

Suncreek  
United Methodist Church  
**Journeys**

Adult Curriculum  
Spring 2010

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# Journeys

## A Ministry of Suncreek United Methodist Church

### Adult Programs

### Course Catalogue Spring 2010

#### **Introduction**

By Pastor Tom

Websters defines 'journey' as travel or passage from one place to another. While many of us engage in highway and air travel daily to get us from one place to another, we are also on a spiritual journey – a journey of eternal significance. Susanna Wesley, mother of Methodism, set aside an hour a week with each of her 19 children to discuss their relationship with Christ and ongoing spiritual journey. Her son John spent much of his life gathering Methodist Christians into spiritual growth groups fueled by the resources of Scripture, tradition, reason and Christian experience. Through the years, Methodists have believed that the Holy Spirit inspires both spiritual and intellectual growth, rejecting the false dichotomy that often existed between the academy and chapel. We affirm that the upward journey of soul flight involves both 'wings' of head and heart as we explore ancient and new spiritual terrain by the grace of God.

The courses in this catalog are meant to help you continue on this grand journey, growing into the maturity that Jesus Christ intends for you. It is our prayer that these experiences will help you to combine mind and spirit, head and heart, as you develop in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit. Again this year, we invite you to continue in this adventure of faith, a journey with other disciples to transform lives and ultimately the world by the grace of God.



Pastor Tom

# **Policies**

## **Class Offerings**

Suncreek makes every effort to offer relevant adult classes and curriculum. Please check the schedule listed at the beginning of each class.

## **Registration**

JOURNEYS encourages prior registration and payment of applicable fees. To assist with this process, you may register, pay applicable fees and reserve childcare online at our website, [www.suncreekumc.org](http://www.suncreekumc.org). To register for retreats, please contact Rev. Holly Gotelli at the church office or email [holly.gotelli@suncreekumc.org](mailto:holly.gotelli@suncreekumc.org).

In general, registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please make every effort to register early. Registration in advance ensures the classes can be offered at the scheduled time.

Class size is limited in two ways. Instructors may choose to limit enrollment if they feel the value of the course will be enhanced. In addition, facilities may require a limit on class size.

Should you have any questions about registration, contact Rev. Holly Gotelli through the church office.

## **Books and Materials**

Payment for all books and materials is due at the first class session. If the cost of any course is an issue, there are scholarships available. To inquire about a scholarship, contact Rev. Holly Gotelli through the church office.

## **Childcare**

Childcare is provided at Suncreek during all worship services, Sunday morning education classes, and for other classes and activities upon request. If you require childcare in order to attend any of the JOURNEYS courses, please contact Rev. Holly Gotelli at least one week in advance.

## **Course Cancellations**

JOURNEYS reserves the right to cancel any class. In this event, notice is given and the applicable fees refunded if an alternative class is not chosen.

## Organization of the JOURNEYS Catalogue

JOURNEYS is a multi-disciplined program of study, built on a curriculum of five foundations:

- **Biblical Study** – studies are primarily focused on the Bible and application to daily life
- **Theology/Church History** – studies are primarily focused on understanding Methodist theology and how it relates to other denominations and religions, as well as gaining insight into how the church has evolved throughout history
- **Faith Application** – studies focus on how to apply faith to daily life
- **Spiritual Formation** – studies focus on how to increase personal spirituality
- **Spirituality and the Arts** – studies focus on how to increase spirituality through artistic expression

Each of the courses offered through JOURNEYS is placed into one of these areas in order to help you understand more clearly the content of the course. Additionally, JOURNEYS courses are divided into three categories: Level One, Level Two, and Level Three.

To travel through the JOURNEYS curriculum, complete courses at each level, including a variety of courses in each one of the foundations. Generally, you are not required to complete all of the courses at one level in order to move to the next; however, there are certain courses which must be completed in order, and this catalogue clearly indicates when that is the case. Your faith path is individual, and you should feel free to move forward at your own pace. If you are not sure where to begin, or have questions about your progress through the JOURNEYS courses, the pastors and staff of the church are happy to help.

