

Visitors are always welcome at Idlewild!

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

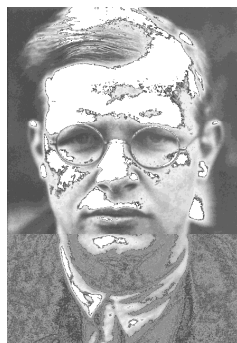
Christian Education

FALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 11, 2011

Christian education, fellowship and support are vital in the life of our church. From Sunday morning classes and weekday study groups to monthly gatherings and outings — there really is something for everyone!

The Bonhoeffer Phenomenon: Portraits of a Protestant Saint

German pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945) offered one of the first clear voices of resistance to Adolf Hitler. He openly challenged his church to stand with the Jews in their time of need, and eventually joined his family in plots to kill Hitler. His books, *Cost of Discipleship*, *Letters and Papers from Prison*, and *Ethics*, were written during the struggle and are considered classics in the world of religion and ethics.



Bonhoeffer is viewed by many as a Protestant saint. Many of the issues Bonhoeffer faced—the role of the church in the modern world, national loyalty and personal conscience, what the call to being a “peacemaker” really means—are issues we continue to face. This series will look at how his legacy has been appropriated in the years since his death,

SUNDAY MORNING SERIES
DR. STEVE HAYNES
SEPTEMBER 25, OCTOBER 2, 16, 23
9:40 A.M. | HARLAN ROOM

and implications of his life and thought for us today. The class will be based on short lectures with class discussion. Woven into the lectures will be scenes from the documentary “Bonhoeffer,” which includes the last interview given by Bonhoeffer’s closest friend and biographer, Eberhard Bethge.

Dr. Steve Haynes, Idlewild’s Theologian in Residence, is a professor of Religious Studies at Rhodes College and an ordained PC(USA) minister. He is the author of *The Bonhoeffer Phenomenon* and the newly released *Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians*, co-authored with Lori Brandt Hale.

**Class will not meet Oct. 9 (NaCoMe weekend)*

Adult Church School Classes

Visitors, newcomers, and familiar faces are welcome! All classes meet 9:40-10:40 a.m.

For information contact Gayle Walker, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministry, at 726-4681 ext. 46 or gwalker@idlewildchurch.org.

A COVENANT CONVERSATION

[Room 302W, Jones Bldg.]

Jesus in Context: A Focus on John, the Pastoral Epistles and Revelation.

The Bible says what?! Read the Bible together to understand how historical contexts in which its stories arose affect its meaning for today. What did it mean when it happened? What did it mean when it was written down? What does it mean now? Through sustained (sometimes hilarious) conversations, we seek to understand how the Bible continues to be the word of God for the people of God. Led by Dr. Kendra Hotz, Rhodes College Department of Religious Studies.

PATHFINDERS CLASS

[Room 303 W, Jones Bldg.]

Sept. 11-18 | Lowering the Stress Ceiling: Parenting Through Economic Downturns, School Turmoil, Technology Overload, and Hectic Schedules.

On Sept. 11, the speaker is Dr. Amy Balentine, a psychologist in private practice who works with teens and their families to become more connected while addressing conflict, depression and anger. Dr. Balentine is clinical director of an eating disorder program at the Transformation Center, and teaches at Freed Hardeman University.

The Sept. 18 session is led by Dr. Sheila Vamplin, with a look at *ScreamFree Parenting* developed by Hal Runkel.

Sept. 25-Oct. 9 | Why Heaven Matters

Heaven, the afterlife, hell, the return of Jesus, the future of earth—these topics tend to make mainline Christians squirm or, perhaps resign to the unexplainable. Doing that, though, leaves heaven to those with more extreme theologies and dangerous political agendas. Drawing from Christopher Morse's book *The Difference Heaven Makes: Rehearing the Gospel as News*, this course appeals to post-enlightenment Christians not to resign heaven to the world of ancient

myth, but to reclaim its dominant meaning in our tradition. Led by the Rev. Dr. Walt Tennyson, PC(USA) minister and chaplain at Rhodes College.

