

**September 15**  
**Global Health Ministries to Tanzania**

*Kim Dickey Global Health Ministries.*  
Kim Dickey, Director of Communications for Global Health Ministries will present a program on "Joy in a Box" and the "Suitcase Ministries" two ways in which medical supplies and materials are delivered to Lutheran hospitals and health centers around the world. Bethel is renewing its relationship with the Lutheran dispensaries (rural clinics) in the Central Diocese of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Join Kim in learning how Bethel can be an integral part of these amazing programs to actively support our sisters and brothers in Tanzania.

**September 22 City and Church: Separation, Cooperation, Regularization**

*Pastor Emeritus Norman Wahl*  
Last year's session briefly touched on the separation of church and state, including many inaccuracies about that notion in the constitution. This year we will delve more deeply into how separate or interwoven city and church truly are. (Did you know there are three floors in our sanctuary?)

**September 29 Youth BWCA Trip**  
*Youth Team*

Two adults and seven youth from Bethel traveled to the BWCA in July for a week of disconnecting from the digital world and diving into nature. They enjoyed the benefits of fellowship and scripture study while exploring God's creation. They are excited to share their experiences during this trip.

**October 6 Puerto Rico Work Trip**  
*Patty Whalen & Richard Fingers*

In June, Pastor Anjanette led a group of 21 Bethel members and friends to Puerto Rico. The trip offered an opportunity to help repair the church building of El Divino Salvador as well as to strengthen Bethel's relationship with our sister congregation, Cristo Rey. Patty and Richard will share photos & stories of the weeklong adventure.

**October 13: Advance directives/Health Care directives**  
*Katrina Duranceau*

Come learn the basics about planning for future health care decisions by creating a health care directive/advance directive. Minnesota health care directive forms will be available for you to create your own health care directive. Topics discussed will be:-decision making rights, differences between living will and health care directive, strategies for starting end-of-life choices conversations, questions about completing a health care directive.

**October 20: No Sunday Morning Forum**

**October 27: Christian Nationalism in the U.S.**

*Dr. Darrel Jodock*  
This class will examine Christian Nationalism by describing what it is and its historical roots. What level of support does it have in the U.S.? The class will assess the historical claims of Christian Nationalism and its relationship to the First Amendment. And it will examine the interpretation of Christianity found in Christian Nationalism. To what degree is its understanding of Christianity more cultural than religious?

**November 3 Lutherans and Politics**

*Dr. Darrel Jodock*  
Lutherans in America have been unusually successful at starting and supporting social service organizations and schools/colleges. But they have been less likely than some other religious groups to seek political office. How can we understand this pattern of involvement? And what might be an appropriate way to think about the purpose(s) that should guide Lutheran involvement in the public sphere—whether in voting or in holding office? In other words, how do we Lutherans understand our vocation/calling in the arena of community leadership?

**November 10: Israel and Palestine Today**

*Dr. Phil Quanbeck*  
What's Going On and How Did We Get Here? How are the ELCA, the Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land Working for Peace and Reconciliation? Dr. Quanbeck will review the recent history of Palestine from Ottoman times to the formation of the modern State of Israel. He will also review the current state of affairs on the West Bank and Gaza, the desire of many for a Palestinian State, and a Two State Solution. The presentation will also include the work of Lutheran churches through the LWF, the ELCJHL and the ELCA as they work for healing and ending suffering and violence for Israelis and Palestinians.

**November 17: The Hebrew Bible Part I**

*Travis Beck*  
The writings that became the Hebrew Bible were written and assembled over time and the work of multiple authors, editors, and redactors. What do we know (or think we know) about how these writings came to be? Who wrote them? What does a prophet do? What is a Psalm? What is the book of Daniel even about? We will wrestle with these questions and more as we briefly explore these ancient texts from an academic perspective.

**November 24: Genesis 14: An outsider's view of Abraham**

*Bill Bakken*  
Genesis 14 provides a different view of Abraham from the rest of the book. This presentation will review the bible's story of Abraham and then discuss how Genesis 14 does not fit the usual depiction of Abraham in the rest of Genesis.

**December 1: The Hebrew Bible Part II**

*Travis Beck*  
See November 17 Adult Forum description.

**December 8 & 15: World Lutheranism an Introduction**

*Dr. Mark Granquist*  
Although we think of Lutherans in Europe and North America, the fact is that many Lutherans now live in the Global South, especially in Africa and Asia. While the number of Lutherans in the West is declining, Lutheran churches in the South are growing, sometimes rapidly. In these sessions we will trace the movement of Lutherans out of Europe and around the world and see how Lutheranism has become a global family of Christians.

