



# ACADEMY FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES

## Tidings of Great Joy

### 2007-2008 COURSE CATALOG

## FORWARD

Greetings from the Adult Christian Learning Committee to all of our members and friends. It is hard to believe that the *Academy for Christian Studies* has completed its first year and is now embarking on its second one. We were truly blessed this past season with the overwhelming support of the congregation and the dedication of our gifted faculty. Anyone who attended the seminars will acknowledge that our minds were stretched and our souls were fed. We are no less excited about the 2007-2008 offerings and we encourage all of you to carefully study the catalog and choose your courses. By attending a seminar you will be the blessed recipient of God's gift of teaching.

There is a long tradition of learning in the Presbyterian Church. That tradition takes on meaning when we look at the Confession of 1967 which says that the Church has an "obligation to approach the scriptures with literary and historical understanding". Further it tells us that Christians "must approach all religions with openness and respect." It continues "Repeatedly God has used the insight of non-Christians to challenge the church to renewal." These words suggest that members of the body of Christ need to be enlightened intellectually and as well as spiritually so that they may better hear God speaking "in a changing world and in every form of human culture." The courses offered in the Academy represent the committee's desire to provide an avenue for that enlightenment which is accessible to the entire community. May God bless all who seek a greater understanding of our Creator through learning.

*The first thing is to acquire wisdom;  
gain understanding though it cost you all you have.  
Do not forsake her, and she will keep you safe;  
Love her, and she will guard you;  
If only you embrace her, she will bring you to honour.  
She will set a garland of grace on your head  
and bestow on you a crown of glory.  
Proverbs 4:7-9*

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### *The Vision Statement for the Adult Christian Learning Ministry of First Presbyterian Church*

The mission of the Adult Christian Learning Ministry of First Presbyterian Church is to:

- Discover what God has called each one to do.
- Know and understand the Bible's story of God's love and redemption.
- Grow in love for Christ, our neighbors and all creation.
- Witness to the community.
- Challenge each person spiritually and intellectually.
- Appreciate the sacred and non-sacred events that bind all Christians.

## POLICIES AND FEES

### REGISTRATION

Registration is required and must be accompanied by the applicable fees. To assist with this process, registration forms are included in the back of this course catalog.

To register, please complete the registration form and mail it to the church with your check made payable to First Presbyterian Church and marked Academy for Christian Studies (ACS). Also you may bring it to the Church Office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. each week day or bring it to the special enrollment sessions at the church in September or prior to each term.

In general, registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please make every effort to register early. Signing up in advance ensures that the classes can be at the scheduled time.

Visitors and guests will be directed to the class of their choice. We ask visitors returning a second time to register and pay the required fee.

If you have any questions about the program contact Barbara Winter, Chair of the Adult Christian Learning Committee at (302) 731-5644 or e-mail her at [aclearning@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:aclearning@firstpresnewark.org).

### COURSE CANCELLATIONS

The Academy for Christian Studies reserves the right to cancel any class. In this event, notification will be given and the applicable fees will be applied to an alternative class during the

current year or the following year. There are no refunds.

### BOOKS

Many of the books that are recommended reading will be available for purchase at cost. Payment is expected at the time of registration and books will be available by the first class of the course.

### FEES

The Academy For Christian Studies is supported by the membership of First Presbyterian Church. Only a nominal administrative fee is required for each course. This fee is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. A discount of \$1 will be offered for each course and \$5 for 3 courses if the registration is received at the church by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

### CHILD CARE

Child care is available for pre-school children on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. until the end of Worship. Church School classes are available for older children through grade 12 from 9:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. Child care for classes outside the traditional Sunday mornings is available upon request at the time of registration.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ACADEMY FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES

#### Adult Christian Learning Committee

Barbara Winter, *Chair*

Richard Garvine

James McNeely

Joanne McNeely

Carolyn Morton

Bill Sisk

Phyllis Sisk

#### First Presbyterian Church

292 West Main Street

Newark, DE 19711

(302) 731-5644

#### Visit our church web site

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

E-mail:

[aclearning@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:aclearning@firstpresnewark.org)



#### How to find us

**From the north** take 273 west to Newark. Continue on 273/Main Street through downtown Newark, continue on 273 past the Deer Park Inn, across the railroad tracks in the center prong of the 3 pronged fork in the road. Follow 273/West Main Street/Nottingham Road about ½ mile, the church is on

the right.

