

FALL 2025

# ADULT EDUCATION



# SUNDAY CLASSES

8:30 A.M.

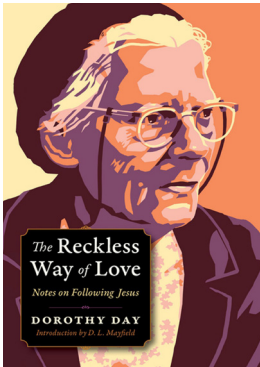
## SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

Starting September 14, 8:30 a.m.  
Cannon Room, Ministries Center

Join us as we explore Apostle Paul's Greatest Hits. This longstanding Sunday morning class is led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. This class will explore the letters of Paul as a guide for navigating the life of faith and discerning our calling amid the uncertainty and complexity of today's world. For information about joining the class, contact Paul MacMurray at [katrmac2@icloud.com](mailto:katrmac2@icloud.com).



8:45 A.M.



## FILLING THE WELL

Starting September 14, 8:45 a.m.  
Children's Library, Education Building

This Sunday morning class for women will read and discuss a collection of writings by social activist Dorothy Day. In *The Reckless Way of Love*, we will reflect on Day's personal faith and how she sustained it in the midst of the work of justice and change. The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick leads this class. For more information and to reserve a copy of the book, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org).

## DIGGING DEEPER BIBLE STUDY

September 21 - November 9, 8:45 a.m.  
Witherspoon Parlor, Ministries Center

This fall's class will explore the topic, Creation, Covenant, and Christ: Genesis and Christian Belief. Jesus, his disciples, and the early church treasured the scriptures we call the Old Testament. Reading the book of Genesis along with early Christians, we will explore the ties between its themes – of creation and covenant, sin and redemption, suffering and providence – and the Church's developing understanding of God as known in Christ. This class will be led by Dr. Joshua Yoder. To sign up and receive the reading packet for the class, contact [JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org).





# SUNDAY CLASSES

11:15 A.M.



## **ALICE DUSTIN: FLORA & FAUNA GALLERY TALK**

September 14, 11:15 a.m.  
Gallery, Ministries Center

Artist Alice Dustin will be present in the gallery to discuss *Flora and Fauna*, a series of intimate, 6-inch-square oil portraits reflecting her bond with animals and concern for the environment. Painted *alla prima*, the works feature pets, farm animals, and imagined creatures, with a portion of proceeds supporting climate action.

## **THE ROLE OF JESUS IN ISLAM**

September 21, 11:15 a.m.  
Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

We are glad to welcome educator and interfaith advocate Naila Haider. Together, we will learn about key beliefs in Islam, including how Muslims understand God, the role of Jesus as a prophet, his miraculous birth, and his place in the story of faith alongside the Prophet Muhammad. We'll also explore how the Qur'an encourages respect across faiths and shared values.



## **MICROAGGRESSIONS IN THE CHURCH**

September 28, 11:15 a.m.  
Congregational Hall, Ministries Center

Join Dr. Cody Sanders of Lutheran Seminary for a powerful conversation based on his book *Microaggressions in Ministry*, exploring how subtle acts of exclusion and bias show up in faith communities. This class will invite us to reflect on our own practices and learn how to cultivate more just, inclusive, and compassionate spaces for all. This class is sponsored by the BMPC Anti-Racism Committee.

# SUNDAY CLASSES

11:15 A.M.



## WHAT THE CHURCH HAS TO LEARN FROM INTERNET CONSPIRACISM

October 5, 11:15 a.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

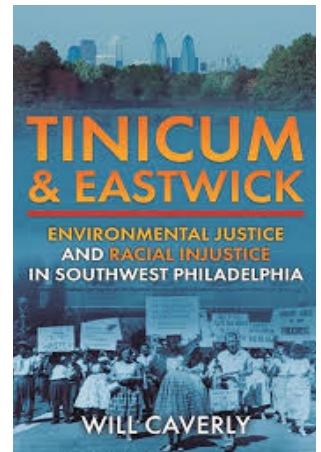
The rise of conspiracy theories on the internet presents many difficult challenges, especially for churches called to proclaim truth. This conversation will be led by the Rev. Andy Greenhow, who argues that through reclaiming the weirdness of our Christian tradition and loving those struggling to find community, the church can begin to address the harm done by internet conspiracism.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND RACIAL INJUSTICE IN SOUTHWEST PHILADELPHIA