Oct. 16 & 23 | Thoughtful Christians Consider the Death Penalty

The death penalty remains one of the most divisive issues in contemporary society. In this frank and challenging study, we examine the historical background of the death penalty to set a discussion of current issues into perspective. Then we consider the pragmatic issues of the death penalty: Does it work? Is it fair? Is it humane? Finally, we tackle the moral issues inherent in what is truly a life or death decision: Is killing ever justified? Led by Mike Bruno and John Jones.

Oct. 30 – Nov. 6 | *The Rise and Fall of the Bible: The Unexpected History of an Accidental Book*

This book is Timothy Beal's attempt to shatter the popular understanding of the Bible as a combination of divine instruction manual and self-help book. While there is no denying that the Bible re-

mains central (polls indicate that 65% of all Americans believe that the Bible "answers all or most of the basic questions of life"), Beal notes that Americans are surprisingly ignorant of what is actually in it. He writes that "more than 80% of born-again or evangelical Christians believe that 'God helps those who help themselves' is a Bible verse." Come take a closer look at the Bible—the book which shapes our faith. Led by Pastor Steve Montgomery.

Nov. 13 | Adult Forum | The Rev. Joel Ortega Dopico | T.K. Young Room

Nov. 20 | Adult Forum | Dr. Melinda Parsons | T.K. Young Room

Nov. 27 | No class (Thanksgiving)

Dec. 4-18 | Apocalyptic Literature: Glimpses of the Kingdom

A survey of apocalyptic literature, beginning with the prophets Isaiah and Daniel and moving into the New Testament books of Mark and Revelation, will look at circumstances from which these books sprang, typical language and motifs, and the tangible glimpses of God and the kingdom. Led by Martha Kelly, artist for *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*.

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY STUDY & FELLOWSHIP | AGES 21-40

The Westminster Confession of Faith says that scripture is given by inspiration of God to be the rule of faith and life through the inward work of the Holy Spirit. Jennifer and Jeff Zsohar will lead discussion through the weekly lectionary passages and guided questions. Scripture selections and guided questions will be posted on the *Idlewild Presbyterian Church Young Adult* Facebook page.

SCHEDULE: Sundays, 9:40-10:40 a.m. in the Session Room; on 2nd Sundays (beginning Oct. 9) meet at YoLo @ Cooper & Madison; plus a fellowship gathering once a month. Contact Kevin Getman, krgetman@gmail.com.

STEPHEN CLASS

[Room 306W, Jones Bldg.]

Stephen Class is open to anyone who likes to read. Fundamental to Christian practices is engaging stories that matter—indeed, the Bible is a collection of such stories. Even though a story may not be canonical, it often bears on some matter deemed valuable in the biblical canon and often makes stories in the Bible more vibrant to us. Class members choose what to read, and share responsibility of facilitating discussions. The pace is based on the difficulty of the book and the time needed for reflection. Come any Sunday, even if you haven't been reading the book. Contacts: Jim Cole, jpcoletn@bellsouth.net; Bob Llewellyn, rrllewellyn@comcast.net.

Sept. 11–18 | Thomas Mann's *Death In Venice*. Facilitated by Stephanie Rodda.

Sept. 25–Oct. 2 | Denny Weaver's "Violence in Christian Theology," a seminal theological work on the meaning of the atonement. Facilitated by Bob Llewellyn.

Oct. 9–23 | Hans Keilson's *Comedy In A Minor Key*. Facilitated by Mimi Phillips.

Oct. 30 | To be decided.

Nov. 6–20 | Ford Madox Ford's *The Good Soldier*. Facilitated by Phil Taylor.

Nov. 27 | To be decided.

Dec. 4–18 | Shakespeare's *Macbeth*

COVENANTERS CLASS

[Room 106W, Jones Bldg.]

The fall study is *The Future of Faith* by Harvey Cox. A long-time professor at Harvard Divinity School, Cox is convinced that we "stand on the threshold of a new chapter" that will have profound implications for what the Christian community, as well as other religions, will look like 50 or 100 years from now. What movements or events may radically change the way we worship? Will there still be denominations, or will the many branches of the Christian community come to be what we have long claimed in our creeds: "One holy, catholic church"?