**From the south** take Rt. 896 north (South College Ave., Christina Parkway, Elkton Road); turn left onto Apple Road off of Elkton Road, turn right onto Hillside Road then left onto West Main Street, go about 1/3 of a mile, church is on the right.

**From Pennsylvania** take Rt. 896 south into Newark, turn right onto West Main Street, go about 1/3 mile, church is on the right.

#### Our Theme for the year

Our theme for the year is *Tidings of Great Joy*. In Luke's version of the story of Jesus' birth we recall that beautiful scene in which angels from heaven reveal the good news of Christ's coming. The angels did not share their joy with the powerful and mighty but rather with a small group of humble shepherds who had no standing in the community. Furthermore the message that was delivered was for *all people*. This stands in stark contrast to a culture that suggests that only the politically and economically powerful are entitled to the good things in life. God has shown us that joy does not come from great wealth or important titles, reserved for the few, but rather from the giving and receiving of the gift of love for all.

*But the Angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

Luke 2:10-11

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION OFFERINGS

*In addition to the seminar courses offered in the Academy there are other opportunities for continuing adult study and learning, as well as a Christian Education program for children and youth.*

#### EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP

Exploring New Membership is for those who wish to know what it means to be a Christian in the Presbyterian Church. The class will cover the basic beliefs of Presbyterians, the meaning of the sacraments and the organization of church government. In addition, there will be a discussion of the many ways each person can serve Christ through the church when he/she becomes a member of the congregation. At the end of the course those who have attended the classes will have the opportunity to formally become a member of the church if they so choose. Classes are offered throughout the academic year. The first course will be held during the second term of the *Academy for Christian Studies* each Sunday from October 14 to November 4. They will meet in Parlor A immediately following worship. A light lunch will be served. Dates for later classes will be announced.

#### HANDCRAFT WORKSHOP

This class meets each month to work on craft projects. A particular skill or craft may be highlighted each time or attendees may bring their own personal handwork as they join in for a time of fellowship. The workshop is in Memorial Hall from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Attendees are welcome to come for the

day or an hour or two. Those who come for the day should bring a bag lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.

#### LENTEN SERIES

This annual event is designed to promote fellowship as well as a unique learning experience. For 5 Sunday evenings during Lent families meet for supper that is followed by devotions and a special learning event. The theme for Lent 2007 will be announced at a later date. The dinner is in Memorial Hall at 5:30 p.m. each Sunday from February 10<sup>th</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

#### PEOPLE IN MOTION

The class meets three times a week to improve physical fitness as the group strives to connect spirit, mind and body. The hour workout is designed to improve strength, flexibility and endurance. The class is open to all ages of adults; youth is *not* a requirement. The group meets in Memorial Hall Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Cost \$50 for 6 weeks, \$4 per day

#### SEEKERS CLASS

The spiritual life is a lifelong process of opening oneself to God. The Seekers group walks a path of Christian exploration each week. Using the tools of personal prayer, Bible study, spiritual reading, fellowship and discussion the class seeks to open each life to God. The Upper Room devotional provides the basis of the weekly study. They meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in Parlor A.

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION OFFERINGS

### **SERMON CHAT / BIBLE STUDY**

This class offers an opportunity for members and friends of the congregation to discuss the sermon topics and their accompanying scriptures. The sermons discussed include the past week's sermon as well as future sermons. In a small group setting those attending share thoughts and ideas about the concepts presented. People who attend this class say it sharpens their listening skills when they hear the weekly sermons.

