

**Education Fall 2020 through Spring 2021**

We are living in unprecedented times, at least for the last Century. As such, our plans for Christian Education this next academic year will be flexible. We will begin online via Zoom and make adjustments as necessary or possible. I am also only currently going to plan for the Fall. Spring 2021 seems a long way off. And making extended plans has proved futile. After discussion with the Vestry, I have felt that our offerings for this Fall should not require any pre-reading or preparation. In the Spring, hopefully, we will be able to focus on questions that challenge us to go deeper. Right now, we need some calm. Hence, we're going to start off with a study of the music of Fred Rogers. We will "plan", hopefully, to do a blessing of the animals, masked and on the lawn, in October. For both newer and life-long Episcopalians, we will then be reading (aloud) "Welcome to a Life of Faith in the Episcopal Church," by Megan Castellan. This will also serve as an Inquirers' Class for newcomers. In Advent, we will be doing some light Bible studies about the birth of Jesus.

**Because the practicing of our Sunday worship is now live, we will be moving our classes to Sundays at 2pm.**

For children, The Rev. Leslie Guinn and I are working on how we can do occasional Godly Play lessons on Facebook. If you haven't followed and liked our Facebook page, please do so. And all the Storytime with Father Brad sessions are still available.

In the Spring, I am hoping that we can delve more deeply into three topics. Of course, it is difficult to plan much right now. But, hopefully, we can enjoy Amy Jill-Levine's new series on the Sermon on the Mount. For Lent, Deacon Dana will be leading a series on Mary Magdalene. We, hopefully, will also read Ibram X Kendi's book, "How to be an Antiracist." More than any other of our current time, this book has been recommended to me by people of color and will hopefully build on our study of "The New Jim Crow". Or if any of you have ideas or would like to teach, please let me know. Certainly, that schedule is not firm, and I'd love to have others teach.

In peace, Bradley+

**Calendar:**
**Sunday, September 13th:**
     Join us for informal conversation with a neighbor around a Mr. Roger’s song each week! No, you don’t have to know the songs by heart—we’ll hear one, look at the lyrics together, and then consider a few of those niggling matters of the (willing or unwilling) Spirit and how we currently approach them. And how we \*might\*-- according to Mr. Rogers and our Christian faith—go forward together in deeper faith! A curriculum put together by Young Clergy Women International.

Session One: Anger—What do you do with the mad that you feel?”

**Sunday, September 20th:**
Session Two:  Grief and Loss—“Please don’t think it’s funny”

**Sunday, September 27th:**
Session Three:  Sin and Redemption—“Sometimes people are good”

**Sunday, October 4th:**
Session Four: Fear—“You can never go down the drain”

**Sunday, October 11th:**
Session Five: Christian Compassion—“Then your heart is full of love”

**Sunday, October 18th:**
Session Six: Christian Community—“Love is people”

**Sunday, October 25th:**
"Welcome to a Life of Faith in the Episcopal Church," is a new book by Megan Castellan. Father Brad will be reading the chapters aloud, followed by discussion. Chapter 1, "The Faith We Proclaim: The Bible." Feel free to purchase a copy if you would like to follow along.

**Sunday, November 1st:**
Chapter 2, "The Faith We Proclaim: Beliefs," covering Theology, the Nicene Creed, The Basics, and, "The Book of Common Prayer.

**Sunday, November 8th:**
Chapter 2, "The Faith We Proclaim: Beliefs," covering the Sacraments.

**Sunday, November 15th:**
Chapter 3, "The Faith We Proclaim: The People in Your Parish." and first part of Chapter 4, "Look at Where We Started."

**Sunday, November 22nd:**
Continuing Chapter 4: "Look at Where We Started," including our origin story, and the origin story part 2: American Boogaloo.

**Sunday, November 29th:** Thanksgiving Weekend, no offerings.

**Sunday, December 6th:** Mary the Mother of God.How do we connect to the Mother who bore our Savior? This will be an exploration of liturgy and devotion.

**Sunday, December 13th:** The Genealogy of Jesus, exploring Jesus' ancestry. We will read Matthew's genealogy of Jesus and compare that to Mark's account and ponder how the other Gospels share the same story.

**Sunday, December 20th:** Seeing the Cross through the lens of the Cradle. We will explore how all that we have studied point to the Cross and Resurrection.

**Sunday, December 27th: No Classes.**

**Sunday, January 3rd: No Classes.**