LEMASTER CLASS

[Room 114E, Jones Bldg.]

An in-depth Bible study with strong teaching and careful textual analysis, led by Lewis Donelson. This fall: 1st, 2nd and 3rd John. Contacts: Tom and Nola McKnight, nolatom@earthlink.net.

JOHN KNOX CLASS

[Conference Room]

This intergenerational group discusses the great relevance of the scriptures and how we grow as followers of Jesus, practicing our faith every day. This fall's study is *Six Amazing Bible Stories to Strangely Warm Our Hearts*, a book by James W. Moore. (Study questions are included for private devotion or small group study.) Led by Christy Hasselle and Ken Pfohl. (Contacts: Allan and Lois Ruleman, 683-4462 or aruleman@bellsouth.net.)

Sunday Morning Adult Forums

Please note that some church school classes do not meet on these dates.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CUBA

THE REVEREND JOEL ORTEGA DOPICO

SUNDAY, NOV. 13 | 9:40 – 10:40 A.M. | T.K. YOUNG ROOM

We are pleased to welcome the Reverend Joel Ortega Dopico, pastor of Dora Valentin Presbyterian Church in Varadero, Cuba, and executive secretary of the Presbytery of Matanzas (one of three presbyteries in Cuba). The Presbyterian Church has been a witness in Cuba for more than a century, remaining faithful through a tumultuous history of dictatorships, revolutions and socialism. Currently, the Presbyterian Reformed Church of Cuba has about 5,000 members in 38 congregations, with 28 pastors. Idlewild is in the process of exploring a partnership with a Presbyterian church in Cuba.

ADVENT ANTICIPATION THROUGH ART: IN DARKNESS WAITING FOR LIGHT

DR. MELINDA PARSONS

SUNDAY, NOV. 20 | 9:40 – 10:40 A.M. | T.K. YOUNG ROOM

This special Advent talk, illustrated with works of art from ancient times to modern, begins with discussion of the place of darkness and light in our lives, in both a spiritual and a physical sense—such as the darkness of winter before Christmas. As a Franciscan brother said, "Advent is the most poetic and most contemplative of the seasons, with the shorter days inviting us to silence." The paradox is that we wait for someone who already has come, since we profess that Christ will come again to bring his work to completion. He comes to us now in the person of our neighbor and the needy; in liturgy—especially the Eucharist; and in the solemn Christmas mystery, the "great salvific event of the Incarnation." Yet this mystery also celebrates the "littleness of God," God becoming human unto death, a Franciscan theme found in several works of art.

Dr. Parson's presentation includes early mediaeval and Renaissance examples of the Annunciation, the Magi, and the Nativity which stress not only light in the darkness, but also the connection between Jesus' birth and his later suffering, death, and resurrection. Those later events are clearly foreshadowed in the artistic symbols in early images of Christ's birth, as is the related theme of the humility and "littleness of God."

The program concludes with more recent works that replace the mediaeval symbolism with more intimate views of the incarnation, views that reflect some of our sense of anticipation as we wait "in joyful hope" for the coming of God at Christmas.

Dr. Melinda Parsons is with the Department of Art at Neumann University in Pennsylvania, and previously taught at the University of Memphis

NEW! COLLEGE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAYS, OCT. 2–NOV. 6 | 9:40–10:40 a.m. | CE Suite

A six week discussion using Nooma videos to explore Jesus' life from a modern day perspective. Discussion facilitated by Jenny and Chris Baker. This class meets in the Christian Education suite (Sanctuary Bldg., 2nd floor).

TIMOTHY CLASS

[Strock Room, Sanctuary Bldg.]

Class members, professors and other guests lead discussions on social and theological issues in relation to Biblical text, with application to religious history, world religions, civic problems and broad ethical concerns in our world today. Timothy Class has its own website at www.idlewildtimothy.webs.com.

Sept. 11–Oct. 2 | Is Gandhi in Hell? Is Hitler in Heaven?