The class meets throughout the year each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. beginning September 12<sup>th</sup> in Parlor A.

### **SISTERS SOWING THE WORD**

This is a Bible and book study especially for women. The class uses a topical book built around God's Word as a guide for study and offers an opportunity for spiritual growth in an

environment of caring and mutual support. Sisters Sowing the Word is a faithful group desiring to know God and his Word, to serve Jesus as his disciple, and to show God's love in our everyday lives. The leader is Lorraine Conner and the class meets at the home of Donna Bailey each Monday evening at 7:30 p.m.

### **TWENTIES, THIRTIES AND UP (TTU'S)**

This is a group of adults who enjoy lively discussions as they search to clarify matters of Faith through thoughtful Bible studies. In addition to the Sunday morning class they also schedule occasional social events throughout the year. They meet Sunday mornings beginning September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in Parlor B.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH LEARNING MINISTRIES

### **Church School for Children and Youth**

In Church School, children learn how to live a Christian life, and they become familiar with the Bible. The Church School Program is a well-organized and systematic study of the Bible, with interesting activities for children of all ages and excellent, caring teachers. These are the classes available for children newborn through 12<sup>th</sup> grade:

**Cribbery** - Christian nurturing for our babies through age two. Also for three year olds not yet potty trained. We have a paid staff member along with adult and youth volunteers; **Preschool** - potty trained 3 year olds through 5 year olds; **Kindergarten/1st Grade; 2nd/3rd Grade; 4th/5th Grade; Junior High 6th through 8th Grade; and Senior High 9th through 12th Grade.** The classes meet from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the main church building and in Memorial Hall from September through May.

### **Confirmation and Commissioning Classes**

Each year First Church offers a Confirmation class for all Senior High students who are not members of the church. They will explore Faith Journeys, the meaning of membership and the opportunities to serve God throughout their life. In addition to Sunday morning classes, they will have several service projects, both here at church and in the community.

### **Youth Fellowship**

United Presbyterian Youth (UPY) at First Church offers fellowship opportunities for all youth from middle school to high school each Sunday evening from September to the end of May. Groups meet from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

## ACS DISCIPLINES

The Academy for Christian Studies is a multilevel program of study, built on a curriculum in five disciplines: Bible, Theology, Church History, Christian Living, and Christianity in the Arts. Not every discipline will necessarily be represented in each term.

**100 level:** These courses are introductory, focusing on basic material and foundational information.

**200 level:** These courses are intermediate and address more specific topics. Some reading and discussion may be expected.

**300 level:** These courses are more advanced and are for students who wish to work in greater depth on a specific subject. Reading and preparation will be expected.

**B - Bible:** The Protestant tradition asserts that the study and understanding of the Bible is at the heart of our faith. For Presbyterians the preaching of the *Word* is the center of worship.

**T - Theology:** Theology is the study of God, his character, nature, actions, and revelation or the study of faith.

**CH - Church History:** By studying church history we gain an understanding of the faithful working through the church and of the development of faith traditions since the earliest times. We also have an opportunity to discover how the Reformed tradition from which The

Presbyterian Church comes fits into that history.

**CL - Christian Living:** Christian Living involves a search for the answer to the question *How then should I live?* Whether in our personal lives or as part of society, the answer becomes the appropriate response to God's grace.

**CA - Christianity and the Arts:** Through the creativity of the visual and performing arts, as well as literature we may see the face of God. By engaging all of our senses we may experience faith in new and exciting ways.

