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## More opportunities for study & fellowship

### Special Class

#### *Faith and Work Discipleship Group*

8 Monday evenings, time TBD  
beginning Sept. 12

What does our faith have to do with our work?  
What does our work have to do with our faith?  
Rev. Crawford will facilitate a study designed to explore God's hopes for work and how work can be part of God's redemption. We will learn that work matters to God, from the actual work that we do, to the way we conduct ourselves and our relationships, to the hope we have for our vocations and industries. The group will meet weekly for one hour for eight weeks. In addition, each week will have 2-3 hours of reading and homework. To sign-up, please contact Rev. Crawford who will register you for the on-line learning portal.

### Saturday Workshop Series: *Testimony*

Saturdays; January 21 & 28, 2023  
led by Rev. Crawford and Susan Breen

Historically, Christian testimony has been an important means by which faith experiences are shared, and the body of Christ is lifted up. Writing our own testimonies is also an excellent means to better understand the growth, joys and struggles of our own faith. This two-part workshop will give us a chance to learn more about uses and examples of testimony, and then to ponder, compose and share our own witness.

### Weekly Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:30 am  
ongoing, beginning Sept. 14

Rev. Crawford teaches this class, which over the year will explore Wisdom literature; Names of the Messiah; The Beatitudes; Fiery Jesus; and Philippians. Bible beginners are welcome.

### IPC Book Club

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 9:30 am  
and  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm  
both by Zoom; ongoing

Discussion of novels, poetry and non-fiction. Convened by Susan Breen ([susan@susanjbreen.com](mailto:susan@susanjbreen.com)); discussions led, and books recommended, by group participants.



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## Opportunities to grow in faith and discipleship



*You are invited to be part of IPC's learning community, sharing your thoughts and your heart as we look at the Bible, church history, theology, and the way we live in the world as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

**Adult  
Christian Education  
2022-23**

*Bernard of Clairvaux:*

## *A Monk in Turbulent Times*

**September 11, 18 & 25 and October 2**

led by George Bollenbacher

The Twelfth Century was one of the most turbulent times in history, and Bernard of Clairvaux was one of the most important figures in it. This class will look at both the turbulent times and Bernard's role in them.

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## *Acts: Bible Study Guide*

**October 9, 16, 23 & 30 and**

**November 6 & 13**

led by Susan Breen

Based on renowned theologian N.T. Wright's popular Everyone Bible Study Guide, this class, led by Elder Susan Breen will help us understand "how Jesus' acts through the apostles inform our acts today."

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## *Finding God in Secular Literature and Poetry*

**November 20 and December 4, 11 & 18**

**(no class November 27)**

led by Rachel Glynn

In this course, we will be reading and analyzing secular poems as well as short stories. We will be exploring Christian themes such as morality, forgiveness, love, compassion and faithfulness. Join us as we read classic and modern literature and discover some of the ways that God is at work in the world.

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## **2022-23 CLASSES**

**Offerings on this page:**

**9:00 - 10:00 am on Sundays,**

**in person the Upper Room,**

**and by Zoom**

(link available on the website and in the weekly Sunday Schedule)

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## *Christianity on Campus*

**January 8 & 15**

led by Richard Ackerman

Sharing our faith can be daunting and challenging. Although we hear that Christianity is on the wane on college campuses, while depression among young people is a growing problem, Richard Ackerman found ways in which people have effectively spread the gospel at SMU. Richard will tell us about his experiences as a Christian on campus, and give us a view of the future of our faith.

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## *Faith Journeys*

**January 22 & 29 and February 5**

This is IPC's 10<sup>th</sup> iteration of *Faith Journeys*, which invites members and friends to speak about the evolution of their faith—the events and opportunities that have inspired them, enriched them, and moved them along in their search of a deeper connection with God and others.

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## *Mental Illness and the Church's Ministry*

**February 12, 19 & 26 and March 5, 12, and 19**

led by Rev. Dr. Blaine Crawford & Nick Lawson

Per the National Alliance of Mental Illness, 1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness, with a similar number of children and adolescents ages 6-17. Whether anxiety or depression, PTSD or OCD, many experience the challenges of living with mental illness or loving someone with mental illness. This class, taught by Nick Lawson, MSW, and Rev. Crawford, will explore the church's ministry to those with mental illnesses and explore the discipleship journey of those who experience mental illness.

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## *Women of Faith*

**March 26 and April 2, 16 and 23**

**(no class April 9)**

led by Susan Breen and Donna Taylor

We know all about the great men of our faith, but where are the women? They were there, for sure, but do not get the recognition they deserve. In this class, Deacon Donna Taylor and Elder Susan Breen will bring to light the stories of Susanna Wesley, Anne Hutchinson and several others. (We are open to suggestions, pass them on!)

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## *The Church in A Partisan World*

**April 30 and May 7, 14 & 21**

led by George Bollenbacher

There can be no doubt that we are living in the most partisan times of recent memory. What role should a Protestant church play in this world? This class will look at some possible answers to that question.

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