In his *New York Times* best seller *Love Wins*, Rob Bell challenges us to expand our understanding of God's love. Bell's book is short and easy to read, but offers strong challenges to many orthodox concepts of Christianity. One class member said, "I have been waiting for this book all my life!" NOOMA, brief provocative films shown at the beginning of each class, will inspire stimulating discussion. Led by Charlie McCrary and Joseph Fisher.

Oct. 9–Oct. 30 | An Update on the Arab Spring

The Middle East has known its share of turmoil and upheaval in recent history, but not as exciting and full of potential as what is happening now. This series aims to explain the short and long term causes of the Arab Spring and what its effects may be for democracy in the region and for the interests of the United States and Israel. Led by Dr. Kent Schull, Department of History, University of Memphis.

Nov. 6 and Nov. 27 | Dr. Bashar Shala

Dr. Bashar Shala is the guest speaker. Dr. Shala is a physician and lecturer on Islamic History and Law, and Chairman of the Memphis Islamic Center.

Nov. 13 | Adult Forum | The Presbyterian Church of Cuba | T.K. Young Room

We are pleased to welcome the Reverend Joel Ortega Dopico, pastor of Dora Valentin Presbyterian Church in Varadero, Cuba, and executive secretary of the Presbytery of Matanzas. (See the Sunday Morning Adult Forums section for more details.)

Nov. 20 | Adult Forum | Advent Anticipation Through Art: In Darkness Waiting For Light | T.K. Young Room

This special Advent talk by Dr. Melinda Parsons will be illustrated with works of art from ancient times to modern, beginning a discussion of the place of darkness and light in our lives, in both a spiritual and a physical sense—such as the darkness of winter before Christmas. (See the Sunday Morning Adult Forums section for more details.)

Dec. 4-11 | A Generous Justice by Timothy Keller

It is commonly thought in secular society that the Bible is one of the greatest hindrances to doing justice. Isn't it full of regressive views? Does it condone slavery? Why look to the Bible for guidance on how to have a more just society? Timothy Keller sees it another way. In *Generous Justice*, Keller explores a life of justice empowered by an experience of grace: a generous, gracious justice. Here is a book for believers who find the Bible a trust worthy guide, as well as for those who suspect that Christianity is a regressive influence in the world. Led by Bill McCorkle.

December 18 | Christmas Music, Old and New

Back by popular demand, Organist and Music Director Dr. Ted Gibboney, will present a selection of Christmas songs and discuss their origin and context within Christian worship.

Visitors, newcomers, and familiar faces are welcome!
All classes meet 9:40–10:40 a.m.

Adult Study and Fellowship Groups

There's more to Christian education than Sundays! Get involved in study programs, discussion groups, and fellowship for adults.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women study circles and fellowship are for women of all ages. Contact Mary Lee Schaefer, 685-1315.

Quarterly gatherings are on the third Tuesday of January, April and May, with programs and lunch. Circles meet the first Tuesday of each month, January–May. (Locations announced in the Sunday bulletin). This fall's study is *Blessed Are You: The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life*.

FRIDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST

Fridays (begins Sept. 9) | 7:30–8:30 a.m. | T.K. Young Room

All men are welcome! Dr. Denton McLellan leads a study based on the upcoming Sunday's lectionary. An opportunity for men of all ages to hear a timely Bible message while enjoying a breakfast buffet (\$7) and great fellowship.

NATURAL SPIRITUALITY

1st & 3rd Mondays (begins Sept. 19) | 1:30–3:00 p.m. | Conference Room

This women's discussion group explores ways of getting in touch with one's spirituality through dreams and other less traditional means. Next study to be determined at the first meeting. Convener: Corinne Nienhuis, 726-4681 ext. 13 or corinne@idlewildchurch.org.

CLASSES IN NEW TESTAMENT GREEK

Class continues this fall under the leadership of Dr. Milton P. Brown, with the current reading group meeting 5:00–6:00 p.m. Thursdays. Persons with a basic knowledge of Koine Greek are welcome to sit in as the group translates the Gospels. A beginning group which started last February will continue its studies this fall. Contact Ernest Kelly, 725-9165 or horselovers@aol.com.

