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A background image showing the spine and pages of a Bible, with a semi-transparent light orange rectangle overlaid on the right side.

Adult Bible Study Classes

2019 - 2020

The JOY Class

Room 306, Sanctuary Building, 11 a.m.

Leaders: Jo Gates & Anna Lee

Welcome to the J O Y Class. The JOY in our class comes when we put Jesus first, Others second, and Yourself last. We believe that Jesus calls us to serve others first, and in our class we focus on the care and concern of others. Our class began a number of years ago and has grown together through a “serve others first” focus.

J O Y is a small group of special senior sisters. We insure that a portion of our time together is focused on sharing the ups and downs of our lives. We laugh, cry, and pray together. We are a loving group of Christian ladies who truly enjoy the company of each other. We welcome all who join us.

We are currently studying the archeology of the Bible. Our focus last year was on the books entitled *The Power of Prayer for Your Adult Children* and *The World’s Greatest Book*.

We have a delightful time as we meet, and we encourage you to join us. You’ll like what you see.



The Sacred Connections Class

Room 300A, Sanctuary Building, 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Mimi Weaver

Sacred Connections is an exceptionally supportive fellowship for those who seek a deeper, more reflective exploration of scripture. Our name is connected to a pattern of devotional scripture study known as “Lectio Divina”. Lectio Divina may be thought of in terms like “sacred reading” or “divine word”. It is an ancient form of Scripture study, practiced for many centuries, wherein we utilize multiple biblical texts each week from the lectionary to find those vital connecting threads by which the Holy Spirit may speak more directly to our life needs.



We are a group that is closely connected in spirit each week. Our studies are very interactive and our discussion is rich. We hold open all of the possibilities in which the spirit speaks to us as we focus on the scriptures.

If you are seeking a small group environment of intentional Bible study we invite you to share time with us. We believe that you will find your experience to be rich.

The Men's Class

Room 103, Chapel Building, 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Doug Garrett

Our class is characterized by lively discussion and sometimes boisterous conversation and that's before class starts! Simply put; we are a group that loves to chime in on many topics, especially our Bible study topics. This class, as the name suggests is made up entirely of men, with all ages represented. We have single guys, dads with newborns, and granddads with multiple grandchildren. This is one of our strengths. Our dialogue includes viewpoints from many perspectives.

We like to rotate our moderators every two weeks so that each of us has our opportunity to lead class and the group gets exposed to many varied teaching styles. Through the many years that this class has been a part of Winfree, there is an unspoken bond between the veteran and new members that is indeed something special.

We generally use the Formations literature from Smith & Helwys. Our current study is of Paul's letter to the Romans. In past quarters we learned about the "Lesser-Known Prophets" and "Jesus' Priorities." We have also deviated from the Formations literature at various times and studied books such as 14 Effective Ways of Disciples (BaptistWay), The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel, and Wild at Heart by John Eldredge to just mention a few. Our plans for study this coming year will like include both Formations and another book study that the class will choose.



We are constantly adding new members, and we look forward to seeing you!

The Agape Class

Room 300A, Sanctuary Building, 11 a.m.

Leader: Robin McNeny

Members of the class chose the Greek word "agape" for the group's name a number of years ago. "Agape" is one of 4 Greek words translated "love" in English. It carries the connotation of God's Love for humankind, but also includes charitable love - the love that desires good for another. The Agape Class loves God wholly and fully; they love one another deeply, and consistently seek to bring about good in the lives of others.

We are a dynamic community of men and women, most over 50 years of age, who are married, single, divorced, widowed and remarried; who are working, retired, stay-at-home adults and volunteers. We welcome anyone who wishes to join us for study and fellowship!



In class we experience a blend of direct teaching accompanied by small and large group discussion.

We seek, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to understand the Bible and its application to our own lives and circumstances. The Bible is our textbook for study. We are currently spending extensive and valuable time studying the gospel of Luke. During the past few years, our studies have included: a helpful study of prayer; the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, the New Testament letters 1st and 2nd Peter and a Max Lucado study entitled Outlive Your Life. Class members can keep track of where we are in our studies through a weekly class email.