## TERM ONE

### **B217 THE BIBLE FOR DUMMIES (PART I)**

*Carl Nelson*  
Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
September 9 to October 7

For many Christians the Bible is something of a mystery even after being exposed to it over a long period of time. This three part course, based on the book *The Bible for Dummies* by Jeffrey Geoghegan, PhD and Michael Homan, PhD, seeks to unravel that mystery without intimidating the average lay person. Written from an interfaith perspective the book answers many common questions through its enlightening, informative and entertaining discussions. Presbyterians are encouraged to read the Bible in its literary and historical context in order to better hear the Words of God, and this class is designed to do just that. Each course in this three part series can stand alone, but students are encouraged to attend all of them. Part I focuses on a general introduction to the Bible and early Old Testament scripture. **Book - \$23.** This book will be used in *The Bible for Dummies*, part 1, 2 and 3.

### **CH117 MISSION POSSIBLE**

*Cheryl Boyle Rolph*  
Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
September 9 to October 7

This course is for those who wish to become more involved with the mission and outreach programs of the Presbyterian Church. The PCUSA Mission Yearbook is the resource for

the class and will help to acquaint students with the many exciting mission projects that take place here and around the world. The first step toward active participation is education, and this class will provide information that can lead to involvement. **Book \$8**

### **T317 THE Gnostic GOSPELS**

*Frank Dilley*  
Wednesdays, 7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m.  
September 12 to October 10

What are the Gnostic Gospels? Why weren't they included in the New Testament Canon? These questions will be answered as students study some Christian writings of the second and third century that were labeled "gnostic" by opponents and, therefore, were omitted from the New Testament. The class will focus on Christian beginnings, the Gospel of Thomas, Mary and Philip as well as the Secret-Book of John and, if time, the Gospel of Judas. Material will be taken from the book *Lost Scriptures* by Bart D. Ehrman. **Book - \$17**

## TERM TWO

### **T107 EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP**

*Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-LaSala*

Sundays, immediately following 10:30a.m. worship ~ light lunch served. October 14 to November 4

Exploring Membership is for those who wish to know what it means to be Christian in the Presbyterian Church. The class will cover the basic beliefs of Presbyterians, the meaning of the sacraments and the organization of church government. In addition, there will be a discussion of the many ways each person can serve Christ through the church when he/she becomes a member of the congregation. At the end of the course those who have attended the classes will have the opportunity to formally become a member of the church if they so choose.

### **T217 EASTERN TRADITIONS**

*Alan Fox*

Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
October 21 to November 18

Many Americans know very little about the religious and cultural practices that have shaped the nations of the Far East. However, with the increasing pluralism of the American population and the expansion of the global economy, especially in Asia, it becomes more important than ever for the East and West to understand each other. This course is designed to promote that understanding so that people of Faith can value and appreciate the uniqueness of their neighbors to and from the East.

### **CL117 FINANCIAL FACTS FOR THE FAITHFUL**

*Fred Dawson*

Wednesday 7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m.  
November 7

What papers should I have on file in case of emergency? How do I handle my finances in retirement so that I have enough to live on or can meet large medical costs? How can I financially contribute to the church or other charitable causes now and when I am gone? These are important questions for those considering retirement, recently retired or anyone who wishes to plan ahead at any stage of life. This one session seminar is designed to answer these questions and more. By taking care of legal and financial affairs Christians can become free to think about how best to serve the church they love and how to appreciate God's many blessings during the Autumn of life.

## TERM THREE

### **B117 THE BIBLE OF LUKE**

*Barbara Winter*

Sundays 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
January 6 to February 3

The most familiar passage in the Gospel of Luke is the story of Jesus birth, complete with angels and shepherds and a baby. Luke, however, is much more as it presents the story of Jesus, the universal Savior of all sinners, Jew and Gentile alike. It is also the first half of the two volume work "*Luke-Acts*" written by the same author. The class will learn about the literary, theological and historical characteristics that make this book a unique proclamation of "Tidings of Great Joy".

