



MOSAIC

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES  
WINTER/SPRING 2025

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

January 12

## COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS WITH LIGHTHOUSE IMMIGRANT ADVOCATES

Leah Cooper, Legal Service Coordinator  
for Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates, and  
Linda Jacobs, Third's Community Navigators  
Coordinator

Join LIA staff member Leah Cooper and Linda Jacobs for an engaging discussion about Community Navigators, an innovative, community-driven resettlement program. In partnership with Third, LIA is offering tailored resettlement services to Central and South American immigrants who are building new lives in West Michigan. This session will explore best practices in community resettlement, highlight how LIA is responding to recent election outcomes, and showcase how Community Navigators aims to transform the resettlement experience in Holland.

January 19

## STUDENT MISSION IN PERU

Albino and Sandy Rodríguez, RCA  
Missionaries

Albino and Sandy Rodríguez will be visiting from Cusco, Peru, to share about La Casa del Maestro. The ministry serves students who migrate from rural villages to the city for better employment and educational opportunities. They equip and empower youth through a holistic discipleship program that recognizes the true source of life and salvation in Christ.

January 26

## SACRED, HOLY MOMENTS

Jeff Munroe, Author, Reformed Journal  
editor, and Third member

One year after the publication of *Telling Stories in the Dark*, Jeff Munroe will share what he's learned and experienced since the book has come out. This will include insights into how we define ourselves through stories, the nature of grief, and updates from some of the people featured in Jeff's book.

February 2

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTIANS OF THE MIDDLE EAST: PERCEPTIONS AND (SOMETIMES DEADLY) MISPERCEPTIONS

John Hubers, former RCA missionary to Ethiopia, college professor, and supervisor for the RCA mission program in the Middle East and South Asia. John is a member of Third.

In this session we will be introduced to a group of brothers and sisters who are largely unknown to many of us in the hopes of countering misperceptions which in some cases have been harmful to them, particularly related to the near unconditional support American Christians have given to Israel.

February 9

## AGING IN PLACE WITH FLOURISH

Suzanne Sholes, Evergreen Commons Director of the Day Center, and Jill Ver Steeg, Evergreen President and CEO

Members of Evergreen's team will lay out the scope of care and resources available to age at home and engage in the community, and what it means to flourish in the senior season of life.

February 16

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH?

Duane Kelderman, pastor in the CRC for over 45 years, serving for ten of those years as the Vice-President for Administration and Associate Professor of Preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary.

There has been great turmoil in our sister denomination, the Christian Reformed Church, over the past few years, which came to a head at the 2024 Synod with the decision that several congregations must disaffiliate from the denomination. The dividing issue is human sexuality, but the debate is particularly centered on the interpretation of the word "unchastity" in the Heidelberg Catechism. Duane Kelderman, a CRC minister who has been in the eye of the storm during these discussions, will lead our class.

February 23

## FRONTERA DE GRACIA 2025

Pastor Angel Lopez

Seven minutes from the El Paso, Texas, and Mexico border, there is a place where strangers look each other in the eye, share a smile, and recognize the other's identity as a

child of God. At Frontera de Gracia (Border of Grace), guests find refuge and a place of worship on their migration journey. It's also here that U.S. churches have an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus for sisters and brothers on the move.

March 2

## WHEN THE CHRIST BECAME "CHRISTIAN"

Madison Pierce, Associate Professor of New Testament, Western Theological Seminary and Third member

Ancient Jewish literature depicts God redeeming his people by means of an anointed prophet, priest, and king. The New Testament distinctively sees these roles coming together as the work of one anointed person—Jesus—whom we call Messiah (or Christ). This class will explore some of the ways that New Testament authors present Jesus as the Messiah on behalf of God's people.

March 9

## NO CLASS

Please consider attending the El Encuentro worship service at 11:30.

March 16 and March 23

## ANCIENT HOME AND FAMILY

Bob Van Voorst, Professor Emeritus of New Testament, Western Theological Seminary, and Third member

Bob will discuss the structure of the family and home in the ancient Greco-Roman world and the Jewish world as a background for understanding the New Testament's adaptation of them. The contemporary theological implications of family terms like "father," "mother," and "children" will also be explored.

March 30

## A VISIT TO GREEN STREET

Dave Larsen, humorist and storyteller who had a long career in higher education and urban renewal in the Chicago area.

Dave Larsen grew up on Green Street, in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago. Dave has written a fictionalized account of life in Englewood focused on one particular year, 1962, when both his neighborhood Christian School and Christian Reformed Church decided to leave Englewood and move to the suburbs. Dave's book humanizes the phenomenon of white flight and Dave will join

us to share stories of Green Street and address white flight. Copies of *Green Street in Black and White* will be available.

April 6

## THE TRAVELER'S PATH

Doug Brouwer served international churches in Zurich, Geneva, and The Hague toward the end of his long ministerial career. He is also the author of several books and has been a columnist for the *Holland Sentinel*.

Why do we travel? Is there a possibility to move beyond tourism to spiritual transformation through travel? Doug Brouwer, a seasoned traveler and tour guide, will lead us in considering travel as transformation and share with us about his new book, *The Traveler's Path*. Copies of Doug's book will be available.

April 13

## AVOIDING THE VERBAL VILLAINS

Karen Mulder, founder of *Wisdom of the Wounded* and a noted author, speaker, and radio host, and Joel Schoon-Tanis, artist-in-residence and member of *Third*

We all want to care well for those going through difficult trials of life, but we often don't know how. Karen started *Wisdom of the*

*Wounded*, a caregiving ministry, at her church and it has expanded to include workshops, national radio spots, and articles that share resources and support. Karen offers practical ways to help carry another person's burden, and she and Joel team up to present a creative look at compassionate communication.

April 20

## EASTER: NO CLASS

April 27:

## RECOVERING THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS AS ESSENTIAL GOSPEL CORE

George Hunsberger, Professor Emeritus of *Missiology*, *Western Theological Seminary*

There is an element at the core of the Gospel that has been largely missing in our contemporary ways of telling the Gospel. God raised Jesus from the dead! Taking seriously the difference it makes will guide our discipleship and make the Good News we share more faithful and compelling.

May 4:

## THE RESURRECTED CHRIST AND THE MEANING OF HISTORY

George Hunsberger, Professor Emeritus of Missiology, Western Theological Seminary

The resurrection of Jesus and its “apocalyptic” vision remind us that the gospel is public truth in the sense that it is about the public life of the world. The gospel renders the world’s meaning and its destiny.

May 11

## UP TO DATE WITH COMMUNITY ACTION HOUSE

Jessica Pressley, Senior Manager of Housing Access, Community Action House

Third has had a long relationship with Community Action House. Jessica will be updating us on the current, exciting ways CAH is serving our community.

May 18

## THE FAITH WE SING... AND WHY

Steve Stam, retired Third Church pastor, and Karen Stam, organist and pianist

Back by popular demand, Steve and Karen will lead us in another look at the backgrounds of beloved hymns. Steve will provide the hymns’ histories, and Karen will accompany the class in our singing. This will be a festive way to finish our semester.