It would be our absolute pleasure to welcome anyone into the Agape Class. You will experience a sweet, loving and warm welcome on your very first visit.

The Dunamis Class

Choir room, Sanctuary Building, 11 a.m.

Leaders: Steve Mapp & Steve Hutcherson

Welcome to this summary of our Dunamis Class. We're glad you stopped by. Our class name is derived from the Greek word meaning "power" and "powerful, "dynamic". The Apostle Paul speaks of the Holy Spirit in language like this. And in our discussion and reflection we truly feel the presence of the Holy Spirit working within our class each time we meet.

Dunamis is a mixed class, couples and singles, of generally older adults. But don't be fooled! We are a class chock full of new insights and fresh ideas when it comes to exploring scripture. Our discussions are open and lively. The vibrancy of our sharing and "give and take" belies our "graying" and thinning hair lines.

Our focus is a week-by-week study of the books of the Bible.

There is no certain pattern or order to our selection. We let the Spirit lead us to the study of greatest interest to our class.



We are currently exploring the wisdom book, Ecclesiastes for 2019-2020. In recent months we have completed studies of Luke, Ruth, Philippians, Romans, and Ephesians. We also enjoyed a 9-month study of the characters of the Old Testament.

Come join us. We'd love to have you.

The Kindred Spirit Class

Room 201, Preschool Building, 9:40 a.m.

Leader: Jana Benjamin

As followers of Christ, we are his brothers and sisters, God's sons and daughters. The same grace that saves us allows us to walk, equipped by Christ's love and power. But our best spiritual growth happens in family. And so, we meet each week to know Christ more deeply through Bible study. Our class provides a safe environment to share our lives and stories, and to encourage each other in that spiritual journey. Oh! And breakfast! There's always breakfast!

We are a class comprised of men and women with a wide range of ages represented. Our environment is informal allowing for honest discussion surrounding our scripture study. We focus our study on books of the Bible, topical studies (like The Spirit of God as revealed in the Old Testament) or video series (like Ray Vander Laan). We are currently studying the gospel of Luke. Recent Bible studies include 1st Peter and Colossians from the New Testament and 1st Samuel, Isaiah, and Daniel from the Old Testament.

We'd love to meet you! So, please stop by and see us.



The Who Am I? Class
Conference Room, Church Office, 9:40 a.m.

Leader: Deborah Wiglesworth

We are the “Who Am I?” class and we are really just beginning. Our group of women started meeting in the spring of 2018 in the study of “Dear Mrs. Noah”, a wonderful book by Roberta Damon highlighting the important lives of nameless women in the Bible. Women who are seeking to explore who they are in their relationship with Christ and how they are to serve as they walk daily with Jesus will feel very much at home in our class.

Our class is for women of all ages and walks of life. We learn from those women in the Bible whose life situations, decisions, successes and failures are much like our own. Our class is closely knit together in prayer. We experience the power, peace, and presence of God and His guidance in our lives as we pray for each other’s needs, both spoken and unspoken.



In 2019-2020, we are studying the book, *Dear Abishag* by Roberta Damron. This study focuses on the lessons learned through the lives of the lesser recognized women in Scripture. It follows our first study, *Dear Mrs. Noah*. We will continue to encourage open and lively discussion. We know that if you come and spend some time with us you will find warmth, encouragement, and compassion.

Come and visit with us, won't you?

The Theophilus Class
Room 300B, Sanctuary Building, 11 a.m.

Leader: Bill Shockley

Theophilus, our class name, means "lover of God" and is derived from the books of Luke and Acts. This name best describes our class and its members.

While some say our class is for old folks I think you will find that it is for fun folks who seek to learn more about God in an open and inviting atmosphere. Singles and couples join to share needs and celebrate together. Our Bible Study is just that—a study of the books of the Bible. We study a different book of the Bible each quarter, alternating between the Old and New Testaments. The study is highly interactive using scripture to elaborate on ideas and concepts.

