

# Christ Church Communiqué



The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church

March 2006

## Adult Education at Christ Church

They are the parting words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Commonly known as the “Great Commission,” Jesus instructed His disciples to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20, ESV).

“Disciple-making”...“teaching”...inasmuch as these are among the very last words spoken by Jesus, we may be quite certain that these tasks lay very near His heart. As such, they must lie very near our own. As Christ’s church, we are to be about our Lord’s business—among which are disciple-making and teaching.

In the February 2006 issue of the Communiqué, we looked at how our Neighborhood Small Group Fellowships will serve as the primary vehicle through which disciple-making will take place at Christ Church. In this issue, we take up the second element of our Lord’s command; namely, teaching.

### Purpose

The purpose of Christ Church Adult Education is to equip adult believers for the work of ministry through education, training, and fellowship; to ground new adult believers in the essentials of the faith; and to commend and defend Christianity to thinking skeptics.

### Description

Beginning in April 2006, Christ Church will launch its Sunday morning **Adult Core Seminars**. Adult Core Seminars—our adult education hour—are designed to help us comprehend both the subtle intricacies and overarching truths of our God and His Word. Topics will range from theology, to ministry, to history, and more. We have designed our core courses to run on two tracks: 1) the **Foundations Track**, and 2) the **Growth Track**.

## **Adult Core *Foundations* Track**

The Foundations Track includes the following four courses: 1) Christianity Explored, 2) Christianity Defended, 3) Christian Basics Seminar, and 4) Bible Overview Seminar. The Foundations Track is designed for those considering the truth claims of Christianity, those new in the Christian faith, and those who may wish to brush up on the basics. As a general pattern, people will be encouraged to complete all four courses in the Foundations Track before taking electives in the Growth Track.

## **Adult Core *Growth* Track**

The Growth Track consists of electives in two categories 1) Christian Life Seminars, and 2) Christian Theology Seminars.

The purpose of the Christian Life Seminars is to help participants understand and apply the truths of God's Word to issues and concerns of daily living. By design, many of the electives offered under this category will be practical in nature (i.e., orthopraxy).

The purpose of the Christian Theology Seminars is to help participants understand the basic doctrines (i.e., teachings) of the Christian faith as presented systematically. The biblical, philosophical, and historical character of the Christian faith will be explored and explained, with a view toward relevant application to Christian living. By design, many of the electives offered under this category will be theoretical in nature (i.e., orthodoxy).

## **Seminar Meeting Times**

Beginning Sunday **23 April**, corporate worship will begin at **900A** and conclude at approximately 1030A. Following the service on 23 April, we will enjoy our time of fellowship together while holding an Adult Education Fair in the auditorium. During this time, everyone will have opportunity to share in refreshments, hear a brief description of each course from the adult core seminar teachers, and survey the materials and syllabi that each course will be using during the spring term. Everyone will also have opportunity to register for the course of their choosing.

Adult Core Seminars will begin on Sunday **30 April**. Immediately following the 900A morning worship service each Sunday, everyone will enjoy a time of fellowship together either in the outdoor quad area or in the back of the auditorium (weather depending). At approximately 1050A, everyone will be invited to make their way to their respective classes. Core seminars will conclude at 1200 noon.

Unlike many traditional Sunday school classes, Christ Church Core Seminars will focus specifically on teaching. Course hosts will give a brief welcome, conduct any necessary "housekeeping" tasks, provide any important introductory remarks, and open in prayer.

The remainder of the hour will be given to teaching, discussion, and question and answer.

*“What about fellowship and prayer requests?”* In addition to all-church fellowship following each Sunday morning worship service, we will enjoy additional times of fellowship, and a time for sharing prayer requests and praises, during our Neighborhood Small Group Fellowships meeting throughout the week.

Adult Core Seminars will meet every Sunday morning following our corporate worship service and are open to all. Our Adult Core Seminars are designed to help attendees gain a comprehensive Christian education in a few years' time.

## Course Schedule

### Spring 2006

- Three Concurrent Seminars
- Adult Education Fair on Sunday 23 April
- **30 April – 2 July (10 Weeks)**

#### A. Foundations Track

1. **Christianity Explored:** Christianity Explored is an informal ten-week course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. It explores who Jesus was, what His aims were, and what it means to follow Him. You're not asked to pray, sing, or read aloud, and you can ask any question you like. Or, if you prefer, you can come along and simply listen.  
**Hosts: Don & Shirley Kush      Teacher: R.W. Evans**
2. **Bible Overview Seminar:** The Bible Overview Seminar is a ten-week course for people who would like to gain an initial grasp on the main themes of the Bible, the major genres of Scripture, and the history and relationship between the New and Old Testaments.  
**Hosts: Bill & Evelyn Newman      Teacher: Randy Walters**

#### B. Growth Track

3. **Christian Life Seminar:** The Christian Life Seminar is a ten-week course for people who would like to apply the timeless truths and wisdom of God's Word to their lives, decision-making, and relationships. Course focus: TBD.  
**Hosts: Kent & Mary Gardner      Teacher: Ron Squiers**

## Conclusion

These are truly exciting days, as we systematically set the anchor ministries of Christ Church in place and in conformity with God's design for His Church, in order to cultivate personal and corporate spiritual health and holiness in His people. The equipping of believers for the work of ministry, and the commendation and defense of the Gospel to those outside the faith, are critical components in God's purposes for His Church. And that's what we strive to be—His Church, reflecting His priorities, teaching His theology, equipping His people, performing His work, and doing all for His glory.

Indeed...these are truly exciting days!

Grace, peace, and joy,

Robert W. Evans



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