

Connexion

Fall 2021

Take a Break from the World

Leader: LaDona Hebrink

Is it time for a break, but three days on the beach in Cancun isn't in your future? Take that break one piece at a time when you focus on putting two jigsaw puzzle pieces together, forgetting the world around you and the problems of the day.

Calling all puzzlers to join their friends in putting that impossible puzzle together. Beginning Sunday evening Oct. 3 at 6:30 pm, we will meet in room #13 on the lower level of the education wing. We will determine the frequency and time of when we will continue to meet.

Take a Break from the World is for fun only with no competition and wrong or right ways of assembling a puzzle.

See you there!

Magical History Tour

Leader: Guy Nelsen

The stories of our rural communities are held in trust by small museums, county historical societies, and individual collectors. Starting on Thursdays in October, the Magical History group will tour museums and collections in Willmar, New London, Atwater, Litchfield, and more. Plan on meeting in the church parking lot at 1 p.m., driving to the location, and spending the afternoon viewing artifacts, hearing stories, and learning about the rich history of rural Minnesota.

Admission is charged to most locations, so bring some cash along!

The Magical History Tour begins Thursday, October 7, 1 p.m., with a tour of the Kandiyohi County Historical Society. Cost is \$3 for this museum.

Funny Stuff in the Bible

Leader: Bruce Taylor

Phil Johnson (oh, that narrows it down in Minnesota!) wrote a little book called *Funny Stuff in the Bible: A Field Trip in the Bible Library*. He examines familiar Bible stories with a twist of humor. One example is how a father solved the problem of sermon-bored adolescent sons in the church balcony by asking them to read Judges Chapter 3, and figure out how Ehud lost his sword to a good cause. It got a little noisy in the balcony that morning but the boys weren't bored! We'll read two or three chapters a week in this book and get together to have laugh over them at our weekly meetings.

Meeting time is Friday mornings, beginning October 8, 11 a.m., in the church library.

C. S. Lewis for Men Only

Leader: Bruce Taylor

Clive Staples Lewis wrote and lectured at both Oxford and Cambridge. His *Mere Christianity* is one of the finest Christian apologetics, noted for its simple, lucid, concise prose. (Lewis presented *Mere Christianity* on BBC radio in 15 minute segments.) His *The Abolition of Man* is a timely work for us today. *National Review* ranks this book at #7 of the top 100 non-fiction books of the 20th century. We will take seven consecutive Friday mornings to discuss his work.

Meeting time: Fridays, 6:30 a.m., at the Parsonage.
First meeting October 8.

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Tuesday Book Club

Leader: Linda Saunders

Tuesday Book Club meets the second Tuesday of each month in the church library. Activities include short devotions followed by a lively discussion of the book of that month. Anyone is welcome to join!

Meeting time: second Tuesday of the month, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., church library.

The book for October is *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

November's title is *The Christmas Angel Project* by Melody Carlson.

UnFinished Object (UFO) Crafters

Leader: Janet Parker

Crafting is not just an act, it is a way of life. Crafters take time away from the *busyness* of life to create beauty in the world, but sometimes it is hard to make the time. Individuals who enjoy crafting are invited to bring an unfinished project to work on with others in a judgment free environment. Basic lessons in knitting also available. All crafts and skill levels welcome:

UFO Crafters meet the first and third Monday each month in the church library from 6 – 8 p.m.

For more *Connexion* information,

contact Bruce Taylor

507 766-1519 or brucektaylor@yahoo.com

A Field Guide to Fresh Expressions

Leader: Ron Van Nurden

What does a new Methodism look like? *A Field Guide to Methodist Fresh Expressions* by Michael Adam Beck with Jorge Acevedo looks at how John Wesley accomplished growth in the early days of Methodism and how that experience can inform our efforts today. Wesley's work of meeting with the outcasts and dispossessed in farm fields and coal mines compares with outreach efforts in tattoo parlors and bars in our own time.

These “fresh expressions” speak to those who would never think of entering a church building but desperately need to hear the good Jesus news of salvation and forgiveness. Come be a part of the discussion as we explore the many ways we customize fresh expressions to our own mission field.

Meeting time: Sunday beginning October 3rd, right after morning worship in the Wesley Room.

TALKBACK

Leader: Pastor Jo Anne

This is your opportunity to talk with friends about the scriptures of the day, dissect the pastor's sermon, or ask those questions you never thought you could ask (but now you can!). Lots of material ends up on the cutting room floor as Pastor Jo Anne writes her weekly message. This is a time to dig a little deeper, hear the illustrations that didn't make it into the sermon, and share your insight. You might even get a sneak peek at the following Sunday's message.

Sunday, 10:30 AM (during the children's Sunday School hour) in the Pastor's Study.