October 12, 11:15 a.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

In his book *Tinicum and Eastwick*, author and activist Will Caverly explores the entwined histories of ecological degradation and systemic racism, revealing how environmental and racial injustices have shaped the lived experiences of communities in Southwest Philadelphia. Join us as Will shares his work and engages us in conversation around our own work as advocates for justice.

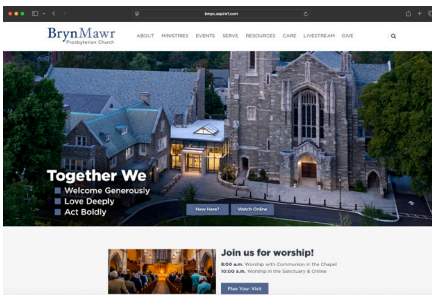


## BMPC WEBSITE REVEAL

October 19, 11:15 a.m.

Congregational Hall, Ministries Center

Join us for a Sunday morning forum introducing our church's new website, designed to keep you connected and informed. We'll walk through how to navigate key features, find important updates, and stay engaged with all that's happening in our church community.



# THEOLOGIAN IN RESIDENCE

THE REV. DR. ANNA CARTER FLORENCE



Anna Carter Florence is the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and holds degrees from Yale University (BA) and Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div. and Ph.D.). Before joining the Columbia faculty in 1998, Anna served as an associate pastor for youth and young adults at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis.

Anna's books include *Preaching as Testimony*, *Inscribing the Word*, *Rehearsing Scripture: Discovering God's Word in Community* (based on her 2012 Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching at Yale Divinity School), and *A is for Alabaster: 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture* (2023).

Anna's research focuses on testimony, preaching pedagogies, and creative strategies for communities to engage and encounter the biblical text for our present context. She is a frequent preacher and teacher in the U.S. and abroad, which gives her plenty of opportunity to do what makes her happiest: sitting around a table with a group of people, a big passage of Scripture, and a big block of time to dive into it.

## B IS FOR BANQUET: AN ALPHABET OF SCRIPTURE STORIES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL DROPOUTS (AND OTHERS)

LECTURE SCHEDULE

### LIGHT BRUNCH

Saturday, November 8, 9:30 a.m.  
Congregational Hall, Ministries Center

### ANOTHER LOOK AT SOME (NOTORIOUS) WOMEN: VASHTI, TAMAR, AND LOT'S WIFE

Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.  
Congregational Hall, Ministries Center

### PREACHING

Sunday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary

### ANOTHER LOOK AT JESUS: GROWING UP, TELLING STORIES, AND WALKING ON WATER

Sunday, November 9, 11:15 a.m.  
Congregational Hall, Ministries Center



# SUNDAY CLASSES

11:15 A.M.



## THE MEANING OF MIDRASH

November 16, 11:15 a.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

Join Rabbi David Straus for a thought-provoking class on the meaning and significance of midrash—the ancient Jewish tradition of interpreting Scripture through storytelling, questions, and imagination. Together, we'll explore how midrash can deepen our understanding of the Bible and enrich our own faith today.

## PROLOGUE TO EPILOGUE: CONSIDERING THE MUSICAL NARRATIVE OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

December 7, 11:15 a.m.

Congregational Hall, Ministries Center

Come explore how sacred music tells the story of Advent and Christmas—from anticipation to incarnation. Led by our new Co-Director of Music and Fine Arts, James Kealey, we'll examine the musical selections and texts featured in this year's Christmas concert, uncovering the theological and emotional threads that run through the season's beloved works and carols.



## THE REV. MELANIE HARDISON, ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

December 14, 11:15 a.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

Join us for a Sunday morning conversation led by the Rev. Melanie Hardison as we explore faith, ministry, and community together. This class offers a chance to reflect, share stories, and get to know Pastor Melanie as she begins her ministry among us.



