



The following classes use the UMC Cokesbury Adult Bible Studies as their curriculum. These quarterly studies include biblical topics and books of the Bible.

Charles Peace Rm. 125

This class consists of mature couples and singles who share a close camaraderie and eagerly receive new comers into their group. Lessons are in an informal lecture style with class discussion encouraged. The class is devoted to answering God's call to serve others, and members support the church's local mission projects and numerous community charities. Members also support one another and strengthen their relationships through various fun social events throughout the year.

Friendship Circle Rm. 115

This large circle of friends is comprised of couples and singles in their mid 40s through late 60s. Class sessions begin with refreshments, fellowship and music, followed by informal lecture and discussion. This vivacious and social group loves to get together for food, fun and fellowship. Class members enjoy participating in "Supper 6," Oktober Fest, an annual oyster roast, a class retreat at the beach and a Christmas party. They are committed

"...To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

Ephesians 4:12-13

to participating in local and global missions, generously serving such groups as the Murray Food Bank, Oakbrook Retirement Home, Habitat for Humanity and Heifer International.

Kate Howard Cross Rm. 122

This intimate class of seniors is young at heart and joyful in spirit. After a time of fellowship, the class begins with hymns and continues with study. Class members also help nurture the spirits of their homebound members through visitations and giving them daily devotional and Bible study materials. Newcomers are always welcome to their class.

Sue Knight Rm. 128

This is a welcoming and caring class of seniors mostly over age 60. Teaching is led in the traditional lecture style by retired Methodist minister Rev. Roy Stockman. Members open class with hymns of worship and praise, followed by recognition of birthdays and a lecture on the day's lesson. The class closes with prayer concerns for members and others. Visitors of any age are welcomed and warmly greeted. Social activities are scheduled every two to three months and include a large banquet at Christmas. Class members actively support numerous local charities and mission organizations with periodic funding and their time and talents.



To learn more about Bethany UMC's Sunday School classes for adults, contact:

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8/09

Classes for Adults
2009-2010



Sunday School
REACHING...GROWING...INVOLVING

Bethany
United Methodist Church

Adult Sunday School:

10-11 a.m. every Sunday morning

Sunday School is one of the best ways for Bethany United Methodist Church to reach church members, help them grow in knowledge and faith, and involve them in the life of the church and its ministries.

Reaching: Sunday School is more than just a weekly gathering. It's a time when church members **reach out** to each other in friendship. Join a Sunday School class, and you'll build a network of friends who will minister to you in times of need and celebrate with you in times of joy. Since all of our classes begin with a brief period for socializing and welcoming visitors, you'll start feeling connected right away.

Fellowship is an integral part of every class. By gathering periodically outside of class for social activities, class members build meaningful, lasting relationships.

Growing: Sunday School is also a time for nourishing and **growing your faith**. Whether discussion-based or lecture style, each class delves into the Word of God. Classes vary in topic, but all of them focus on increasing members' knowledge of the Bible and strengthening their faith in Christ Jesus.

Involving: Mission work and volunteer service are also important elements of our Sunday School classes. Each class has its favorite mission projects, which members support with their time and talents. Serving with your Sunday School class is a great way to **become involved** and put your faith into action.



Topical Classes

The following classes have a casual, discussion based format that encourages class participation and conversation. Teachers facilitate dialogue on various topics, including Bible studies, marital and family issues, financial matters and personal interest.

Family Circle Rm. 124

Class members are typically in their mid 30s to late 40s. Family life issues direct the course of study, as members seek practical application of the Bible to family relationships, marriage, and raising children and guiding them as young adults. This caring and welcoming group also enjoys quarterly social events, such as a family beach outing, progressive dinners and Christmas party.

Friends in Faith Rm. 240

This friendly and energetic class is comprised of "30 and 40 somethings" with many members having children in preschool and elementary grades. Curriculum often incorporates multimedia and small group discussions to explore life application of the Bible. During the week, class members can further strengthen their faith through men's and women's Bible studies. This group enjoys many social activities, with and without children, including family picnics at the park, family beach outings, ball games, adult oyster roasts, "Supper 8" and an annual Christmas party. Additionally, class members are committed to supporting local mission projects through participation and fund raising efforts.

Connections Rm. 235

Connections is a co-ed class for Bethany's most recent new-members. The class uses a discussion methodology with a facilitation leadership approach utilizing many different curricular resources. The class is ministry centered and focuses on building new relationships.

New Journey Rm. 118

This is a class of singles and couples in their 40s to late 60s, many with school-aged and college-aged children. Lessons are Bible-based and tailored to the members' individual interests and life stages. The class follows a casual lecture-based format. Class members also participate in a variety of social gatherings throughout the year for fun and fellowship.

Providence Rm. 236

Class members are young adults, approximately 20-35 years old, including singles and couples with and without children. The class promotes a community of Christian friendship, seeking to grow in faith as they share their lives together. Class consists of Bible studies and topical and book studies, using a variety of formats including discussion, lecture and videos. In addition, class members enjoy frequent social activities, participate in local missions projects and can gather during the week for men's and women's Bible studies.

Searchers Rm. 126

This light-hearted and traditional class is comprised primarily of individuals age 50 and older, single and married, who are enjoying the prime of life. The class participates in a variety of Bible and topical studies through informal lesson and group discussion. This year, class members will search to deepen their faith through a detailed study of the Gospels. Friendships are fostered through social gatherings three to four times a year.

Singles 50+ Rm. 239

The Bethany's Singles 50+ Class is a class for older singles. The class uses an interactive, discussion approach and is studying life-forming Christian practices that allow God's grace to work in us in order to transform us into greater Christlikeness. The class has a ministry focus and engages in many social activities that are provided by Bethany's Singles 50+ Ministry.



Bible Study Classes

These classes delve into the Word of God through in-depth Bible studies. While primarily lecture based, teachers encourage questions and discussion.

Daily Bread Rm. 237

Led by retired Methodist minister, Dr. Jo Locklair, the class enjoys delving deep into the Bible and studying each book in meticulous detail. Dr. Locklair's extensive knowledge of Hebrew history and culture provides added perspective, understanding and comprehension of the scripture. This class of all ages also enjoys quarterly gatherings at members' homes for food, fun and fellowship.

Sam Wood Rm. 238

This class is a diverse group of all ages, singles and couples and is led by Dr. Sam Wood. Class members grow through in-depth exploration of the books of the Bible, biblical history, religious and Methodist concepts, and real life application. Each lesson has an outline and discussion questions which generate member participation, as does Dr. Wood's entertaining prompts and witty sense of humor. The class also has two social gatherings during the year, in the Spring and at Christmas.

Spiritual Growth Rm. 127

This lively class for couples of all ages concentrates on studying the books of the Bible by reading scripture during the week to prepare for open and candid discussion. Class members strive to put faith and learning into action as they care for each other and reach out to nurture and support families in need within the church and community. Friendships are deepened through social gatherings, including dinner cruises, ball games, dinners at members' homes and an annual Christmas party.



Sunday School

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