This catalogue also includes information about ongoing classes and activities which will round-out your JOURNEYS experience. Ideally, these classes and activities touch on a variety of the foundations, so they are not placed into particular categories.

If you need assistance in course planning, please contact the church staff who will be happy to assist you.



# JOURNEYS

## Spring 2010



Course Name: **Suncreek 101**

Category: Theology/Church History

Prerequisites: None

Cost: None

Instructor: *Michelle Spangler*

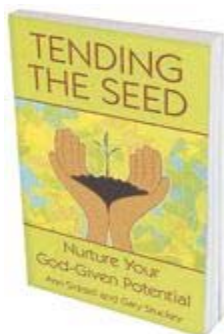
Dates: Session III – Sundays, February 7, 14 & 21, 2010

Session IV – Sundays, April 11, 18, & 25, 2010

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: A101

This popular three-week class, offered several times during the year, is for all visitors, new members, and anyone who is interested in Methodism or would like an overview of the wide variety of ministry opportunities available at Sun Creek. Anyone considering joining the church is strongly encouraged to complete Sun Creek 101 prior to membership. Immediately following the third session, participants are invited to stay for a short reception to meet with our pastors. No advance registration is required.



Course Name: **Tending the Seed: Nurturing Your God-Given Potential**

Category: Faith Application

Prerequisites: None

Cost: \$10.00

Instructor: *Robin Knuuttila, Professional Life and Career Coach*

Dates: Sunday mornings, April 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9 & 16

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Palmer Hall

How can you live your best life? How can you recognize and nurture the gifts that God has given you? This course will help you understand and claim your spiritual gifts, offer concrete recommendations about the ways you can offer your gifts to the world, and encourage you to live a life of joy, fulfillment and wholeness. Robin Knuuttila, a professional Life and Career Coach, will lead this exciting six-week study. Robin has extensive experience helping others improve relationships, enhance creativity, and increase clarity of life purpose. Come learn how you can nurture your God-given potential!



Course Name: **Creating and Praying the Protestant Rosary**

Category: Spirituality and the Arts

Prerequisites: None

Cost: \$20.00

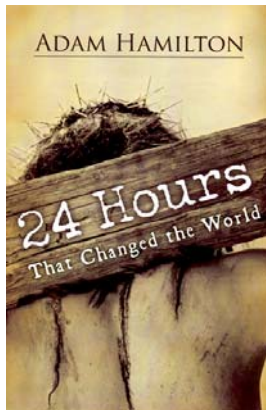
Instructor: *Marlene Covin*

Date: Monday, February 15, 2010

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Round Room

The Protestant Rosary is a spiritual tool that enhances and re-energizes our prayer life with God. A string of 11 beads, it aids the memory, helps us keep count of our prayers, and frees us to focus all of our heart and mind on God. In this short seminar, participants will create their own Protestant Rosary, learn its meaning, and practice several forms of meditative prayer.



Course Name: **24 Hours That Changed The World**

Category: Biblical Studies

Prerequisites: None

Cost: \$10.00

Instructor: *Rev. Holly Gotelli*

Dates: February 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: B116

No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus. This dynamic study by Rev. Adam Hamilton will guide you step-by-step through the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. Come discuss "24 Hours That Changed the World" with others in our faith community, and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you have never done before. Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you will find this study to be fascinating, challenging, and deeply enriching.

# **Ongoing Classes and Activities at Suncreek United Methodist Church**

## **Adult Sunday School Classes**

All Classes Meet Sunday Morning

Guests are always welcome!

