



MOSAIC

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES
WINTER/SPRING 2024

*To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known
with Head, Hands, and Heart*

January 7

FAITH DOESN'T ERASE GRIEF

Rev. Kate Meyer, LPC

Kate Meyer is a licensed professional counselor, ordained RCA minister, writer, and speaker. In her 2022 book “Faith Doesn’t Erase Grief,” she speaks of Christians often being pushed out of grief and rushed into rejoicing that their loved one is in Heaven. She states that it is time for a better way to acknowledge that you can struggle with grief and still love God.

January 14

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ART AND LAMENT

Molly Currens

Molly Currens is a local artist and artisan from Holland, MI. Molly will share about various artist expressions and practices and how they can guide in spiritual practice and navigating emotions and experiences.

January 21

REV. BOB VAN VOORST

TBD

January 28

TELLING STORIES IN THE DARK

Third Church members Rev. Jeff Munroe, Editor, *The Reformed Journal*; and Dr. Dan Rooks, Psychologist

Join Dan Rooks and Jeff Munroe for a conversation about Jeff’s new book *Telling Stories in the Dark: Finding Healing and Hope in Sharing our Sadness, Grief, Trauma, and Loss*. This will be the kickoff event for this new book.

February 4

BELONGING: THE CHURCH AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Janelle Sievert, M.Ed, Third Church Member

Janelle Sievert, Educational Consultant from All Belong Center for Inclusive Education, will guide us in ways to move from inclusion to belonging for individuals with disabilities within the church. By understanding the “Ten Dimensions of Belonging,” developed by Dr. Erik Carter of Vanderbilt University, we will consider ways that we can build belonging within our own TRC community.

February 11

A PLACE TO CALL HOME: A MISSIONARY KID'S TALE

George C. Kraft II, Hope College (Retired)

George C. Kraft II was born in Chengdu, China to missionary parents serving with the China Inland Mission. He traces their lives and his own, having to leave them at age six to be schooled in China and seeing them only periodically throughout his childhood and adolescence. He then describes his path from Wheaton College to finding a home at Hope College.

February 18

ASSOCIATION FOR A MORE JUST SOCIETY

Hannah Applebach, ASJ Partnership Coordinator

What does it mean for Christians to “do justice” as Micah 6:8 compels us to live into? The Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) has asked this question for over 20 years, and this organization is coming to share stories, information, and updates about how they are working to address the root causes of injustice in education, public policy, and security systems and bring about flourishing

for everyone in Honduras, specifically people living in the most vulnerable circumstances.

February 25

MOVIES THAT COMPLEMENT NOVELS

Third Church members Dr. Deb Van Duinen, Arnold and Esther Sonneveldt Professor of Education at Hope College, and Mark Hiskes, English Teacher at Holland Christian High School (Retired)

In this class we will look at several famous novels and the movies that have complemented them in enriching ways.

March 3

ANTHONY TROLLOPE AND TED LASSO: HONORING THE HOLY FOOL

Mark Hiskes and Rev. Jeff Munroe

We will draw parallels between the 19th Century English author's novel “The Warden” and the Apple TV show Ted Lasso, suggesting that both offer a message that is critical for our times.

March 10

NO CLASS - ALL CHURCH RETREAT WEEKEND

March 17

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AND PROVIDENCE OVER THE YEARS

Harold Gazan, Third Church Member

Harold will share about his own spiritual journey and testimony, and offer reflections and realizations of God's faithfulness and providence over the years.

March 24 and April 7

CHRISTIAN THINKING ABOUT POVERTY, INEQUALITY, AND THE WELFARE STATE

Dr. Steve McMullen, Professor of Economics at Hope College and Third Church Member

There are deep disagreements in the Church about poverty, inequality, and government programs. In these classes we will examine recent economic data, evidence on the effects of welfare state programs, and different conceptions of justice that Christians bring to these topics.

March 31

EASTER—NO CLASS TODAY

April 14, 21, and 28

THINKING CHRISTIAN-LY ABOUT ISLAM AND MUSLIMS: PERCEPTIONS AND MISPERCEPTIONS

Dr. John Hubers, Professor and Consultant for the Christian-Muslim Relations Program at Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Retired) and Third Church member

Session 1: Early Christian perceptions of Islam (how do they compare to ours?)

In this session we will look at the first responses Christians made to the rise of Islam as it swept through the formerly Christian Middle East while examining whether or not those early responses continue to inform our own.

Session 2: An Alternative Muslim Jesus: How should we respond?

In this session we will examine the Qur'anic and traditional Muslim views of Jesus asking how they impact not only our view of Islam, but how to approach our relationship with Muslim neighbors who hold these beliefs.

Session 3: Islam Comes to America

In this session we will meet some of our Muslim neighbors (with video clips) as they tell their stories and ask how those stories might be similar to our own. Here we will be looking less at Islam as a system than at Muslims who are attempting to live out their faith in a pluralistic America where Christianity remains the dominant religious ideology.

May 5

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—NO CLASS TODAY

May 12

RECOVERING THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS AS ESSENTIAL GOSPEL CORE

Rev. Dr. George Hunsberger, Professor Emeritus of Missiology, Western Theological Seminary

Any of our evangelistic efforts to attend to clarity, fidelity, and potency in our grasp of the gospel must engage an element at the core of the gospel that has become largely missing in our ways of telling it. God raised Jesus from the dead. What we have allowed to be

peripheral is in fact an action of God by which all else has a place to stand.