OLDER, WISER, LIVELIER SENIORS

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors) group meets monthly to take day trips, hear guest speakers, and enjoy great fellowship. Please contact Regina Benson, 458-2970, for more details about these upcoming events.

Sept. 13 | Excursion Through Central Europe with Bob and Lola Llewellyn. Program at 11:00 a.m., Harlan Room; lunch to follow.

Oct. 11 | Hospice facility tour.

Nov. 8 | LeBonheur Hospital tour.

December 11 | Christmas lunch.

OWLS BOOK CLUB meets at the church on the 4th Tuesday of the month (not in November and December). Contact Regina Benson, 458-2970.

INQUIRERS CLASS

OCT. 2, 16–30, NOV. 6–20
[Room 301W, Jones Bldg.]

Inquirers is designed to reflect on what it means to be a disciple of Christ at Idlewild Presbyterian Church. Come to Inquirers if you are considering membership, or if you want a good primer on what it means to be involved in the daily work and ministry of discipleship. This is an opportunity to meet the staff and understand the living history and daily work of our congregation from an evangelistic and sacramental perspective. For more information contact Anne Apple at anne@idlewildchurch.org.

DINNER GROUPS

FIRST FRIDAY EAT-OUT GROUP
Contact Carol Good, 726-4681

THIRD FRIDAY EAT-OUT GROUP
Contact Ann and John Fain, 682-9813

CHRISTCARE GROUPS

Join a ChristCare group—a small community (5–12 people) sharing a common interest or life experience. Led by committed members of the church, the groups meet regularly to care for one another, help one another grow in faith, and support one another in Christian discipleship. Contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681 ext. 43.

Women's ChristCare Fellowships

Sunday | 6:15-7:30 p.m. | Pottery Studio
Wednesday | 6:15-7:30 p.m. | Room 303W

There are two women's groups that study a particular text (sometimes biblical), pray and enjoy fellowship. Women of any ages are invited to either group, though consistent participation is encouraged. The Sunday group includes a time of working in clay while sharing. To sign up contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681 ext. 43.

Wednesday Evening ChristCare Groups

Men in Mid-Life, led by Steve Haynes; Parenting Young Children, led by Catherine and Blake Schuhmacher, Lara and Gwin Scott; Spiritual Themes in Movies, led by Melanie and Sam Stewart.

Other ChristCare Groups

Spiritual Themes in Movies; Kumbaya: Faithful Expressions in Music; Spiritual Formation and Prayer; Young Mothers; Theology and Arts; Addiction Concerns.

DREAM WORK CIRCLE

Wednesdays through Sept. 21 |
6:15-7:30 p.m. | CE Suite

Scripture tells us that God chooses to speak to people through dreams. Joseph of the Hebrew scriptures may be the best known example: God sends Joseph many dreams that guide and sometimes save his life. Matthew's gospel tells of dreams of another Joseph. Modern science is ambivalent at best towards dreams, but many believe that dreams can tell us about ourselves: sometimes even secrets from ourselves.

Dream Work Circle seeks to be a safe, confidential place to explore dreams, and wonder together about what God may be telling us in our own and others' dreams. Led by Maggie Jorgensen, a retired Presbyterian minister with a long interest in dream work and explorations of the mind and spirit. For more information contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org.

WEDNESDAY MORNING STUDY

Wednesdays, 9:30–11:00 a.m. |
Room 301W, Jones Bldg.

A weekly series led by knowledgeable teachers. Come to any or all classes.

**Sept. 21–28 | The Next Christendom |
Dr. Debbie Pittman, Rhodes College
faculty emeritus**

Discuss the changing face of the Christian faith according to Philip Jenkins, Distinguished Professor of History and Religious Studies at Penn State University, who wrote *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*. Western commentators have declared that Christianity is declining, or that it must modernize its beliefs or risk being abandoned altogether; but Jenkins' research indicates quite the opposite: Christianity is on the rise, and in more traditional forms than have been seen in many years. His recent book, *The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age*

of the Church in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia—and How it Died, provides some interesting background related to the contemporary trend.