**January 5: A Migrants Journey**

*Kathy Chatelaine*  
Each year, thousands of Central American youth leave their families to begin a dangerous journey to the United States. What causes young people to flee their communities? What are the dangers along their journey? How are these vulnerable youth received at the border? Welcome to the migrant journey and AMMPARO (Accompaniment of Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities)! Beginning in Central America, you will walk alongside youth forced to flee their beloved communities with the hope of a new start in the United States. As we journey together, you will also learn about the AMMPARO Strategy, a commitment by our church to accompany migrant children and families.

**January 12: Go and Do Likewise**

*Pastor Lisa Hawe*  
The church is told to love our neighbors but we aren't often taught skills to help us do that. Come and learn ways to be intentional about the simple acts that make a huge difference in faith and life.

**Bethel Adult Education videos**

Videos of Adult Forum presentations beginning October 8, 2012 and continuing to the latest. These videos can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/channels/adultedvideo>.

**January 19 & 26: New Testament and Apocrypha Part I**  
*Travis Beck*

The writings that became the Christian Bible were assembled over time and by multiple authors, editors, and redactors. What do we know (or think we know) about how these writings came to be? What are the apocryphal books? Why are the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke so similar? Who was Paul and how many letters did he write? What is the book of Revelation even about? We will wrestle with these questions and more as we explore these texts from an academic perspective.

**February 2: Trinity and Christology**  
*Dr. Sarah Ruble*

Christians affirm both that God is Triune and that Jesus is fully divine and fully human. Yet, for many Christians, those affirmations seem confusing (how is one really three? Is Jesus like a centaur?) and the reasons for the doctrines unclear. In this class, we will explore why the early church developed these doctrines and how they relate to Christian understandings of salvation.

**February 9: Original sin and Justification**  
*Dr. Sarah Ruble*

For many Christians, original sin and justification are central doctrines of the church. Yet, for others, they are peripheral (in the case of justification) or erroneous (original sin). In this class, we will discover why some Christians came to see these doctrines as central to the faith and why others choose to largely ignore or fully reject them.

**February 16: Katharina von Bora**  
*Jim Deutschle*

2025 is the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of an event that shook the Roman Catholic Church. A former priest, Martin Luther, married a former nun, Katharine von Bora. Who was this woman who was sent to a convent at age 5, escaped in a fish barrel, and was called by Martin Luther "Meine Kathe"? Learn about her amazing life and contributions to the Reformation.

**February 23 & March 2: Saint and Sinner**  
*Dr. Mark Tranvik*

You are both. Yes, you! Come and find out why that is good news. Hear stories about other saints and sinners and how their examples can help us live out our faith today.

**March 9: TBD**  
*Open*

**March 16: Stewarding Life**  
*Emily Carson*

What does it mean to be stewards of our whole lives? What does it look like to take excellent care of the relationships, resources and time with which God has entrusted us? With spring just around the corner, we'll use gardening as our metaphorical playground. This forum is intended to be a collaborative, enriching experience that will leave you feeling rooted & connected.

**March 23: So You want to write an Icon!**  
*Judy Gittus*

Most people will have a couple of questions at this point. What's an Icon? And why do they call it writing an icon? We don't venerate saints in the Lutheran Church so therefore we have to look to Eastern Orthodox and Catholic Churches to find out what we're talking about. Since 2019, Judy has written 9 icons starting with St. George and the Dragon. Judy goes to Franciscan Spirituality Center in LaCrosse, WI. 2 or 3 times a year to "write" an icon with Master Iconographer, Phil Zimmerman from Pennsylvania. Want to know more? Come to this Adult Education Forum to find the answers to your questions.

**March 30: Chaplaincy on Base & Campus: A Lutheran Pastor Reflects**  
*Pastor Andrew Nelson*

Ever been curious about military chaplaincy? How about campus pastors? Join us as former Bethel pastor, Andy Nelson (2009-2012), shares about his current dual roles as a college chaplain at Morningside University and as a military chaplain with the Iowa Air National Guard, both in Sioux City, IA. Pastor Andy will reflect on the theology of these chaplain callings in light of his Lutheran roots as well as the practical aspects of serving each role.!

**April 6: Catalysts For Change**  
*Sue Thalacker*

Gain deeper insight of the last week of Jesus' life through learning about two lesser known characters-Lazarus and Joseph of Arimathea. Discover the impact of their deeds through an EyeWitness Bible video presentation. What motivated Joseph to bury the body? Was raising Lazarus the last in a line of unacceptable actions of Jesus? We'll discuss how their life changing events can apply to our faith community.

Contact any member of the Adult Education Team if you have a topic suggestion for Adult Education, or if you'd like to help with the team.  
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**SUNDAY  
MORNING  
EDUCATION  
FORUMS**



**September 15, 2024 – April 6, 2025**

**Forums are held on Sundays  
at 10:30 a.m. in Room 115**

***Everyone is invited to participate!***

