

2018-2019 Sheridan Lutheran Church Learning Academy Elective Classes for Confirmation Students

Confirmation students: please sign up for one class each semester.

Adults are invited to attend any of the following classes. We want these classes to be intergenerational. Adults or high school youth do not need to complete a registration.

Fall Classes

Bible 101

Come for an overview of the history of the books in the Bible. Become familiar with the Old and New Testaments, authors of the Bible, Biblical geography and how we can grow in faith from the reading the Bible. Bring your Bibles and get ready for an awesome, faith-filled adventure that begins with creation! No experience needed. Taught by Pastor Rhonda Bostrom.

The Sacraments: Baptism & Communion

We become a part of the Christian community in Holy Baptism, a ritual of word and washing with water. We then encounter Christ not only in words, but also by Christ's promise paired with sharing bread and wine in Holy Communion. How do we as Lutheran-Christians understand these Sacraments? This class is for kids who did not attend the Baptism and Holy Communion Stepping Stones and for anyone needing a refresher on these amazing gifts of God's grace. Taught by Deacon Kathy Paisley.

Eco-Faith

"Save the earth" is a phrase we hear so often it has become nearly meaningless. Why do we need to save the earth? What does the bible say about our world? Can we truly make a difference? In this course we will look at our relationship to the world, according to the Bible. We will examine the changes scientists see in our environment and steps we can take to love the earth God gave us. Taught by Pastor Greg Bouvier.

Pray the Way that Fits

God made each of us different and unique, which mean we all connect with God through prayer differently. This class will introduce you to a variety of ways to pray that engage all five senses. Taught by Pastor Eric Bostrom.

Bringing the Word to Life

Theatre is a powerful art form that can inspire, teach and help us to connect with the world around us. Throughout history, theatre and drama have been used to share and teach the Word of God to the community. This class will explore theater's historical role in religion & faith, how we can find spiritual themes in "secular" theatre and how we can use theatre & drama effectively in ministry. Taught by Diane Dames.

Meaning of Service

God loves us and created each of us with special talents and abilities. It is important to use our gifts to help others. In 1 John 4:12, the bible says that "if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us." Serving others is one way of putting our love into action. In our time together we will explore ways we can live out our faith and sharing God's love through serving. Taught by Pastor Michelle Oetken.

We are Church Together

One of the four emphases lifted up by ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in recent years, is we are church together. This three week session, geared primarily towards high school youth, but open to all, will explore our interconnectedness as the Body of Christ and expand our understanding of ministry that reaches across our state, nation, and world. Special guest speakers, including Rev. Megan Morrow and former Bishop Dennis Anderson, will lead our conversation and learning. Facilitated by Ian Hartfield.

Winter Classes

Revelation: A Sign of Hope

The last book of the Bible, Revelation, is all about hope, but our culture has made it into a book of fear. What is the culture missing! This class will help you see with a heart of hope. Taught by Pastor Eric Bostrom.

Outreach to Lincoln

Ever wonder how our church goes beyond our walls and serves our great city of Lincoln? Come to this class and find out the many ways that SLC serves our community. We will visit some of the ministry partners on site as well. After this class you will be inspired to go out into the world and serve! Class size will be limited to 20. Taught by Pastor Rhonda Bostrom.

What does it mean to be Lutheran?

You are invited to come and enrich your faith as we together explore what it means to be a Lutheran. We will learn about key concepts that are central to our faith as we read the Scriptures.

Taught by Pastor Michelle Oetken.

The Question of Why?

Why is the world so unfair? Why would harm come to someone so wonderful? Why would God let that happen? As we take ownership of our faith, we begin to get more questions than answers. This is actually a good thing! The tough part is that some questions don't get answered. One question that never goes away is the question, "Why?" Philip Yancey guides us help that is easy to understand and also very practical to the real world. As a man who was called to the very hardest of tragedies, he teaches out of his own experience. This class will help understand God's role in this broken world. Taught by Pastor Greg Bouvier.

Spiritual Practices

A spiritual discipline disrupts our normal patterns of thoughts and feelings that flow through us and affects the mind and body. We are drawn closer to the holy as our thoughts are directed toward God and connect with our soul. Come explore spiritual practices of engagement such as mandalas and drumming circles. Taught by Deacon Kathy Paisley.

Worship through Movement

Participants will focus on the history of dance in worship, how dance can be a part of the worship experience and take time learning a piece of choreography. We will look at key verses that describe biblical characters dancing as well as verses that encourage us to dance and rejoice! The dance routine learned during this elective will be performed during worship Sun., March 3. It is a requirement of this class that participants be able to participate in worship. Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis. Come celebrate through dance! Taught by Amelia Barrett.

God in Art

Come explore your faith through different forms of art including wood working, music, iconography, and more! Join us as we welcome artists and musicians who will share their gifts and teach us how to look for God in art and how to express our faith in creative ways. Facilitated by Ian Hartfield.

Questions?

If you have any questions concerning the confirmation ministry, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Michelle Oetken or any Sheridan pastor.

Pastor Michelle Oetken

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