

*FCC Connects...*  
*through small groups and classes*  
*—2018 Fall Semester—*

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*One of the reasons  
why it needs no  
special education to  
be a Christian is  
that Christianity is  
an education itself.*

*-- C.S. Lewis*

**W**atch a child and it becomes apparent: we learn by doing. We learn to talk by babbling until our mouths form words that others can understand. We learn to walk by moving our feet until we reach that distant destination. We learn to love by reaching out and finding ourselves in a safe embrace.

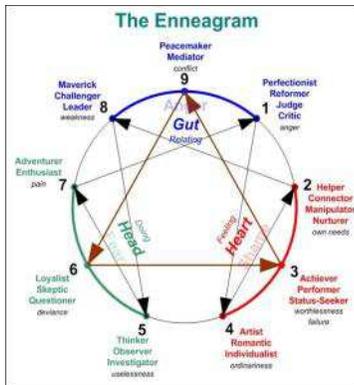
*In the same way, we learn to be Christ-like simply by being like Christ, as well as we can, as often as we can manage it. And it helps to be around others who are trying to do the same thing.*

*Assuming you're like me, and you're not quite the follower of Christ you'd like to be, I invite you to join other learners at First Christian Church. Together, we'll babble, and move our feet, and reach out to the One who always offers a safe embrace after the struggle.*

*May the Spirit lead us in our journey together.*

*Connie Myers  
Director, Faith Formation & Family Ministries*

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## Doorway to Community: an Enneagram Workshop

Would you like to better understand yourself and others in the church community? The Enneagram, an ancient personality typing system, may be just the tool you need! By studying the Enneagram and determining their own types, group members will better understand and love themselves and each other, thus building up the body of Christ.

Time commitment will be four 1-hour sessions. In the first session you will learn the general form and function of the Enneagram and will use questions to give hints about where each participant belongs on the diagram. Between sessions 1 and 2, you may use an Enneagram test online to better determine your type. Remaining sessions build on these findings.

**Leadership:** Elma Jessen

**Meeting Dates/Time:** 4 Wednesdays, September 5, 12, 19, 26 at 6:00 p.m.

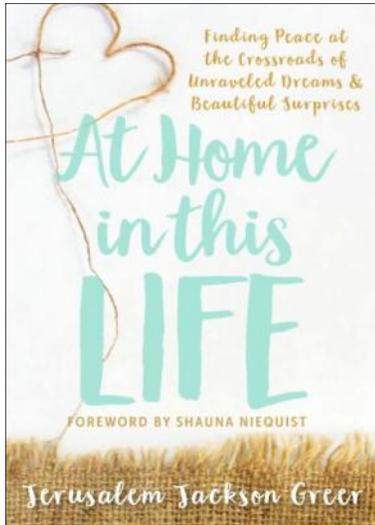
### **Materials Provided**

- *The Road Back to You Study Guide* by Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile
- All handouts

### **Materials to Bring**

- Paper and a pen or pencil
- Optional: a binder for handouts
- Optional: *The Road Back to You* by Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile (hardcover and Kindle editions available at Amazon.com)

**Registration:** Return registration card or call the church office (812-332-4459) no later than Wednesday, August 29, to reserve your spot.



## ***At Home in This Life*** **Book Study**

*At Home in This Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises* by Jerusalem Jackson Greer serves as the launching point for discussion and practice that will help participants reflect on what it means to 1) give up our own will to the will of God, 2) serve God with the good things we have been given, and 3) keep our eyes open to what God is calling us to do. Partici-

pants will find encouragement to listen for the leading of the Spirit and trust that conversions and growth happen when we remain, not when we run. Indeed, stability means being faithful where we are and really paying attention to those with whom we live and to what is happening in our common life.

**Leadership:** Sharon Robinson, Terry Daugherty & Pastor Helen Hempfling

**Meeting Dates/Time:** 8 Fridays, September 28-November 16, time TBD (morning or afternoon; see registration information below)

**Materials Provided:** *At Home in This Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises* by Jerusalem Jackson Greer

### **Materials to Bring**

- Your Bible (any translation)
- Paper and a pen or pencil

**Registration:** Return registration card or call the church office (812-332-4459) no later than Thursday, September 20, to reserve your spot. *When you register, indicate which time on Fridays you would prefer to meet: 10-11 a.m., 12-1 p.m., or 4-5 p.m.*

*New Short-Term Small Group Opportunities*



## **Made to Create**

Made to Create is a four-week program that provides an opportunity to reflect on our relationship to God as Creator while also providing professional watercolor art instruction.