### **Faith Explorers Class**

**9:30 a.m., Room C129**

*Doug Kalmbach*

Faith Explorers is a discussion-oriented class, primarily composed of parents (both couples and single parents) of young children to teens. The class has a particular interest in studies which consider current world events and how we can live out our faith in the midst of society today. Members are active in mission and offer fellowship gatherings throughout the year. (Ages 40+)

### **Faith Weavers Class**

**9:30 a.m., Room C128**

*Michael Marlowe*

This class focuses on applying biblical teachings to daily life, using a lesson format that encourages discussion. Members are primarily couples with children who are elementary-school-age and older. This class enjoys frequent gatherings for fellowship, and joins together in church-wide mission projects.

(Ages 40+)

### **Genesis Class**

**9:30 a.m., Room B116**

*Judy Satrapa*

The Genesis class explores books of the Bible, Biblical themes (prayer, the Holy Spirit), and contemporary books such as *What's So Amazing about Grace?* The group enjoys exploring new depths and expressions of their spirituality, and comes together for fellowship activities such as visiting the Botanical Gardens and Biblical Arts Museum. Class members actively attend a wide variety of church events. Recent mission activities include supplying food for Samaritan Inn (shelter for homeless persons) and Project Transformation (an urban children's ministry). Many members of the class have adult age children. (Ages 55+)

### **Seekers Class**

**9:30 a.m., Room A102**

*Bob Barnes*

The Seekers class explores various topics based on the Bible and contemporary literature. Some series last a few weeks; some a few months. Free and open discussions abound. Singing from the Cokesbury Hymnal is occasionally a part of the class. Fellowship outside the classroom includes eating out and in-home parties. Though from different backgrounds, the class is unified through devotion to Jesus Christ. (Ages 50+)

**Wesley Class****9:30 a.m., Room A101***Hugh and Sarah Brown*

The Wesley Class typically uses a book of the Bible or a Christian Book to create a series of lessons over multiple weeks. This is a class that values discussion of topics, and those present are often asked to share their thoughts about a Bible passage or an author's statements. The class includes both couples and singles, most with young children. This class enjoys many fellowship gatherings outside of the classroom, including an annual Christmas party. The Wesley Class also gathers on the third Sunday of the month at a class member's home to share a meal together. (Ages 30+)

**The CHRIST Class****11:00 a.m., Room C129***Steve Wagner*

C.H.R.I.S.T. stands for Christian Hearts Reborn in Spirit and Truth. Christ class focuses exclusively on Bible study, and is open to all ages, married and single, and all levels of faith. This class puts great emphasis on caring for one another, and enjoys fellowship time on a regular basis. (Multigenerational)

**New Endeavors Class****11:00 a.m., Room B116***Kyle and Leann Pearson*

New Endeavors focuses on Bible study, as well as contemporary Christian topics. The teaching style places an emphasis on discussion. Class members take turns teaching, and share leadership responsibilities for the class. This class places a high priority on fellowship, and enjoys many social activities together. (Ages 35+)

**Open Doors Class****11:00 a.m., Room C128***Sarah and Chase Ezell and Jana Jones*

The Open Doors class is a group of young adults, both singles and couples, who come together to study, question, and grow together in Christian faith. This group emphasizes application of the Christian faith to real life issues, and studies both the Bible and Christian books. Open Doors class members get together regularly for fun and fellowship outside of church, and participate in a variety of mission projects. (Ages 22 - 35)

**Discovery Class****11:00 a.m., Room A102***David Reid*

This Sunday School class explores the relationship between Christian faith and justice, with heavy emphasis on discussion of current world events and social issues. Both the Bible and Christian books are used as source material. This class is currently studying "Living the Questions," a study that utilizes video, Bible study and the writings of various theologians to explore important faith issues of our day. (Multigenerational)

## **Support Groups**

### **Alzheimer's Support Group**

*Jennifer Thompson: 972-390-8962*

Dealing with Alzheimer's or dementia is difficult for the patient and his or her family. Jennifer Thompson facilitates a support group of family members and other caregivers who are dealing with the effects of Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

### **Caregiver Support Group**

The Suncreek Caregiver Support Group offers a team of SUMC members to listen to and share concerns, needs and experiences related to parents, family members, or friends who are entering short-term or long-term care. Examples include cancer treatment, assisted living, nursing homes, long-term hospital care, etc. For more information, contact [CaregiverSupport@suncreekumc.org](mailto:CaregiverSupport@suncreekumc.org).

