

# ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

*Fall 2014*



*"Asking the questions for which there are no answers is  
the beginning of wisdom," (Harrell Beck).*

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# Fall 2014 MPC Adult Education Class Schedule

## How do I participate in Adult Education Classes?

Adult Education classes are open to all adults. Participation means a commitment to [1] attendance, [2] any assigned preparation, and [3] notification to the convener when an absence will be unavoidable. For additional information about the offerings, please come to sign-up tables during registration at Family Hour on **Sundays, September 14 and September 21, or contact the convener**. Full payment is due upon registration. Scholarships are available. The church will provide childcare if requested. Contact Linda Benson at 510-865-1215 or Margaretha Derasary at 510 339-2282 for this service.

## How do I give a Donation or receive a Scholarship?

Please contact Linda Benson at 510-865-1215 or Margaretha Derasary at 510 339-2282 or to request a scholarship.

Send this coupon to the church office if you would like to donate to the scholarship fund.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This is a donation to the scholarship fund \$\_\_\_\_\_.

## How do I become a convener?

Express your interest to the Adult Education chair. Conveners attend the class for free. Duties include assuring that the participants have paid the fee, notifying the participants before each session of class, and assisting the instructor as needed.

## How can I participate in Adult Education and lead a class?

Fill out the Adult Education class information sheet that is available in the office. Give the completed form to an Adult Education Committee member who will present it in the next committee meeting. You can also leave the form in the mailbox or come to the committee meeting to present your idea for a class.

## 2014 Fall Class Offerings

### Play For Adults

### Dot Cudaback

Adult education and Art Gang present an end-of-summer project: Create in Clay. Return later to glaze, when the clay has been fired. No experience needed, just bring enthusiasm.

Dot Cudaback is a longtime member of MPC and a wonderful teacher.

**Date:** Saturday, September 27

**Time:** 10:00a.m-12:30 p.m.

**Location:** Dot's House at 6639 Longwalk Drive

**Max:** 10

**Convener:** Helga Mok

**Fee:** \$10



### Not Your Sunday School Book: Reading The Bible Today

### Carol Miles



Our well-known colleague - Dr. Carol Miles - will introduce us to recent major shifts in the field of biblical studies that have opened the door for new ways to read and interpret the Bible. After identifying the limits of both fundamentalism and modernism, we will consider the promise of contemporary literary approaches, namely feminist and liberation theologies and postmodernism, to yield readings of Scripture that are critical, credible, and compelling. Whether you've given up on the Bible or read it every day, this class will offer a fresh perspective on the church's book.

Dr. Miles has a Ph.D. in Practical Theology from Princeton Seminary and has most recently been serving as Visiting Professor of Homiletics at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley. She is a friend and frequent teacher at MPC.

**Dates:** Sundays, September 28, Oct. 5, 12, & 19

**Location:** Room 10

**Convener:** Minda Lucero

**Time:** 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

**Class Size:** 10-20

**Fee:** \$20

## Living The Questions

**Ben Daniel**

Please join us to view and discuss parts the exciting video series, Living the Questions. Over thirty of the best of today's progressive thinkers, scholars and theologians share their visions on topics such as *Social Justice: Realizing God's Vision*, *Taking the Bible Seriously*, *Challenges facing progressive Christianity*, and *Evil, Suffering and a God of Love*. In each class there will be plenty of time for participant discussion to explore the challenging and enlightening ideas of the video. The rich curriculum provides supplemental reading and study questions for each session. The same videos will be used for both sections below.

**Dates:** Sundays, October 5, 12, 19, 26, & Nov. 2

**Location:** Thornhill Room

**Convener:** Gretchen Garlinghouse

**Time:** 11:30-1:00

**Class Size:** 5-12

**Suggested Donation:** \$5

**Dates:** Wednesdays, September 24, Oct 1, 8, 22, & 29

**Location:** Thornhill Room

**Convener:** Margaretha Derasary

**Time:** 7:30-9:00 p.m.

**Class Size:** 5-12

**Suggested Donation:** \$5



## Cambodian Cooking

Thyda Yim

Thyda is offering some of her favorite Cambodian dishes to her friends at MPC: eggrolls, a papaya salad, a pumpkin dessert. Join in the making and the friendship.

Many at MPC know Thyda from the Thornhill Coffee House.