**Oct. 12–Nov. 16 | American
Christianity | Dr. Lucie Bridgforth**

The U.S. is home to more Christians than any other country in world history. Yet some have argued that the real religion of America is America—a nation dominated more by the spirit of the age than by the spirit of Christ. This class examines ways in which political, social and economic forces have shaped Christianity and, in turn, have been shaped by it. Using a thematic approach, it explores five broad areas of American history: Puritans and Patriots, Democracy and Pluralism, the Sacred and the Secular, Jesus in America, and American Exceptionalism.

Dr. Lucie Bridgforth taught for 25 years at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia.

Nov. 23: Class will not meet.

**Nov. 30–Dec. 14 | Hallelujah: The Bible
and Handel's "Messiah" | Dr. Robyn
Gibboney**

Explore the scriptural texts and music for the Advent section of the "Messiah" by George Frederic Handel: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People; Who Shall Abide the Day of His Coming?; For Unto Us a Child is Born; and Glory to God in the Highest.

Disciple: Invitation to Psalms

WEDNESDAYS, SEPT. 14–NOV. 30 | 6:15–7:30 P.M. | ROOM 304W
FACILITATED BY PASTOR STEVE MONTGOMERY

The Psalms are many people's favorite scripture readings because they express the full range of our human emotions, and capture our heights of joy and our valleys of despair. Trust in God's faithfulness collides with our experience of fear, disillusionment, pain and suffering. God's people through the ages have struggled to make sense of who God is and who we are through reading these testimonies of grace, sorrow, struggle and beauty.

Come and explore how these texts of praise, lament, worship and prayer speak to us and for us in this time of social and economic upheaval.

Participants make commitment to study the lesson, which is built around reading assigned psalms (about 30 minutes a day). Classes are scheduled around holidays and special church events. Cost of the book is \$11. For more information or to register, contact Gayle Walker, gwalker@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681 ext. 46. (When signing up, please indicate if childcare is needed.)



Youth Study and Fellowship

Idlewild Church has two youth groups: Junior High (7th-8th graders) and Senior High (9th-12th graders). For youth information contact Frank Kelly, Director of Youth Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 14 or fkelly@idlewildchurch.org; or Dara Bigger, Assistant Director of Youth Ministry, 726-4681 ext. 37 or dbigger@idlewildchurch.org.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Classes are 9:40-10:40 a.m. A lectionary-based curriculum of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is used.

JUNIOR HIGH

[Room 105W, Jones Bldg.]

SENIOR HIGH

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

SR. HIGH PRAYER BREAKFAST

Youth meet each Wednesday morning at Panera Bread (4530 Poplar). Frank is there by 6:30; prayers around 7:10. Youth provide their own transportation. No meetings during holidays.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

Youth groups share dinner, games, worship, discussion and fellowship. Details about Sunday programs and other events are sent to youth and parents each week.

JUNIOR HIGH: 4:30-6:15

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

SENIOR HIGH: 6:00-7:30

[Wrenn Room, Jones Bldg.]

Stewards of Children

A workshop for parents and teachers presented by the Safe Sanctuaries and Children's Ministry Committees

Monday, Oct. 24 | 5:30-8:30 p.m. | Harlan Room

This workshop for teachers and parents is led by Carol Drake of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center. Learn about keeping our children safe both at church and in the community with a focus on preventing, recognizing and reporting child abuse.

This workshop is for adults only. Certificate and continuing education unit offered. Cost is \$10 (waived for Idlewild Church teachers and coaches).

Reservations are required. Please contact Brenda Harris, 726-4681 or brenda@idlewildchurch.org.

Church Choirs for All Ages

For more information about music programs at Idlewild please contact Ted Gibboney, Organist and Music Director, at 726-4681 ext. 12 or gibboney@idlewildchurch.org.

ADULT CHOIR

New members always welcome! Rehearsals are Thursday evenings in the Choir Room. Rehearsal for worship is 7:00-8:00; rehearsal for concerts/special projects is 8:00-9:00.