# WEEKDAY CLASSES

10:00 A.M.



## GREAT DECISIONS

Mondays, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, 10:00 a.m.  
via Zoom

BMPC member Bob Martin leads our monthly programs based on the Great Decisions curriculum, a nonpartisan global affairs education program that explores pressing international issues through expert analysis, discussion questions, and policy options for informed civic engagement. The classes are free and open to all, but registration is required to receive materials and the Zoom links. To register, contact [TiaraHarris@bmpc.org](mailto:TiaraHarris@bmpc.org).

## COFFEE CUP BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays  
starting September 17, 10:00 a.m.  
Cannon Room,  
Ministries Center  
& via Zoom

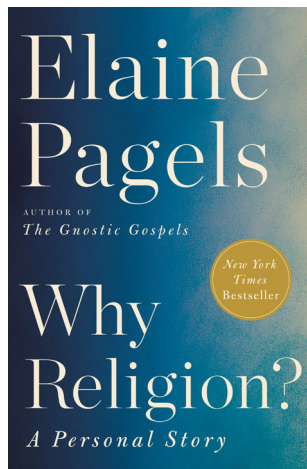
This weekly Bible Study brings together women of all ages to read and reflect on scripture – what it has meant for communities in the past and how it speaks to us as individuals, as women, and as a church today. The focus of this fall’s study will be on the Prophet Isaiah. Sponsored by BMPC’s Presbyterian Women, this class is led by the Rev. Rachel Pedersen. For more information about joining the class, contact [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org).



## MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP

2nd and 4th Wednesdays  
starting September 10, 10:00 a.m.  
Converse House Parlor, Ministries  
Center

Join us as we explore *Why Religion?* by Dr. Elaine Pagels, a renowned Princeton religion scholar, whose powerful memoir weaves personal loss with profound insights into the enduring role of faith in human experience. This group will be led by the Rev. Andy Greenhow. To register and find out how to purchase the book, contact [AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org](mailto:AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org).



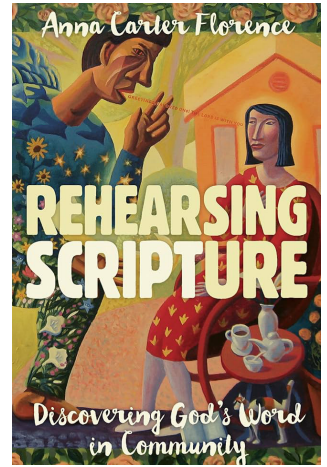
# EVENING CLASSES

7:00 P.M.

## REHEARSING SCRIPTURE BIBLE STUDY

Mondays, October 20, 27; November 3, 7:00 p.m.  
Witherspoon Parlor, Ministries Center

In her book *Rehearsing Scripture*, Dr. Anna Carter Florence, our fall Theologian in Residence, invites readers into a dynamic, participatory approach to reading the Bible, to engage Scripture with curiosity, imagination, and community. This three-week class, led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick and Dr. Joshua Yoder, will draw upon these techniques for reading scripture with one another, as we look forward to Anna's time with us in November. Contact [JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org) to register for the class. No book required.



## MIND, BODY, SPIRIT: THE WHAT, WHY, AND HOW OF MANAGING ANXIETY

Wednesdays, Oct. 1, 8, 22, 7:00 p.m.  
Witherspoon Parlor, Ministries Center

Feeling anxious has become an increasing issue for many of us. We will explore a variety of solutions, including mindset management tools, meditation, contemplative prayer, and breathwork, among others, to allow us to self-manage anxious feelings. This class will be taught by BMPC member Terry Charlton. For more information and how you can join via Zoom, contact [KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org](mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org).

## CONNECTING TO TEACHERS, CLASSES & GROUPS!

If you need additional information about participating in Adult Education here at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, please reach out to [JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org).

To purchase a book for classes this fall, use this QR Code to visit our book pick-up page. While some facilitators ask participants to buy a book on their own, any book available to buy directly from BMPC is sold for \$10.00