### **T227 OH GOD, THE MOVIE**

*Matt Reyne*

Sundays 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
January 6 to February 3

If you had an opportunity to have a conversation in person with God, what questions would you ask? What do you think he would look like? About what universal dilemmas in life would you demand an explanation? The feature length film, *Oh God*, now an American Classic starring George Burns and John Denver, will deal with some of these questions and dilemmas. The class will wrestle with serious, as well as mundane issues that often confront people of faith, and they will do so in a most insightful and entertaining way.

### **CL 227 "GLAD TIDINGS: THE WONDER-FULL FOUNDATION OF JOY-FILLED LIVING"**

*Rev. David Lovelace*

Wednesdays and one Tuesday 7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m.  
January 9 to February 5

"Glad Tidings" become "Great Joy" when, and only when, they are accurately *perceived* and aptly put into personal *practice*. Sessions will include both intentional Scriptural reflections, and impromptu sharing of related personal insights. This course will progress from consideration of the aspects of God's grace that support the potential for joy to those grateful responses which make joy a reality in human life.

## TERM FOUR

### **B227 THE BIBLE FOR DUMMIES (PART II)**

*Carl Nelson*

Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.

February 17 to March 16

This course, using the book *The Bible for Dummies* by Jeffrey Geoghegan, PhD and Michael Homan, PhD, is the second in a three part series that seeks to unravel the mysteries of the Bible without intimidating the average lay person. Written from an interfaith perspective the book answers many common questions through its enlightening, informative, and entertaining discussions. Presbyterians are encouraged to read the Bible in its literary and historical context in order to better hear the Words of God. This class will help the student to do just that. Part II focuses on the books of the Old Testament that contain history, wisdom literature, and the prophets. In addition, the writings between the Old and New Testament, known as the Apocrypha, will be studied. **Book \$23.** This book will be used in *The Bible for Dummies*, part 1, 2 and 3.

### **CL127 JAN KARON AND THE MITFORD SERIES**

*JoAnne McNeely*

Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.

February 17 to March 16

This course will focus on the life of Jan Karon, author of the best selling novel series about Mitford, and the places in North Carolina that inspired the setting for the novels. There will also be commentary on the life experiences of

the many characters who cross paths with *Father Tim* and how their situations mirror the struggles of real life Christians.

### **TIO7 EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP**

*Staff/Session*

Sundays, immediately following 10:30a.m. worship ~ light lunch served.

Dates TBA

Exploring Membership is for those who wish to know what it means to be Christian in the Presbyterian Church. The class will cover the basic beliefs of Presbyterians, the meaning of the sacraments and the organization of church government. In addition, there will be a discussion of the many ways each person can serve Christ through the church when he/she becomes a member of the congregation. At the end of the course those who have attended the classes will have the opportunity to formally become a member of the church if they so choose.

## TERM FIVE

### **B237 THE BIBLE FOR DUMMIES (PART III)**

*Carl Nelson*

Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00p.m.

April 6 to May 4

This course, using the book *The Bible for Dummies* by Jeffrey Geoghegan, PhD and Michael Homan, PhD, is the last of a three part series that seeks to unravel the mysteries of the Bible without intimidating the average lay person. Written from an interfaith perspective the book answers many common questions through its enlightening, informative, and entertaining discussions. Presbyterians are encouraged to read the Bible in its literary and historical context in order to better hear the Words of God. This class will help the student to do just that. Part III focuses on the New Testament and the influence the Bible has had on culture as well as the three great monotheistic religions. **Book \$23.** This book will be used in *The Bible for Dummies*, part 1, 2 and 3.

### **CL237 THE CHRISTIAN AND CITIZENSHIP**

*Nancy Boyer*

Sundays, 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.

April 6 to May 4

In 2008 Americans will be voting for a new president. The dynamics of our representative democracy and the issues facing the nation make it

important for Christians to understand what it means to live in a place where those who govern do so by the consent of the governed. This course will focus on the Christian's role in a political environment very different from the time of Christ, when the Mediterranean world was subject to imperial Rome. Today, the ballot box is a powerful tool that can be used to create positive change. This class will help Christians to clarify what and how to respond as citizens who vote and participate in the body politic.