YOUTH CHOIR ENSEMBLE

(grades 7-12) Middle and high school youth prepare for special projects. Dates and times TBA.

On May 6, 2012, the Primary and Junior Choirs will join with other church choirs, the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the Memphis Youth Orchestra in a special community concert at 4:00 p.m. at the Cannon Center. Details soon.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Cherub Choir (junior/senior kindergarten) Rehearsals are Sundays at 9:40 a.m. (first half of church school) in Room 201W. (Rehearsals begin Sept. 11.) In the coming year, Cherubs will sing in 11:00 worship on Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Dec. 24, April 1 and May 13.

Primary Choir (1st-3rd graders)

Junior Choir (4th-6th graders)

Both rehearse Wednesday evenings in the Choir Room: Primary 5:00-5:40, Junior 5:00-5:50. (Rehearsals begin Sept. 14.) In the coming year, these choirs will sing in 11:00 worship services on Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Dec. 24, Jan. 15, Feb. 12, March 4 and April 1.

Resources for Study

THE CHURCH LIBRARY has an extensive selection of books and periodicals for loan and on-site study. Acquaint yourself with biblical study guides, theological texts, spiritual formation resources, and Christian fiction and nonfiction. Open Sunday mornings and weekdays by appointment (726-4681).

TEACHER RESOURCE LIBRARY

has books, CDs, DVDs, teaching pictures, puppets and games for children and parents. Drake Bartley, librarian. [Jones Bldg., 3rd floor east]

EXPLOREFAITH.ORG is dedicated to sharing thoughts and insights with all who seek answers to spiritual questions. Idlewild is a partner church through our Evangelism Committee.

Children's Sunday Church School

Church school is Sunday from 9:40 to 10:40 a.m. Classrooms and nursery are in the Jones Bldg. For information about children's programs contact Elizabeth Houston, Director for Children's Ministry, at 726-4681 ext. 33 or ehouston@idlewildchurch.org.

INFANTS, TODDLERS, TWO-YEAR-OLDS

All infants through two-years-olds go to the Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east.

Infants [Nursery Room] Loving, nurturing care is provided for the littlest members of our church family.

Toddlers [Room 211E] A monthly theme and weekly routine provide these active members with lots of learning opportunities.

Two-Year-Olds [Room 212E] explore simple Bible stories using Cokesbury's Rock-A-Bye curriculum, and have lots of time for active play. Led by Sam and Melanie Stewart.

PRESCHOOLERS

Preschoolers are in the Jones Bldg., 2nd floor west.

Using the BibleZone Live! curriculum, preschoolers explore the world through Bible stories, songs, play and joyful noise as they experience sights, sounds, tastes, smells and textures.

THREE-YEAR-OLDS (out of diapers) [Room 204W] Led by Paula Gartrell, Catie Ward and Maizie Rhea.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN [Room 203W] Led by Martha Young, Anne Phillips and Margaret Burnett.

SENIOR KINDERGARTEN [Room 202W] Led by Leslie Aclin, Jenny Haddad and Ali Hill.

CHERUB CHOIR [Room 201W] Junior/senior kindergarteners rehearse Sundays at 9:40 a.m., during the first half of church school. (See choir sections for more details.)

ELEMENTARY (GRADES 1-6)

Classes are in the Jones Bldg., 3rd floor east. Grades 1-4 use the PC(USA) We Believe curriculum.

GRADES 1-2 [Room 310E] Led by Jennifer Vest, Amy Sharp and Nancy Wilson. Shepherds: Marcus and Jessica Scott.

GRADES 3-4 [Room 312E] Led by Ruth and Scott Young, Dawn Kvande and Naomi Ragsdale. Shepherds: Lane Faughnan, Ray and Dana Brandon.

GRADES 5-6 [Room 309E] Led by Michael and Melissa Peeler, Mac and Ashley Coffield, Melissa Grimes and Jonathan Jones.

PRIMARY & JUNIOR CHOIRS

(1st-6th graders)

Choirs rehearse Wednesday evenings. (See choir section for more details.)