Over the last couple of years, we have worked our way through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus I Samuel, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Matthew, Acts, I & II Corinthians, I & II Peter, and Jude. We are currently in II Samuel.

Upcoming studies include Galatians, James, the second half of Genesis, I & II Timothy, Mark, and many others. If you are looking for some serious in-depth Bible Study in the company of caring and growing Christians, come give us a try.



We'd look forward to having you in our group.

The College and Young Adults Class Room 105, 2nd Floor Chapel Building, 9:40 a.m.

Leaders: Beth Stevenson & Mike Oberschmidt

The Winfree College and Young Adult Class is a dynamic, relationship-building Bible Study group that is made up primarily of single young adults and college students. However, we also encourage young married couples to join us!! One of our primary goals is to keep young adults connected to a loving group of Christian friends during a time period when many of us stray from our “walk with Him”.

Our primary focus is to find relevant, and sometimes, difficult topics that are facing Christians in their everyday journey. Recently we have tackled topics such as discrimination, homosexuality, race as well as a study of non-Christian religions. Other studies include King David and the apostle Paul, as we seek to create perspective and confirm how their life lessons provide invaluable insight to our Christian lives today. As a part of relationship building, we spend a significant amount of time each week in prayer and find fellowship together through different events.



Sunday mornings with our class involves a lot of interactive discussion, where we share the joys and difficulties we face.

In the coming months we will be studying the Book of Colossians. We will continue to identify relevant, everyday life topics and look to the Bible for solutions. Because of the “Summer Surge” of collegians during the summer months, we primarily focus on week by week topical discussions/studies during the months of May – August and December.

So, we encourage anyone who is seeking a fun, but deep, relationship-building experience to join our class!

The Spice of Life Class Room 306, Sanctuary Building, 9:40 a.m.

Leader: Robin Jenkins

We began a new class which would allow an opportunity for those wanting to participate in the contemporary service. Tony, our teacher at the time, was pressed for a name and was inspired by our newest members Chris and Janie McCormick (McCormick spices). We believe a little Bible study does add a lot to our lives - enriching, enhancing and simplifying our daily experience - hence adding spice to a bland recipe, ergo The Spice of Life. It's that simple.

The Spice of Life class values each member's unique contributions. Our co-ed class is open to all adults – single, married, widowed or divorced. Our members ages range the gamut. *Everyone is welcome to join our class.*

Each Sunday morning, Bible study begins with prayer requests. After prayer, our class studies God's Word using the Bible along with a variety of online materials and books, to guide us. We encourage class discussion.

Some of our previous studies include: Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians. Currently we are using Nancy Guthrie's Bible study, *The Son of David*, to study the historical books of the Old Testament.



The Life Matters Class
Room 300B, Sanctuary Building, 9:40 a.m.

Leaders: Bill & Marie Peters

Life does matter! And, there are matters in life. There are things to tend to, matters at hand. What we do in our daily lives matters to God. Our lives should be living testimonies, glorifying the One who blessed us with life.

Living as Christians in a world when there is chaos virtually at every level- in the government, at work, and even at home is overwhelming. Come join us as we open 1st and 2nd Peter to learn how Christians can more than just survive in a world full of chaos.

Try us, you'll like us!



The Koinonia Class
Room 300A, Sanctuary Building, 9:40 a.m.

Leader: Jay Gates

Ours is a class made up of couples and singles who range in age from 30 – 60. And, as our name implies, the vast majority of us have children. We come from diverse religious backgrounds and faith traditions and so enjoy the spectrum of life experience represented in our class. We are seeking grace and direction from God's world in the imperfect world we live in and in these difficult times when raising our families presents unique challenges.



We are a class that loves to study God's word. We are currently studying Paul's letter to the Philippians, and recently completed an in-depth study of the book of Genesis. Our class enjoys alternating the study of both New and Old Testament books of the Bible. We also engage in video based studies from our church's resources (RightNow Media and Study Gateway).

You will find us warm, welcoming and open to a wide range of thought and perspective.

We'd love to have you come in and "sit a spell" with us.