The Fall 2018 series will provide new watercolor opportunities different from past Made to Create courses.

**Leadership:** Bess Lee

**Meeting Dates/Time:** 4 Tuesdays, October 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Materials to Bring**

- Good, archival watercolors (For a good buy, Bess recommends Yarka)
- Acid free watercolor paper (140#)
- A good #6 watercolor brush
- Pencil and eraser
- Paper towels
- Large, clean containers for water (two 16 or 32 oz. yogurt containers are good)

**Registration:** Return registration card or call the church office (812-332-4459) no later than Tuesday, September 25, to reserve your spot.



## **CreatureKind: Animal Welfare and the Church**

*What's Christianity got to do with animals? Will animals go to heaven?* Through videos, short readings, and lots of dialogue, the CreatureKind Course for Churches encourages Christians to consider what we believe about God's creatures and how we might move toward living out those beliefs as members of the body of Christ. This would be an ideal experience for anyone interested in adopting a more sustainable diet, better understanding a loved one who is vegan, or simply gaining knowledge about food, farming, and care of the Earth. CreatureKind is committed to building a big tent, to meeting people where they are, and journeying alongside other Christians as we explore together our common call to care for God's creation.

**Leadership:** Amy Cheek

**Meeting Dates/Time:** 6 Sundays, October 14-November 18 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Materials Provided**

- All handouts and videos
- A light vegan meal

**Registration:** Return registration card or call the church office (812-332-4459) no later than Monday, October 8, to reserve your spot.

## **Small Groups Meeting Sundays**

### **Cultivating Peace and Joy: Sunday Meditation**

This group practices silent meditation to cultivate peace and joy. Each session includes a brief discussion of selected readings from meditation teachers/authors such as Thich Nhat Hahn, Richard Rohr, and others. No previous experience in meditation practice is required.

**Time: 8:30-9:15 a.m. Sundays**

**Location: Room 1, lower level**

**Contact: Tom Walsh**

### **Bible Study/Discussion: Emmaus-Interpreters**

This group values rich conversation and lifelong learning, and digs deeply into every topic they address. Their area of study for the fall semester will be determined when they gather on September 9. Recent endeavors have included lectionary-based Bible study; a Mayberry video-based study; and in-depth examinations of books of the Bible.

**Time: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Sundays**

**Location: Campbellite Room, level 2**

**Contact: Andy Stafford**

### **Rebellious Hope: Campbellite Class**

This fall's discussion centers on the lives and writings of 20th century saints who lived in hope as they met the challenges of their times. Beginning with the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, this series focuses on what the Christian hope means for us as we meet today's challenges. All are welcome to join this group of lifelong learners.

**Time: 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sundays**

**Location: Fireside Study, main level**

**Contact: Nancy Heimer**



### **Faith, Friends & Films**

When this group gathers, film sets the tone for diving deep into our shared faith journey. The dialogue begins with brief and engaging videos featuring modern theologians. Group leaders provide an overview of spiritual disciplines and present options for weekly practice. Join us in sharing the discoveries and challenges that arise as we more deeply connect with God, self, and others.

**Time: 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Sundays**

**Location: Room 14, lower level**

**Contact: Lisa Autry, Amy Hoover, Sharon Robinson**

## **Informal Discussion: The Sharing Table**

Join this lively, unstructured dialogue as participants view current and historical events through the lens of a personal relationship with the sacred. You are welcome to join the discussion or simply listen.

**Time: 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sundays**

**Location: Campbellite Room, level 2**

**Contact: Thomas Thompson**

## **Children's Learning Hour: FaithSteps (Grades K-6)**

Because every step matters, FaithSteps helps children grow in faith through Bible study. Young people will learn about and from Biblical characters and celebrate seasons of the church year.

