

## Adult Enrichment Fall 2008 Sunday School Classes

### **Top 6 Reasons to Attend Adult Sunday School...**

- **The coffee beforehand is fresh and hot.**
- **You won't be late for worship like you might be if you skip Sunday School.**
- **The teachers don't check to see if you've done your homework.**
- **It doesn't matter if you know the Bible from front to back or don't even know where your Bible is. We will all learn together!**
- **You get to know people at BPC and grow closer to the church family.**
- **You will grow and be encouraged in your faith and love of God.**

**The Biblical Story for Battered People** - a season of Bible study for the seasons of life, will be led by Alex Evans. Do you ever long for a helpful Bible study to inform your life and increase your faith? Can we trust the God of the Old Testament? What do patriarchs, kings, and prophets of Israel have to do with our lives? Is Jesus simply a good guy and a great teacher? Does Paul really have anything to say to us? What are all these Bible stories about anyway? This class, will explore the unfolding drama of the Biblical story today. This is a journey for all who would like a refresher course (or a first-time overview) in the major people and themes of the Bible. We will listen with fresh ears to major texts, seeking to let them speak to our life and times. We will strive to discern how to live more trusting, more committed, more joyful lives as God's people in our complex world.

**In Search of Belief** will be led by Susan Verbrugge.

The Apostle's Creed has been said and affirmed for hundreds of years. Should we say it without thinking of what the words might mean for us today? Or instead, should we wonder how this ancient confession might help shape our faith and our lives? In this class, we will study a book by Joan Chittister called *In Search of Belief*. Chittister is a Benedictine sister who has been called "one of America's visionary spiritual resources". In her own words in the introduction to this book, she says, "Never have we had a greater need to understand the Creed than we do now. Never have we had a greater need to live it than to recite it" (xv). We will wonder together what the Creed can mean for us today and how affirming it can shape our lives.

**Translating the Gospel Imperative, 'Love Your Neighbor,' Into Public Policy** will be led by Grace Kao, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Tech, a Christian social ethicist and a member of BPC.

What does it mean to be faithful in a time of crisis, when many people—in the U.S. and abroad—live on the margins of society? How might Christians work for the common good and toward social change in public policy, without either violating the well-known "separation between church or state" or requiring that we keep our faith private?

We will discuss these questions by beginning with an examination of some recent ecumenical statements on Christian social responsibility and our complicity as first-world Christians in many of today's problems and then spending each successive week discussing one pressing social issue. This class will be guided by a close study of *To Do Justice: A Guide for Progressive Christians*, edited by Rebecca Todd Peters & Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty. While the authors of each chapter support and engage in *charity* in meeting the immediate needs of peoples in crisis, they issue calls to transform social and economic systems that marginalize people and the natural world as a matter of *justice*. The goal of each class will neither be for everyone to agree with the authors' conclusions, nor to come to a consensus amongst themselves on each issue, but for all participants to engage in a civil and serious discussion of what faithful Christian social witness might require of us.

**University Class** - will be led by Angela and Jonathan Anderson. This fall, University students will get the opportunity to explore the Old Testament. Each week we will look at people and stories from either the Torah, the Historical books, the Wisdom books, or the Major and Minor prophets. We will be asking and answering questions about the Biblical Canon-what books were included, how they came to be included and why the inclusion of these books versus other books. We will also be asking the question of relevance. Is the Old Testament relevant to our post-modern lives? Can we gain insight into who God is by what we read in the Old Testament? We meet at 10:00 a.m. throughout the Virginia Tech fall semester. Bring breakfast, coffee and your Bible. We will be looking at different Old Testament passages each week, so if you miss a week you won't get behind. Contact Angela for more information at [angela@andersoj.org](mailto:angela@andersoj.org).

## Adult Weekday Educational Opportunities

### **Bible Workbench**

We are excited to continue our Bible Workbench Class this fall. Everyone is invited to join a continuing group that digs deep into scripture, its historical context, and how it applies to our lives today. This series, follows the lectionary cycle and challenges us to live out scripture in our lives. In preparation for the class each week, participants will read the scripture lesson, some background material by leading theologians, and parallel readings from other sources which help illuminate the passage and the themes within the passage. Susan Verbrugge will lead the discussions. We will meet together weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. for one hour (yes, that does say a.m.) in Hatcher Conference Room. Start your day off in scripture. Coffee is provided!