### **Careers in Transition**

*Robin Knuuttila*

Sundays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in B116

Robin Knuuttila, a professional Life and Career Coach, leads this weekly gathering of persons who are seeking employment. Members of the group come together to network, share experiences, and offer information and care to each other.



## Women's Groups

### **Faith Group**

*Robin Knuuttila*

Friday mornings

The F.A.I.T.H. Group reads and discusses contemporary books in relation to the Christian faith journey. For further information about the F.A.I.T.H. group, please e-mail

FAITH@suncreekumc.org.

### **United Methodist Women**

*Carmen Hartjes (umw@suncreekumc.org)*

Suncreek's United Methodist Women group has monthly General Meetings and offers a yearly retreat. The UMW Book Club is called the Alpha-Omega Circle. It meets once a month on Friday mornings at 9am. UMW also sponsors an annual Mother-Daughter Banquet in May.

### **Mom to Mom**

*Laura Glazer and Cathy Tenner*

Every other Friday, beginning September 13, 2009, 9:30 – 11:30 in B116

The Mom-to-Mom group gathers to study information on parenting, have fellowship time together, and support one another. All moms are welcome. Childcare is available.

## Men's Groups

### **United Methodist Men**

*Steve Bohn and David Lindner (UMM@suncreekumc.org)*

Our United Methodist Men's group had its inaugural meeting in June of 2002. All men are invited to join the Suncreek UMM for meetings on the first Tuesday of each month.

### **Retired Men's Fellowship**

*Jack Willis (BigTX@aol.com)*

Suncreek's Retired Men's Luncheon Fellowship meets on the second Monday of the month at 1pm at the Allen Cafe restaurant for fun and fellowship.

## Senior Groups

### **Glory Bee's**

*Gail Wade and Sharon Burnette (glorybees@suncreekumc.org)*

The Glory Bees is a new group of "older" adults at Suncreek that gathers regularly for fun and fellowship. All are welcome!

## Special Events

### Palmer Studies in the Faith

February 21 and 22, 2010

Speaker: *Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe*

*Bishop Bledsoe will preach all three worship services February 21, then return to lecture at 7 p.m. the evening of both the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

Bishop Bledsoe was elected as a Bishop in The United Methodist Church at the 2008 South Central Jurisdictional Conference in Dallas. He has a distinguished record of service as a local church pastor and as Director of Teaching Ministries for the Texas Conference. He has been a Jurisdictional member of the Connectional Table and a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 1992 to 2008. Bishop Bledsoe is married to Leslie Jean Bray Bledsoe and they have six children.

The mission of Palmer Studies in the Faith is to foster spiritual growth, family renewal, and service to our community. It seeks to address the essential needs for spiritual growth in a vibrant, growing congregation. Held annually in February, the series brings outstanding lecturers who share inspiration and expertise on a variety of Christian faith subjects. Palmer Studies in the Faith was established in 2001. Support for the inaugural year of the lectureship was provided in part by the estate of the late Dr. George H. Palmer to honor his many years of ministry in the United Methodist Church. George Palmer's grandson, Dr. Burt Palmer, was the founding pastor of Suncreek UMC, serving from 1995 to 2001. George Palmer's son, Dr. Jim Palmer, served on the Suncreek UMC staff from 1999 to 2003. Past lecturers include Rev. Dr. James W. Moore, Bishop Scott Jameson Jones, Rev. Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr., Bishop Richard B. Wilke – the creator of the Disciple Bible Study Series, Rev. Leanne Hadley, Dr. John Holbert, and Rev. Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas.

