

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please register prior to the beginning of classes so we can get any initial materials to you if necessary. Please place completed Registration Forms in the box at the rear of the church or mail to the church office: 453 7th St, Brooklyn, NY 11215. You may also register by emailing the information below to [PSUMCAAdultEd@gmail.com](mailto:PSUMCAAdultEd@gmail.com).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (preferably cell): \_\_\_\_\_

✓	Class	Day/Frequency	Time
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Path Toward Forgiveness	Sundays 6 Sessions Starting Sept. 23	5:00-6:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	People In The Bible - Abigail	Sept. 24, Oct 1, Oct. 15, Oct. 22	7:00-8:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jesus, The Misunderstood Jew	Sundays 5 Sessions Starting Nov 11	5:00-6:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pop Up Theology - no registration necessary	Every other Tuesday	7:00-8:00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fast Track Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures	Mondays 12 Sessions Starting Sept 24	7:00-8:30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Peace Be With You Project	TBA	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Groups	TBA	

# ADULT EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION CLASSES- FALL 2018

What we know is a drop...



PARK SLOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

Park Slope United Methodist Church offers classes to help individuals become more faithful people in the world. We need opportunities to reflect more deeply on our faith, increase our knowledge and support us in becoming Christ's counter-cultural people in the world.

**“Classes to help individuals become more faithful people in the world.”**

A life of faith includes attention to our inward journeys of prayer and study and our outward journeys of service to the world. We offer classes that nurture people on both of these journeys, classes that will engage both your heart and mind. We offer these classes as food for the journey.

We encourage you to look over our offerings for Fall 2018 and to join us for a class or workshop.. You can register using the registration form on the back cover of this brochure or online at [parkslopeumc.org](http://parkslopeumc.org). For more information, you can also email [psumcadulted@gmail.com](mailto:psumcadulted@gmail.com) or call the church office at 718-768-3093

## OTHER OFFERINGS

### TAIZÉ EVENING PRAYER

Evening Prayer services are times to come together in song and prayer. The services consist of simple modern day chants sung repetitively, a brief reading of Scripture, a long period of silence and some intercessory prayer. All held in a candlelit atmosphere. It lasts exactly 30 minutes. This service reflects the tradition of Taizé, an ecumenical monastic community in the Burgundy region of France known for its work towards reconciliation and its ministry to teens and young adults.

### PEACE BE WITH YOU: BIBLE, GRIEF AND SONG

This ongoing project gives one the opportunity to work with a group to explore the grief and/or celebration of life of someone you've lost. We match the source of grief with a Sacred text. The text is then set to an original composition and shared in a Sunday worship service. If you are feeling like you want to honor someone you love, or perhaps are struggling with a social justice issue or tragic event, "Peace Be With You" can provide you a place to grieve and process the loss. Contact Rev. Kathryn at [PSUMCADultEd@gmail.com](mailto:PSUMCADultEd@gmail.com).

### CLEARNESS COMMITTEES FOR DISCERNMENT

Are you wrestling with a weighty question or looking for some clarity on a personal issue? PSUMC will help gather a "Clearness Committee." Clearness Committees, from the Quaker tradition, are based on the conviction that each of us has an inner teacher, a voice of truth, that offers the guidance we need to deal with our problems. The inner voice is often garbled by various kinds of interference, A clearness committee, made up of a handful of people, provides a safe space in which one is listened to closely and then offered non-directive questions to help one listen for their inner voice. No advice is given. We will provide instructions and help facilitate a meeting. For more information, contact the Rev. Herb Miller or the Rev. Katheryn Dickinson at [psumcadulted@gmail.com](mailto:psumcadulted@gmail.com)

## SMALL GROUPS AT PSUMC

An important part of our ministry at PSUMC is our small group program. Small groups help people to be known at a deeper level than is possible by just attending worship or a committee meeting with a tight agenda. They provide opportunities to explore questions of faith, discuss spiritual lives, and share personal joys and struggles.

Core Groups consist of 4-12 adults, typically meeting every other week, depending on the will of the group. During the meeting, people share their personal stories and questions of faith. They also study the Bible, explore various life/faith topics, and share some informal prayer with one another.

Each group develops its own distinctive flavor. Our hope is that these groups will strengthen both individuals and the congregation, so that we are better able to be of loving service to the world.

Mission Groups are very similar to Core Groups, fulfilling all of the same functions, with the addition of working on an agreed upon mission/ministry to which all the members feel called. One example is "Rotation," a small band that was formed to bring music to local hospitals and nursing homes. This group meets regularly to share their lives, pray and study scripture, as well as to plan and rehearse music that they will bring out to the community.

