



Adult Education at Market Square  
Fall/Winter 2017-2018

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### ATWOOD BIBLE SEEKERS

Sundays in the Conference Room, Level 3, 9:30 a.m.

Start your Sunday mornings with informed discussion-oriented Bible Study. We seek wisdom, insight, and God's grace through the scripture as we support and undergird our faith. The Reverend Chuck Hiller will be our guide. We welcome one and all!

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**LIFT (Learning in Faith Together)** returns for another cycle in the Fall. Our theme for this 6-week cycle will be a study of The Parables: A reflection on the relevance of Jesus' parables for today's world. Perhaps the most authentic words of Jesus, they hold the heart of the gospel message. Through a discussion format we discover how these stories continue to startle, comfort, challenge, and change us. Led by the Reverend Ruth Woodlen, our study group joins members of MSPC and Harrisburg Friends Meeting (Quakers) and now you! Join us Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:15 on October 4, 11, 18, 25 and November 1, 8 in the conference room of MSPC.

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### REFORMED READERS

7:00 p.m. in the library (4th floor)

#### Thursday, October 19

Jonelle Darr leads a discussion on *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond.

#### Wednesday, December 13

Donna Wenger leads a discussion on *Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer* by Charles Marsh.

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### KOREAN LANGUAGE BIBLE STUDY

3rd and 4th Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the library.

Led by the Reverend Ki Nam Lee. The third Sunday Bible study is a time of sharing the Word in conjunction with a sermon preached by Tom.

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### MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Monday, September 11 at 10:30 a.m. in the library

A meeting will be held on this day to discuss, pray, and discern together the future of the Bible Study. Convened by Cheryl A. Goode, the group will decide whether to continue. All are welcome!

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[www.marketsquarechurch.org](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org)

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## ADULT FORUM

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 416

**September 10** – “THE REFORMATION AT 500” – Robert Hotchkiss

2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, one of the most significant events in the history of the church and world. A presbytery-wide celebratory service of worship marking the anniversary will be held at Market Square on Sunday, October 29, at 4:00 p.m. Bob Hotchkiss will provide a Reformation primer in this morning’s Forum.

**September 17** – “BELIEVED” – Ann Van Dyke and Saima Mumtaz

The world today, and even our nation, seems to be exceedingly polarized. This riveting presentation by two well-respected members of the Harrisburg community will help us to see the kind of misunderstandings, stereotypes, and biases that prevent people and communities from engaging and embracing their commonalities toward the good of all.

**September 24** – “BEYOND MALE AND FEMALE: GENDER IDENTITY” – Madeline McConnell

The world is changing rapidly. We are now at a point where we recognize that the core beliefs onto which our society has held no longer are wholly sufficient. We need ways to express and to accept new understandings and feelings beyond what we heretofore have known. This forum will introduce us to some new expressions of gender identity beyond male and female, looking specifically at the non-binary, agender, and genderqueer existence and experience. We will explore the changing dynamic of how we understand gender both scientifically and socially and consider what it means to identify as a person outside of the male and female binary. This Forum is another step in Market Square’s mission to provide hospitality and community to all who seek it.

**October 1** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN” – Buz Myers

Buz Myers returns for his annual October Bible series. Buz is a Presbyterian minister and one of the most sought-after Bible teachers in the mid-Atlantic region. He is Chair of the Department of Religion at Gettysburg College. This year, Buz will lead us through the Gospel of Jesus Christ According to John. One of the richest books in scripture, attendees will delight in the insights Buz draws from this “theological gospel.”

**October 8** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN” – Buz Myers

**October 15** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN” – Buz Myers

**October 22** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN” – Buz Myers

**October 29** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN” – Buz Myers

**November 5** – “HOMELESSNESS IN HARRISBURG”

Chuck Wingate, the immediate past Executive Director of the Bethesda Mission in Harrisburg and one of the most knowledgeable persons in the region in the area of homelessness, will give us an overview of homelessness in Harrisburg. This conversation is very significant as we continue to ratchet up our ministry to those who are circumstantially or chronically homeless.