### **TIO7 EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP**

*Staff/Session*

Sundays, immediately following 10:30a.m. worship ~ light lunch served.

Dates TBA

Exploring Membership is for those who wish to know what it means to be Christian in the Presbyterian Church. The class will cover the basic beliefs of Presbyterians, the meaning of the sacraments and the organization of church government. In addition, there will be a discussion of the many ways each person can serve Christ through the church when he/she becomes a member of the congregation. At the end of the course those who have attended the classes will have the opportunity to formally become a member of the church if they so choose.

**THE YEAR AT A GLANCE**

<b>Term 1</b> Sept. 9 - Oct. 10	<b>Term 2</b> Oct. 21 - Nov.21	<b>Term 3</b> Jan. 6 - Feb. 3
<b>B217</b> <i>The Bible for Dummies, Part 1</i> Sunday Carl Nelson	<b>T217</b> <i>Eastern Traditions</i> Sunday Alan Fox	<b>B117</b> <i>The Gospel of Luke</i> Sunday Barbara Winter
<b>CH117</b> <i>Mission Possible</i> Sunday Cheryl Rolph	<b>T107</b> <i>Exploring Membership</i> Sunday Kathy Stoner-Lasala	<b>T227</b> <i>Oh God, the Movie</i> Sunday Matt Reyne
<b>T317</b> <i>The Gnostic Gospels</i> Wednesday Frank Dilley	<b>CL117</b> <i>Financial Facts for the Faithful</i> Wednesday Fred Dawson	<b>CL227</b> <i>“Glad Tidings: The Wonder-Full Foundation of Joy-Filled Living”</i> Wednesday David Lovelace

Key:  
 B - Bible  
 CA - Christianity in the Arts  
 CH - Church History  
 CL - Christian Living  
 T - Theology

**THE YEAR AT A GLANCE**

<b>Term 4</b> Feb. 17 - March 16	<b>Term 5</b> April 6 - May 4	<b>Other Offerings</b> Year Round
<b>B227</b> <i>The Bible for Dummies, Part 2</i> Sunday Carl Nelson	<b>B237</b> <i>The Bible for Dummies, Part 3</i> Sunday Carl Nelson	<b>Handcraft Workshop</b> Second Tuesday of Month Jane Collier/Peggy Hester
<b>CL127</b> <i>Jan Karon and the Mitford Series</i> Sunday JoAnne McNeely	<b>CL237</b> <i>The Christian and Citizenship</i> Sunday Nancy Boyer	<b>Lenten Series</b> Sundays during Lent
<b>T107</b> <i>Exploring Membership</i> Sunday Staff/Session	<b>T107</b> <i>Exploring Membership</i> Sunday Staff/Session	<b>People In Motion</b> Monday, Wednesday, Friday
		<b>Seekers</b> Sunday Donna Bailey and Cheryl Rolph
		<b>Sermon Chat / Bible Study</b> Wednesday
		<b>Sisters Sowing the Word</b> Monday Lorraine Conner
		<b>Twenties, Thirties and Up (TTU'S)</b> Sunday Barry and Judy Baker

Key:  
 B - Bible  
 CA - Christianity in the Arts  
 CH - Church History  
 CL - Christian Living  
 T - Theology

100 - Introductory  
 200 - Intermediate  
 300 - Advanced

## GUEST FACULTY

### Frank Dilley

Frank Dilley is a retired educator who received his BA and MA from Ohio University. He earned a M Div in Religion from Union Theological Seminary and a PHD in Religion from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary. He was awarded a Doctor in Humane Letters from Walden University. He taught Religion at Smith College and Philosophy at Millikin University and the University of Delaware from which he retired in 2002. He has also taught short courses for the university in Continuing Education, for local churches and for the Newark Senior Center. Dr. Dilley is a co-founder of the Delaware Humanities Forum and served on the Boards of the Delaware Chamber Music Society and the Newark Symphony. In addition, he was the Acting Executive Director of the American Philosophical Association and on the Board of Directors of Walden University. He has written two books and written numerous articles and reviews on Philosophy, Religion, and Parapsychology. His current research interests include the Christian Canon, the Gnostic Gospels, Mary Magdalen and various conspiracy theories such as those from Dan Brown's, *The Da Vinci Code*. He is an active member of the New Ark United Church of Christ.