**Date:** Saturday, October 11

**Time:** 3:30-7:00 pm

**Location:** MPC kitchen

**Class Size:** 6-12

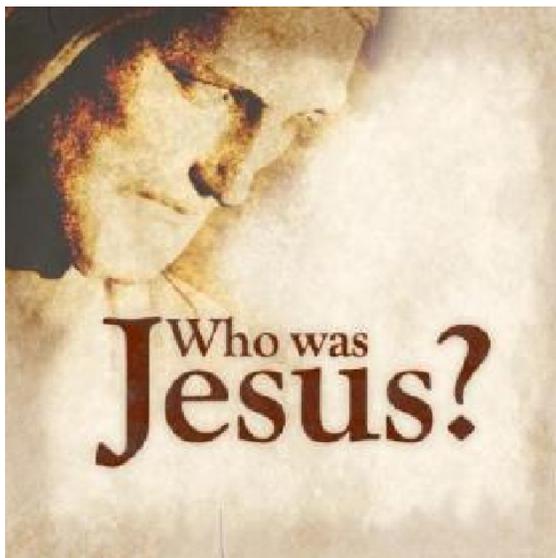
**Convener:** Margaretha Derasary

**Fee:** \$12



## Who Was Jesus?

Gregory Love



According to the thoughts of both Christians and non-Christians, the special feature of Christianity was/is Jesus himself. Indeed, the distinctive feature of Christianity is that person; a "profession of faith in one word." But many authors and readers ask "Which Jesus?", because the many books about him differ from each other, sometimes to a great extent. Using current research, this course will ask who Jesus was/is, drawing on the writing of several contemporary scholars; was he, for instance, a "Zealot or a "prophet?" The course will feature insights from four able contemporary biblical scholars, presented by Dr. Love.

Dr. Gregory Love is Professor of Systematic Theology at San Francisco Theological Seminary and has taught before at MPC. He suggested the theme and content of the course.

**Dates:** Sundays, October 26, Nov. 2, 9, & 16

**Location:** Room 10

**Convener:** Minda Lucero

**Time:** 8:30-9:45 a.m.

**Class Size:** 10-20

**Fee:** \$20

## **Life Transitions**

## **Stanley Stevens**

Transitions start at birth and occur with regularity over the entire span of our lives. This class will provide practical examples and positive support in dealing with your current transition. All adults from 18 to 80+ are welcome to attend these sessions. This class will be offered as a group with much interaction.

Stanley Stevens, MA, M.Div, longtime member of MPC, is an experienced therapist, with degrees in theology and family therapy.

**Dates:** Sundays, November 9, 16, & 23

**Location:** Thornhill Room

**Convener:** Dot Cudaback

**Time:** 11:30-1:00

**Class Size:** 10

**Fee:** \$10



## **Watching Winter Birds**

## **Miles and Mary Ellen McKey**

Join longtime MPC members Miles and Mary Ellen for an exploration at Arrowhead Marsh (near the Oakland Airport) of the many birds that have made a very long journey from the far north. The week before the exploration, there will be a brief introduction to what we might see. At the marsh, we will spend a few morning hours seeing what birds have arrived and just enjoying the scene.

**Sunday, January 4, 2015:** Introduction to the wintering birds of Arrowhead Marsh, 11:30-12:00, Thornhill Room.

**Saturday, January 10, 2015:** A visit to Arrowhead Marsh, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00. We will meet at the park entrance, and carpooling can be arranged from the church parking lot. Maps will be provided to those who sign up. Plan to bring binoculars, scopes, field guides. Heavy rain cancels or postpones.

**Class Size:** 20-30

**Fee:** \$10, children free

**Convener:** Carol Ekberg



**\*\* NEW CLASS: SPANISH!**

**Nikirana Hicks**

As we think and pray about how we might welcome the refugees and immigrants in our community, many of us stumble on a language barrier. Niki will gently lead us through the basics of Spanish conversation to help us over this obstacle. Total beginners are welcome, as well as those who want to brush up on rusty skills. Learning materials will be provided. Childcare available.

**Dates:** Mondays from Oct 6th to Dec 8th

**Time:** 7:00-8:30 PM

**Location:** Thornhill Room

**Class Size:** up to 15

**Convener:** Anna Santos

**Fee:** \$10

## **FALL 2014 Classes at a Glance**

### **Sundays**

Not Your Sunday School Book

Starts September 28

8:30 am

Living The Questions	Starts October 5	11:30 am
Who Was Jesus?	Starts October 26	8:30 am
Life Transitions	Starts November 9	11:30 am
Introduction to Watching Winter Birds	January 4, 2015	11:30 am

***Mondays***

Seniors' Exercise Class	Ongoing	8:00 am
Spanish Class	Starts October 6th	7:00 pm

***Wednesdays***

Seniors' Exercise Class	Ongoing	8:00 am
Bible Study	Ongoing	12:00 pm
Living The Questions	Starts September 24	7:30 pm

***Saturdays***

The Many Faces of God	Ongoing	10:00 am
Play For Adults	September 27	10:00 am
Cambodian Cooking	October 11	3:30 pm
Watching Winter Birds	January 10, 2015	8:00 am