

2 0 2 6 W E D N E S D A Y N I G H T

SMALL GROUPS

TO SIGN UP FOR A SMALL GROUP, CLICK [HERE](#)

SHEROS OF SACRED TEXT

LED BY REV. KATIE GILBERT | BEGINNING **SEPTEMBER 9**

SALT classroom

(Basement floor of the Education Building)

Over the course of 5 weeks, we'll study both canonical (Ruth, Esther, and the Book of Susanna) and non-canonical texts (Judith and the Gospel of Mary Magdalene) to explore books named for women and consider why some are included, and others are not. We won't have all the answers, but we will ask all the questions. So bring your doubts, wonderings, and curiosity to listen and learn from the handful of women who get the honor of being included and memorialized in Christian scriptures.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION

VARIOUS LEADERS | BEGINNING **SEPTEMBER 9**

Ecclesia-Wingard classroom

(Basement floor of the Education Building)

Join us in September for conversations centering the next generation: How do we parent in our current world? Facilitated by various experts (including our own parents and staff) we'll cover topics such as financial wisdom, spiritual formation, social media, mental health, and pediatrics. We invite you to come with questions, worries, and lived experience – it takes a village!

FIRST CHURCH VILE-TALITY

LED BY REV. KEVIN THOMAS | BEGINNING IN **OCTOBER**

SALT classroom

(Basement floor of the Education Building)

Doing Justice. Creating Inclusive Community. Embodying Diversity. Practicing Hospitality. Encouraging Authenticity. Embracing Tough Questions. Those priorities define First Church, but they're nothing new. We sometimes feel as though we're on the edge, fighting for justice, but we are also embracing our roots. In this class, we'll go back to Boggan argues that Wesleyan vile-tality is at the core of who we are as Methodists. As rule-benders, rabble-rousers, and outcast-embracers, those early Methodists stood out and stood up. I hope you'll join the rest of us rabble-rousers as we once again strive to be more vile.

EARWITNESS

THE CASE OF TOFOREST JOHNSON

LED BY: REV REA GREEN | BEGINNING **OCTOBER 7**

Ecclesia-Wingard classroom

(Basement floor of the Education Building)

Toforest Johnson has been on death row for 28 years, but throughout that time, organizations like the Innocents Project, as well as jurors and the original prosecutor of the case, have begun calling for a retrial. Why are they pushing for this change? Because Toforest's sentence was determined over an ear witness account via a three-way phone call. This fall, join us as we go through the **Earwitness podcast** that details Toforest's case and learn more about the Alabama justice system, and how we can respond as United Methodists.

MAKERS NIGHTS

LED BY JOSH MILLER OF WILDGOOSE GARDEN | **NOVEMBER 18 & DECEMBER 2**

Large Dining Room

Join us for two nights of fabulous ornament making with the lovely Josh Miller! He'll lead us through the first stage of making our ornaments on November 18 and again two weeks later on December 2 when we glaze them. You'll even be able to personalize your ornaments with fun, holiday colors for the Christmas season! **Registration** is required by November 1.

ON GOING SMALL GROUPS

QUEERLY BELOVED

NO STRAIGHT ANSWERS

FACILITATED BY JORDAN PITTMAN

IRL classroom

(Second floor of the Education building)

An LGBTQ+ led and LGBTQ+ focused group, but allies are welcome to attend. We gather on the second floor of the Education Building (in the IRL Sunday School room located next to The Loft worship space) for fellowship and discussion. Our agenda varies from week to week, so we are happy to have you drop in any time!

CONVERGE

In the Parlor

(bottom floor of the Office building)

Converge Midweek is an ongoing small group for young adults at First Church that is open and welcoming. We begin each meeting by checking in with one another and then have guided conversation on a variety of topics. Conversations can focus on books of the Bible, a video series, or a book series. There is no “homework” that needs to be done before attending. Just show up and know that you belong.

WRITING

LED BY MARY EVELYN HOLLOWAY

IN THE LIBRARY

(1st floor of the Education building)

Come together and learn different ways to write as a form of prayerful reflection. Led by Mary Evelyn Holloway, we will discover how writing can become a ritualistic practice that brings us closer to God, closer together, and closer to learning more about ourselves.

SANCTUARY CHOIR

LED BY PATRICK EVANS

In the Choir Room

(Sanctuary building)

Have you ever heard the glorious music on Sunday mornings and wanted to be a part of it? Join your sanctuary choir for rehearsals on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm! For any additional questions, email Patrick@firstchurchbhm.com.

KIDS & YOUTH PROGRAMMING

CityKids Wing

(2nd floor of the Education building)

Join our City Kids and students as they learn to worship, grow, and serve together! We'll have activities for any age and exciting programming planned this fall. If you have any questions, please email Ashley@firstchurchbhm.com.