### Alan Fox

Alan Fox is an Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Delaware, specializing in Asian and Comparative Philosophy and Comparative Religion. He has a Ph.D from Temple University and was a Fulbright Scholar in Taiwan. He has twice won the Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Delaware as well as the Outstanding Teacher Award from the College of Arts and Sciences. He has published numerous articles and book reviews primarily on the subject of Chinese and Buddhist Philosophy.

### Rev. David Lovelace

David Lovelace is the Pastor of Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and has an MBA from Boston University. He received his undergraduate degree in Accounting and Auditing from the University of Delaware and served as a career officer in the United States Army from which he is now retired. Before going into the ministry he was an active member of *FPC* serving as an Elder and teacher in the Adult Christian Learning program. He is currently a candidate for his Doctorate at Lancaster Theological Seminary.

## FPC FACULTY

### Donna Bailey

Donna Bailey is a life long member of First Presbyterian Church and serves as a Deacon. She is coordinator of the Shepherd Groups and has participated in Presbyterian Women as well as the Christian Education programs.

### Barry and Judy Baker

Judy and Barry Baker have both been Elders at FPC. Judy is currently a member of Session. Both have also held several positions on the Board of *Walk to Emmaus*. In addition, they have been facilitators of the TTU's for the last several years.

### Nancy Boyer

Nancy Boyer is an active member of First Presbyterian Church, and she is the past chair of the Presbytery's Peacemaking Committee. She earned her Ph.D in Political Science from the University of Delaware in 1999. She has taught "Politics of Developing Nations" and a variety of classes related to politics in the USA at the University of Delaware, Lincoln University and West Chester University. She has two children.

### Jane Collier

Jane Collier is a long time active member of Presbyterian Women and has served as moderator of the FPC chapter. She has also held numerous other positions at the Presbytery and local level.

### Lorraine Conner

Lorraine Conner is a long time member of FPC and is currently a Stephen Minister. She has served as a Deacon, a circle leader for Presbyterian Women,

a prayer partner and has been active for many years as a teacher in both the Children's and Adult Christian education programs.

### Fred Dawson

Fred Dawson is a Chartered Financial Consultant, Chartered Life Underwriter and Vice President of Bassett, Brosius & Dawson, Inc. He is one of the original founding principal partners of the firm. Fred is a member of numerous organizations and a frequent guest speaker. His approximately 350 financially related articles have been published locally, nationally, and internationally. He has often been a radio, television and professional organization guest including several appearances on CNBC. In addition, Fred was honored with a State of Delaware Senate Tribute in 1999 for his "long and distinguished record of service to his community, his county, his state, and his region." In 2007 he was presented with the Charles B. Palmer Award for his "High ethical standards, service to his association, and community leadership" by the New Castle County Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. He and his wife Louise are long time active members of First Church.

### Peggy Hester

Peggy Hester is an active member of FPC and is currently the moderator of Presbyterian Women. She is also a volunteer at the Church's reception desk. She is the inspiration behind many of the crafts created by the FPC women.

## FPC FACULTY

### JoAnne McNeely

JoAnne McNeely has a BS from Purdue University in Vocational Home Economics Education with a minor in General Science. She worked as a Home Economist for the Cambridge, Massachusetts, Gas Company and was a Home Economics teacher in two New Jersey communities. She also taught math for non-commissioned men and women of the U. S. Army Chemical Corp at Fort McClellan, Alabama. In addition, she served as a newspaper columnist for the Cupertino, California *Courier*. She was honored in 2005 with the *Named Gift Award* by the Newark branch of the American Association of University Women. JoAnne, with her husband Jim, is a long time active member of First Church and is currently serving on the Adult Christian Learning Committee as well as volunteering her time at the Reception Desk.