We strongly encourage all members of PSUMC to participate in a Core or Mission Group as these help provide a strong community and help nurture our lives of service.

New groups are always forming. If you would like to be part of a group, or have an idea for a ministry or mission that you would like to pursue with a Mission Group, please speak to the Rev. Kathryn Dickinson, our Deacon of spiritual life, or the Rev. Herb Miller. At [psumcadulted@gmail.com](mailto:psumcadulted@gmail.com) We will help place you in an existing group or help form a new group.

## CLASSES

### Journey Toward Forgiveness

Recovering after being hurt by a friend, after being a victim of a crime, after divorce, a layoff or other major upset is very challenging. We all long to be free from these negative experiences, yet often find forgiveness too difficult. This experiential class, based on recent psychological research, will explore various facets of forgiveness and teach a gentle but realistic plan for achieving it. Each participant will identify one circumstance in which they desire forgiveness and then make use of various exercises to work toward it.

Number of sessions 6

Beginning Date: September 23

Time: Sundays, 5:00-6:30

### Fast Track Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures

This class will do an overview of the 39 books in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) in 12 weeks. Fast Track, provides a viable option for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement over time with the entire biblical text. Another 12 weeks on the New Testament will be offered following the class on the Hebrew Scriptures. We will use Disciple Bible Study materials, a well respected curriculum published by the United Methodist Church. Participants will read a manageable 3-5 chapters of the Bible daily in preparation for the weekly meetings, which last approximately 75 minutes. Classes include watching a brief introductory video and discussion.

Number of sessions: 12

Beginning Date: September 24 - December 17

Time: Mondays, 7:00-8:30

Leader: Rev. Herb Miller

## People in the Bible: Abigail in the Hebrew Bible: 1 Samuel 25

As is tradition with “Women” and “People” in the Bible, participants will get to study, explore, reflect upon, and create a Sunday Service around a person in the Bible- this fall unearthing the beautiful, brave and wise woman named Abigail. Abigail’s story includes King David with intrigue, deception, faithfulness and courage all a part of the tale: *Abigail acted quickly. She took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five dressed sheep, five seahs of roasted grain, a hundred cakes of raisins and two hundred cakes of pressed figs, and loaded them on donkeys. Then she told her servants, “Go on ahead; I’ll follow you.”* The Rev. Kathryn Dickinson, ordained Deacon, will guide the group in sharing our thoughts in a Sunday service. Absolutely no knowledge of the Bible required – just join us in this meaningful and educational experience.

Number of sessions: 4

Dates and Times: Mondays: Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct. 15, Oct 22 / 7:00-8:30 pm

Leader: Rev. Kathryn Dickinson

## Jesus, The Misunderstood Jew

Many don’t understand that Jesus was a Jew, through and through. This lack of understanding skews our interpretation of his teachings. This class will explore how Jesus fit in with his religious tradition so that we can more fully appreciate and understand what his life and ministry were about. We will be using the book by the same name: *Jesus, the Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*, by Amy-Jill Levine. Levine states, “Unless we Jews understand the beliefs and practices and history of our Christian neighbors and unless Christians understand Jews and Judaism, children of Abraham (including Muslims) we’ll never achieve the shalom, “peace” that we all claim to be seeking.” Levine is an Orthodox Jew and professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt diversity Divinity School.

Number of Sessions: 5

Beginning Date: November 11 - December 9

Dates and Times: Sundays, 5:00-6:30

## Pop Up Theology

: Open and honest conversation about things that matter. The format is simple: we gather at a local restaurant for a fun, relaxed and informal conversation on a topic related to faith, religion or ethics. Everything is up for discussion - no assumptions, no entry barriers, no prescribed theology, no proselytizing, no correct answers.

Dates and Times: Alternating Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30

Venue: Johnny Mack’s Bar and Grill, 1114 8th Ave. ( 8th Ave. & 11th St)

Facilitators: Rev. Herb Miller, Rev. Kathryn Dickinson,

September 18 - Can Violence Make the World a Better Place?

October 2 - The Church and Immigration., Are We Our Brother’s/ Sister’s Keeper?

October 16 - White Privilege, Let’s Talk

October 30 - Judgment or Grace? What is your final answer?

November 13 - Gun Control - right versus responsibility.

Would you like to teach a class, or are you interested in a topic that is not presently being covered? Please speak to Rev. Kathryn Dickinson or Rev. Herb Miller, or email [PSUMCAAdultEd@gmail.com](mailto:PSUMCAAdultEd@gmail.com). We want to be responsive to your