

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES**  
**Sunday mornings, 9:45–10:45 a.m.**  
**Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest, Illinois**

**Lecture Series**

**Seminar Room**

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**Leaders for a Changing Church**

**March 13**

We all know the many changes besetting our congregation and the church at large. Those changes are reshaping what we expect of the ministers we call and how we prepare them to lead. Dr. James Nieman, President of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, will review a few of the major changes all churches are facing and describe how his seminary has significantly adapted its curriculum to address these challenges.

**Five Images of Diakonia**

**April 3 and 10**

*Louise Williams, Deaconess, Valparaiso University.* Washing feet, waiting tables, telling the story, tending the door and bearing the light are images of Christian service (*diakonia*) drawn from the roles of deaconesses and deacons in the early church. Using these ancient images, we will explore new ways of looking at the service Christians do in the world today.

**From South Sudan to the South Side: Helping People Trace the Global and Local Connections in Mission**

**April 17**

Rev. Stephen Bouman, Executive Director of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit of the ELCA, describes one local minister's journey to creating a church in Africa.

**William James and the Psychology of Religion**

**April 24**

*Dr. Douglas Anderson, Professor of Neurological Surgery, Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University.* "The Varieties of Religious Experience: A Study in Human Nature," written by psychologist and philosopher William James and based on lectures given in 1901 and 1902, has been in print ever since its publication. We will look at some of James's concepts in the context of the evolution of neuroscience and its relationship with religion.

**A Small Catechism: Lutheran Liturgy and Church Music**

**May 8 and 15**

Dr. Carl Schalk, Professor Emeritus, Concordia University Chicago.

**Carl Jung and the Re-Enchantment of the World**

**May 22**

*Dr. George Hogenson, Jungian Psychoanalyst.* We live in a disenchanted world, in comparison to the Middle Ages when the symbolic dimension of religion and life began to fade. Jung, with other thinkers in the early 20th century, sought to oppose this historical trend, attempting to find ways to return us to "enchantment" by way of the symbolic or other means.

## **The Responsibilities of the Social Ministry Committee**

**March 13**

Do you know what Social Ministry does? Is there something you can do to help this committee serve our community?

*Stephanie Wilkening, Social Ministry Chair*

## **Romeos and Juliets and Women of Grace**

**April 3**

Opportunities to be informed and get involved. *Bill Brown and Doris Christopher.*

## **The Art of Caregiving**

**April 10**

Caregiving is an inevitable part of living – learn and be prepared.

*Michael Turner, Director, Vice-President of Senior Helpers, Lincolnwood, Ill.*

## **Stephen Ministry: A Dedication to Serving**

**April 24**

Stephen Ministry is offered in churches throughout the country. Learn about the program and training involved. *Judi McDonnell, Chair*

## **The Meaning and Theology of Grief**

**May 15**

Good grief, the theology of grief and reconciliation. *Pastor Robert Shaner*

## **The Shape of Ministry with Grief**

**May 22**

Problematic grief, confession/forgiveness and supportive work of the healing community.

*Pastor Robert Shaner*