### Carl Nelson

Carl Nelson is the Manager of the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) Unit for the State of Delaware's Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF). PM&E is responsible for preparing the annual strategic plan, monitoring departmental performance measures, and providing technical support for program evaluation and performance improvement efforts. Carl has a B. A. and M. A. in Intellectual History. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science and Public Administration from Northern Illinois University and taught at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City and Temple University in Philadelphia. He is an

Elder at FPC and currently serves as Clerk of Session. He is also a member of the Chancel Choir.

### Matthew Reyne

Matthew Reyne is a retired DuPont engineer and is currently an Adjunct Instructor at Delaware Technical and Community College, Stanton Campus. He has been a member of FPC for 30 years and has taught in the Christian Learning program as well as having served as a Deacon, Elder, and Presbyter to the New Castle Presbytery. He and his wife Marilyn have lived in Newark for 40 years and have two children, David and Denise, who are also members of FPC.

### Cheryl Boyle Rolph

Cheryl Rolph is a teacher of Mathematics at Middletown High School. She is a life long Presbyterian and has been an active member of FPC for almost 30 years. She is currently a member of the Outreach and Mission Committee. Her daughter Ellen Runnels is also a member of FPC.

### Barbara Winter

Barbara Winter is a retired teacher of Foreign Languages. She has a Masters degree in Education from Temple University where she also completed her undergraduate work. She is a long time member of FPC and is an Elder. She has served as Clerk of Session, Interim Director of Christian Education and has chaired various committees of Session. Barbara has taught for many years in the Christian Education program and is currently the Chair of the Adult Christian Learning Committee.

## Registration Academy for Christian Studies 2007-2008

First Presbyterian Church

292 West Main Street

Newark, DE 19711

(302)731-5644

web site [www.firstpresnewark.org](http://www.firstpresnewark.org)

E-mail [aclearning@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:aclearning@firstpresnewark.org)

### Term I ~ September 9 - October 10

course #	course name	Instructor	class fee	book fee	totals
			member/non		
B217	The Bible for Dummies (part 1)	Nelson	\$10/15	\$23	_____
T317	The Gnostic Gospel	Dilley	\$10/15	\$18	_____
CH117	Mission Possible	Rolph	\$10/15	\$8	_____

### Term II ~ October 21 - November 21

T217	Asian Traditions	Fox	\$10/15		_____
CL117	Financial Facts for the Faithful	Dawson	\$5/5		_____
T107	Exploring Membership	Stoner-Lasala	N/A		_____

### Term III ~ January 6 - February 6

CL227	Glad Tidings: The Wonder-Full Foundations	Lovelace	\$10/15		_____
T227	<i>Oh God</i> , the Movie	Reyne	\$10/15		_____
B117	The Gospel of Luke	Winter	\$10/15		_____

### Term IV ~ February 17 - March 19

B227	The Bible for Dummies (part 2)	Nelson	\$10/15		_____
CL127	Jan Karon and the Mitford Series	McNeely	\$10/15		_____
T017	Exploring Membership	Staff/Session	N/A		_____

### Term V ~ April 6 - May 7

B237	The Bible for Dummies (part 3)	Nelson	\$10/15		_____
CL237	The Christian and Citizenship	Boyer	\$10/15		_____
T107	Exploring Membership	Staff/Session	N/A		_____

**Total Fees ~ class & book**

**Make Checks payable to First Presbyterian Church**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

To Register: Mark classes you wish to take, calculate fees, return registration form and check to First Presbyterian Church, Academy for Christian Studies, 292 West Main St., Newark, DE 19711.