**November 12** – “MOVIE NIGHT COMES TO SUNDAY MORNING” – Lori Sweet

Lori Sweet will screen the short film “Admissions” for us and follow up with conversation and discussion. Winner of 26 film awards, the film focuses on an enlightened clerk in the admissions office to the afterlife. He is called on to guide an Israeli couple and a Palestinian who go through admissions together because they have suffered similar tragic endings. As the details of their intertwined deaths become clear, the clerk attempts to teach them the wisdom required to find everlasting peace.

**November 19** – “THE STONY POINT COMMUNITY” – Rick Ufford-Chase

Rick Ufford-Chase, along with his wife, Kitty, are the co-directors of the Stony Point Retreat and Conference Center in Stony Point, New York. (Rick also is a former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Among many other ministries, the Center is home to an interfaith community of Christians, Jews, and Muslims called the “Community of Living Traditions.” Market Square anticipates establishing a relationship with Stony Point and perhaps making a retreat there next year. Join us for a compelling orientation to a most intriguing place and ministry.

**November 26** – “THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BOB DYLAN” – Chuck Hiller

The music of Bob Dylan has touched on politics, peace, religion, and so many other issues of our time. We have experienced his music and poetry as they have spoken to us during both times of war and peace. We will examine some of the lyrics of his songs many of which seem to speak to our Christian faith and our desire for peace and earth-care. Come and share your memories and thoughts.

**December 3 & 10**– “SPIRITUAL DEFIANCE” – Trum Simmons

We will be discussing Robin Meyers's 2015 book *Spiritual Defiance: Building a Beloved Community of Resistance*. Meyers, Senior Minister of the Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ in Oklahoma City, argues that the church needs to be more resistant to the dominant culture in which we live. He believes we need to be about following Jesus, not about worshipping Christ. We will discuss how we see MSPC as a community of resistance and how we see ourselves individually as well. Handouts will be provided and the book is available in our library.

**December 17 & 24** – “RELIGIOUS LANGUAGE” – Trum Simmons and Tom Sweet

How we talk about our faith is significant not only for our own understanding but for our relationships with other people and other faith communities. What role do myth and metaphor play in scripture? How do we move through Paul Ricoeur’s stages – first naivete, critical thinking, second naivete – to embrace traditional language imbued with credibility for the twenty-first century. Trum and Tom will help us sort through the issues and possibilities.

**December 31** – NO FORUM

**January 7** - “LIVING A LIFE OF PURPOSE” – John Dame

John, a member of Market Square and a Leadership Coach, Business Strategist and Author, will offer insights into Living a Life of Purpose. We'll peel back the Purpose onion and talk about what having or not having purpose means to you.

**January 14** – “CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BANK” – Sue Ward-Dorio

Sue Ward-Dorio, the daughter of our own Tom Ward, works with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. This Food Bank distributes more than 48 million pounds of food and grocery products, equal to more than 40 million meals, every year to more than 900 soup kitchens, shelters, and food pantries in 27 Central Pennsylvania counties. The Food Bank is a far-reaching ministry doing stellar and astonishing work. Come and be amazed!

**January 21** – “NATURE AS MEDICINE” -- Dr. Jim Jones, retired physician

As adults and children have been spending more time with cell phones, computers, and video games, obesity, attention deficit disorders, depression and stress-related illness all have increased. Could our decreasing connection to nature be playing a role? Come and learn more about the most recent scientific findings on the critical role that connection to nature plays in our health and the health of our children.

**January 28** – “THE STATE OF MARKET SQUARE CHURCH” – Tom Sweet, Kelly Wiant, & Nancy Sheets

On the day of Market Square’s Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation meeting, Tom, Kelly, and Nancy (Clerk of Session) will provide the latest scoop on the goings-on of our life together and lead a conversation about the ministry of our beloved congregation.