### Stations of the Cross: A Lenten Journey of Prayer

Dates: Saturday, February, 20 – Saturday, April 3, 2010

Stations of the Cross are a series of sixteen crosses, each corresponding to a particular incident in Christ's journey to the cross and his resurrection. They are usually ranged at intervals around the walls of a church, and are meant to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage through the incidents leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection. Pilgrims pass from Station to Station, saying certain prayers and meditating along the way.

As part of our observation of the season of Lent, Suncreek UMC will erect Stations of the Cross on our church property. A map of the prayer path and Stations, together with a prayer and meditation guide for both adults and children, will be available in the church office. The Stations will be open for prayer from dawn until dusk each day. Group tours are available by appointment only. To reserve time for a group tour, contact Rev. Holly Gotelli through the church office.

## Retreats

### **United Methodist Women's Retreat**

Each year the UMW provides a retreat open to all women in the church, inviting a speaker with relevant topics for group discussion and fellowship. For more information contact Carmen Hartjes at [umw@suncreekumc.org](mailto:umw@suncreekumc.org).

### **United Methodist Men's Retreat**

Each year the UMM provides a retreat open to all men in the church with opportunity for fellowship and fun in a Christian atmosphere. For more information contact Steve Bohn or David Lindner at [umm@suncreekumc.org](mailto:umm@suncreekumc.org).



## About Our Instructors – Spring 2010



Marlene Covin has been a member of Suncreek for 3 years. She is a Registered Nurse and works in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Plano Medical Center. Marlene is also a certified Adult/Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner for Collin County. She is married and has three grown children. In her free time, Marlene enjoys reading and making jewelry and Anglican rosaries.



Rev. Holly Gotelli is Associate Pastor and Minister with Adults at Suncreek UMC. She received her Master of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology, SMU. Holly has extensive experience teaching and leading small groups. She is married to Trip and they have two children.



Robin Knuuttila is a graduate of CoachU, the premier international training program for personal and executive coaches. She is a member of ICF, the International Coach Federation and North Texas ICF. Robin received a BBA from Stetson University and is a former public relations and marketing professional. She is a popular public speaker and retreat facilitator. She is a long-time member of Suncreek UMC and a Stephen's Minister. Robin is married to Bob and they have two children.

Michelle Spangler has been a member of Suncreek since 1998 and has held numerous leadership positions over the past 10 years. Michelle retired from Texas Instruments in 2005 after a 22 year career in manufacturing and operations management. Currently, she is Treasurer of Wesley-Rankin Community Center. She enjoys cooking, reading and spending time on Lake Texoma. She is married to Leigh and they have two children, Shannon and Blake.



## **Adult Ministry Opportunities - Fall 2009**

### **Sundays**

Suncreek 101	11:00	A101	Spangler	
Tending the Seed	11:00	Palmer Hall	Knuuttila	begins Apr 11
Careers in Transition	4-5 pm	B116	Knuuttila	
Faith Explorers SS Class	9:30	C129	Kalmbach	
Faith Weavers SS Class	9:30	C128	Loe	
Genesis SS Class	9:30	B116	Satrapa	
Seekers SS Class	9:30	A102	Barnes	
Wesley SS Class	9:30	A101	Brown	
CHRIST SS Class	11:00	C129	Wagner	
New Endeavors SS Class	11:00	B116	Pearson	
Open Doors Class	11:00	C128	Ezell/Jones	
Discovery Class	11:00	A102	Brocklesby	

### **Tuesdays**

United Methodist Men                      First Tuesday of the month, offsite

### **Fridays**

Faith Group	Fridays, offsite			
Mom to Mom	9:30 - 11:30	A101	Glazer/Tenner	alternating Fridays
Retired Men's Fellowship	1pm	Allen Café	Willis	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mondays

### **Seminars**

Protestant Rosary                      7:00 - 8:30 pm                      Round Room      Covin                      Feb 15

### **Special Events**

Stations of the Cross                      Feb 10 – Apr 3  
 Palmer Studies                      February 21 and 22                      Sanctuary

### **Retreats**

UMW Retreat                      TBA  
 UMM Retreat                      TBA