Sunday Morning Worship and Childcare

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship services at Idlewild Church!

8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

Childcare for infants through kindergarteners is offered each Sunday during the 8:30 service in the Nursery [Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east]

11:00 WORSHIP SERVICE

Nursery care for infants through two-year-olds is available during the 11:00 service each Sunday. [Nursery, Jones Bldg., 2nd floor east]

For ages three through kindergarten, Children's Church Continued (C3) begins after Time with the Younger Church in the 11:00 worship service. Children leave the Sanctuary and go with helpers to Rooms 203-204W Jones Bldg. for worship, Bible stories, snacks and playtime. Parents should pick up their children immediately after the service.

Special Fall Events

Offered by youth and children's ministries — perfect for all ages!

BASIC MISSION NIGHT
Wednesday, Oct. 19

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL
Wednesday, Oct. 26

YOUTH SOUPER SUPPER
Sunday, Nov. 13

ADVENT CRAFTS NIGHT
Wednesday, Nov. 30

Sacred Listening Circle: Group Spiritual Direction

SUNDAYS
SEPT. 25–OCT. 30
9:40–10:40 A.M.

WEDNESDAYS
SEPT. 21–OCT. 26
6:30–7:30 A.M. & 6:30–7:30 P.M.

THURSDAYS
SEPT. 22–OCT. 27
10:30–11:30 A.M.

Choose one of these schedules. Other group schedules may be added according to interest. Locations to be determined.

Group spiritual listening seeks to encourage participants to notice how God is working in their lives and in the world, through the Holy Spirit, to nurture growth in grace in crisis times, as well as in ordinary times. It teaches participants to discern the call of God that leads toward new and obedient lifestyles and away from lifestyles that are no longer in harmony with God's will.

This method provides one particular and finite way of equipping participants to place themselves before God in an intentional relationship, in faith that God's gift of sanctification (the slow daily growth in grace) may be at work in them through the Holy Spirit. Group spiritual direction involves the discipline of daily praying with Scripture, journal writing, and the participant's discernment of the presence of God in their lives, in the setting of both personal devotion and a covenant commitment with others.

Group spiritual direction in its encouragement of an active prayer life is supported by the other disciplines held essential in the Reformed tradition: regular worship with a congregation; Bible study; service and stewardship.

Groups of eight people meet for one hour to share their reflections of how God has been working in their lives during

the week, followed by a communal time when the group members look for both the unique movement of God in their individual lives and the communal movement of God in the lives of all present in the group. This sharing of both individual and communal discernment constitutes the awakening —noticing period of the spiritual journey.

Commitment is to reading daily the lectionary passages for each Sunday; reflecting on how the passage shapes your life and how your present circumstances shape your reading of Scripture; and attending a weekly one-hour session.

Facilitated by Associate Pastor Gayle Walker. Gayle completed a program for group leaders at the Shalem Institute, Washington, D.C., a one-year training which focuses on the understanding and facilitating of one's own and others' presence for God within the Christian contemplative tradition. Dr. Walker's doctor of ministry project focused on the Reformed tradition's understanding of spiritual formation and the formative ministry of the group spiritual direction.

To sign up for a circle contact Brenda Harris, brenda@idlewildchurch.org or 726-4681. If you would like more information contact Anne Apple, anne@idlewildchurch.org. Childcare available upon request.



Idlewild Ministerial and Program Staff

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Elizabeth Gayle Walker
Associate Pastor for Adult Ministry

Margaret Burnett
Associate Pastor for Outreach Ministry

Anne H.K. Apple
Interim Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

Denton McLellan
Parish Associate

Corinne Nienhuis
Commissioned Lay Pastor

Stacy Smith
Parish Associate

Stephen R. Haynes
Theologian in Residence

Ted Gibboney
Organist and Music Director

Elizabeth Houston
Director of Children's Ministry

Frank Kelly
Director of Youth Ministry

Ashley LaRue
Director of Recreation Ministry

Rita Halpern
Children's Center Director

Cheryl Ward
Kindergarten Director

Henry B. Strock, Jr.
Minister Emeritus

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