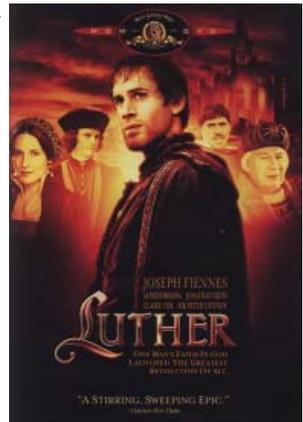
Facilitator: Pr. Randy Gehring

Special Reformation Feature—Luther: Saturday, October 29, 6:30 P.M., Celebrate Center.

During the early 16th century, the idealistic German monk Martin Luther begins the dialogue that will lead to the Protestant Reformation.

Directed by Eric Till; starring Joseph Fiennes, Alfred Molina, Bruno Ganz, and Peter Ustinov

Cost: A freewill or in-kind offering will be accepted in support of Necessities for Neighbors.



LifeGroup Ministry

Pilot program begins September 11. Locations determined by groups.

Our Savior's members are encouraged to "Do Life Together," connecting faith with everyday life. One of the ways members can do this is through a new ministry starting this fall, as OSL begins piloting LifeGroups—Living in Faith Everyday.



Beginning on September 11, the 11:00 A.M. Celebrate worship service will feature a three-to-four-week sermon series. Each series will have its own study material for LifeGroups to engage in and study together. (LifeGroups will be open to everyone, regardless of the worship service you typically attend.)

LifeGroups are small groups of eight to 12 people who gather regularly in the members' homes to connect relationally and grow spiritually by participating in a discussion-led Bible study. Groups are encouraged to gather weekly for this time of study and fellowship. Each group is encouraged to commit to one another for a set period of time. After an initial commitment of four weeks, the school year is a good guideline for a minimal commitment.

If you are interested in being a part of the LifeGroup pilot, contact Pr. Jared Rakness (336-2942, ext. 44 or jrakness@oslchurch.com) or Kathy Nelson (336-2942, ext. 21 or knelson@oslchurch.com).

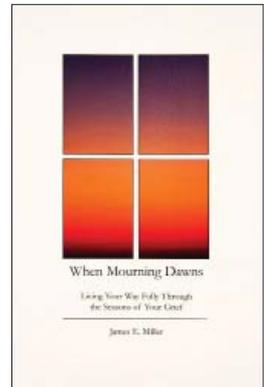
OSL Caring Ministries Education

Ask the Expert: Sundays, 10:00–10:45 A.M., Caring Ministries Area

Ask the Expert (formerly Doc Talk) is an informal setting where people gather for conversation and sharing with experts in the field of healthcare. All are welcome. The schedule for Ask the Experts is being developed, and will be published on the OSL website, oslchurch.com, and in the weekly bulletin announcements.

When Mourning Dawns: Wednesdays, 5:00–6:00 P.M., Room 101. Series will be offered in the fall and spring

When someone we love dies, grief begins. This normal, natural response to loss can take many different forms, it can affect people in many different ways, and it can last months or years. When Mourning Dawns is a six-week video/book study by James E. Miller designed to help you live your way fully through the seasons of your grief. OSL community supper is available at 6:00 P.M. in The Gathering Place. No preregistration needed. Questions? Contact Michelle Anderson, manderson@oslchurch.com or 336-2942, ext. 28.



Good Grief Group: Thursdays, 10:00–11:00 A.M., Room 103

Good Grief is a support group for those who are in different stages of the grief process. Each week members gather for a time of study, fellowship, and sharing, offering each other Christian caregiving and support.

Chronic Illness Support Group: Tuesdays, 2:00 P.M., Friendship Room

Those who live with chronic illness know just how hard it can be, emotionally, physically, and spiritually, to live with a debilitating disease. Each week members of this group come together to offer support to each other and to learn new ways of living and coping with chronic illness.

Memory Care Support Group: Saturdays, 10:00–11:00 A.M., Chapel

For caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, this group is a place to share and to receive understanding and empathy.

Stephen Ministries: A Ministry of Christian Caregiving



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

As part of the Body of Christ, all are called to participate in the ministry of OSL. One unique way is by becoming a trained Stephen Minister. Each year, classes begin in the first part of January, on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M., and run through May, a total of 50 class hours. During this time, those who wish to become Stephen Ministers

learn how to become a Christian caregiver to those in need. Then, after commissioning and receiving of an assignment, all Stephen Ministers are offered monthly supervision sessions and continuing education events. This is the class for those who want to go the extra mile to be the hands, voice, and ears of Christ to those in need.



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Worship Services

- Saturdays, 5:00 P.M. – Festive Worship, in the Sanctuary
- Sundays, 8:45 A.M. – Celebrate Worship, in the Celebrate Center
Festive Worship, in the Sanctuary
- Sundays, 11:00 A.M. – Celebrate Worship, in the Celebrate Center
Festive Worship, in the Sanctuary

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