Alex Evans



Grace Kao



Angela Anderson



Susan Verbrugge

**BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN  
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**MINISTERS**

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor.....Alexander W. Evans  
Associate Pastor.....Susan Verbrugge  
Parish Associate.....Charles Taylor  
Director of Music and Bell Choir, Organist  
.....Jim Bryant  
Children's Choir Director.....Mary Harder  
Director of Christian Education.....Ginger Evans  
Administrative Assistant.....Sherry Ingham  
Custodian.....Viola Howery  
Presbyterian Campus Minister.....Catherine Snyder

This Christian Education Brochure is full of exciting possibilities for you and every member of your family. There are many ways to connect with each other and grow in our faith, knowledge, and love of God. Read through the offerings, check out the pictures of your teachers so you will know who they are, and plan to attend. We look forward to another wonderful year of services and growth at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church!

*Blacksburg Presbyterian Church*  
*Christian Education Programs*  
**2008-2009**

## Way Cool Wednesdays

For Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Wednesdays from 4-6:45 pm

September 3- December 10

Bible class, music, games, crafts, fellowship, fun and dinner

### Theme Nights:

September 3- Beach Party  
10- PJ Night  
17- Favorite Team Night  
24- Joke & Riddle Night

### Schedule:

4:00-4:30 Gathering & Snacks  
4:30-5:15 K & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade- Music  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- Bible Class  
4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Bible Class

October 1- Crazy Hat Night  
8- Favorite Book Night  
15- Celebrate Life Night  
22- Family Tree Night  
29- Remembering Saints Night

5:15-6:00 K & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Bible Class  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Music  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade- Music  
4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Music  
6:00-6:45 Dinner with Dinner Parents

November 5- Care for the World Night  
12- Feed the Hungry Night  
19- Thankful Feast Night  
26- **NO- WAY COOL WEDNESDAY**

December 3- Advent Night  
Gingerbread Houses and Pot Luck with entire Church Family!!

### Dinner Parents and Dinner Families

One of the greatest aspects of Way Cool Wednesdays is the time spent around the dinner tables with our Dinner Families. Dinner Parents are members of the church who feel a special calling to work with children in this setting. We get to know each other, share our good things and our bad things, help each other with manners, and serve each other "family style". The relationships that are shared and nurtured around the tables are so special and help us all grow in our knowledge and love of God and each other.



### Teachers:

Music: Mary Harder and Mary Lee Hendricks



Bible Class: Clare Dannenberg, Keirsten Deater-Deckard,  
Ginger Evans, Susan Hunter, Amy Mauldon, and Sarah Windes



## Youth Education

Our Youth will use a variety of different materials that stimulate meaningful discussions about faith and life. We have excellent teachers and amazing youth, and the Sunday School hour promises to be worth getting up for!

### Mid High Youth Teachers

(6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

Full Year:

Austin Banks, Mac McCord and Nancy Phillips



Austin Banks



Mac McCord



Nancy Phillips

### Senior High Youth Teachers

(9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

Full Year:

Jack Call and Mary Spencer



Jack Call



Mary Spencer

### Mid and Senior High Youth Groups

Meet Sunday Nights 5:30 - 7:30 pm

For Dinner and Fellowship, Spiritual Growth and Nurture

**YOUTH GROUP BEGINS AUGUST 31  
WITH PIZZA AND A MOVIE AT 5:30 P.M.**

***COME JOIN THE FUN!!!***

2008-2009 Youth Council President is

Clare Sanderson

2008-2009 Youth Advocate is

Erika Schroeder

First Youth Council Meeting is Sept. 7 at 5:00 p.m. in  
Fellowship Hall

# Children's Education

Children's classes will be using Witness Curriculum from Augsburg Fortress Press. The focus is "Learn from the Bible to Live the Good News."

## Preschool Teachers (Ages 3-5)

Full Year: Arlice Banks, Judy McCord, Kristy McCord, and Cynthia Wimberley,



Arlice Banks



Kristy McCord



Judy McCord



Cynthia Wimberley

## K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Elementary Teachers

Fall:

Clare Dannenburg, Ginger Evans and Heidi Anne Mesmer

Winter:

Marilyn Hutchins and Noreen Spencer

Spring:

Jama Hayes and Sarah Woolsey



Clare Dannenburg



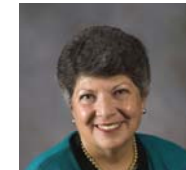
Ginger Evans



Heidi Anne Mesmer



Marilyn Hutchins



Norraine Spencer



Jama Hayes



Sarah Woolsey

## 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Elementary Teachers

Full Year:

Janet Rakes and John Dillard



Janet Rakes



John Dillard