**Time: 11:15-Noon, Sundays**

**Location: Room TBD, lower level**

**Contact: Connie Myers, Jo Weddle**

## **Youth Discussion Group: Grades 7-12**

Youth have the opportunity to meet weekly in the sanctuary following worship for discussion about life and faith.

**Time: 11:15-Noon, Sundays**

**Location: Sanctuary, main level**

**Contact: Mark Knowles**

## **Small Groups Meeting Weekdays**

### **Bible Study: Living the Story**

Explore Sunday's scripture in advance through study and spiritual practices including Lectio Divina and Ignatian imagination. Discussions will be enhanced by online content. Feel free to bring your lunch and a study Bible (any translation).

**Time: 12:00-12:45 p.m., Tuesdays**

**Location: Fireside Study, main level**

**Contact: Connie Myers**

### **Listening to God: Group Meditation**

Cultivate the practice of silent meditation as a means of deepening faith and improving conscious contact with God. No previous experience in meditation practice is required. All are welcome.

**Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesdays**

**Location: Fireside Study, main level**

**Contact: Thomas Thompson**

## Small Groups Meeting Monthly



### **Youth Group: Grades 6-12**

Youth meet monthly for fellowship activities including Holiday World getaways, laser tag, lock-ins and game nights.

**Time: Various — Contact church office for upcoming events**

**Location: Various**

**Contact: Mark Knowles**



### *Arts & Crafts*

### **Caregivers Create**

If you are a caregiver, personal or professional, who would like a bit of respite time to take a creative adventure, this is for you! No experience necessary, this FREE opportunity is sponsored by FCC. Each class is led by a professional artist or experienced crafter, many of whom are also caregivers. All materials and light refreshments are provided.

**Time: 1:30-4:00 p.m. select Tuesdays. Contact church office.**

**Location: Chapel/Gathering Space, main level**

**Contact: Church office**

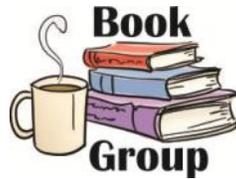
### **Women's Arts & Crafts**

Create unique hand-crafted items and enjoy fun company. Past crafts include jewelry making, ribbon bookmarks, washcloth bunnies, Christmas ornaments, and seasonal wreaths. Feel free to bring your own project or participate in our monthly activity.

**Time: 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (excluding Sept.)**

**Location: Chapel/Gathering Space, main level**

**Contact: Danielle Murry-Knowles**



## **Men's Book Group**

Big thoughts and open minds meet in FCC's Men's Book Group. The group uses its August meeting to select nine books to read and discuss from September-May. A booklist will be available in the church office.

**Time: 3rd Wednesday of each month, August-May, 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Location: Fireside Study, main level**

**Contact: Roger Heimer**

## **Women's Book Bunch**

This fun group of readers gathers every five weeks to discuss books from a variety of genres, including fiction, nonfiction and history. A booklist and meeting dates are available in the church office.

**Time: Meets every five weeks on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: Bryan Park or Fireside Study**

**Contact: Betsy Watson**



## **MOPS (Mom's Group)**

This group of moms gathers monthly to embrace the journey of motherhood. Whether you are a soon-to-be mom, an adoptive mom, young mom, seasoned mom, foster mom, stepmom or any other type of mom, you are welcome to join us! Starting this fall, our theme is "Find Your Fire". Each month will highlight a different topic as we navigate motherhood and discuss ways to "tend our God-given fire and use it to light up our hearts and the world". Details about meetings are published on our Facebook page (@fccbloomingtonmops).

**Time: 1st Wednesday of each month, Sept.-May, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

**Location: Fireside Study, main level**

**Contact: Andrea Dalton**

## An Invitation to Community

***As God has welcomed us, we welcome you.***

With all our differences—  
in age, ability and physical condition,  
in race, cultural background and economic status,  
in sexual orientation, gender identity and family structure—

God has received each one  
with loving kindness, patience, and joy.  
All that we are together and all that we hope to be  
is made more perfect  
as the richness of varied lives  
meets the mystery of God's unifying Spirit  
and we become the Body of Christ.



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DIVERSE IN THOUGHT | UNITED IN FAITH | CALLED TO SERVE