

2018 / 2019

Spiritual Growth Series



About the 2018 / 2019 Spiritual Growth Series

St. John United Church of Christ:
"A Place of Learning"

Welcome!

The purpose of the Spiritual Growth Series is to encourage each member, guest, and friend of St. John Church to listen for the word of God through faithful study of the Bible, prayer, service, and experience.

By gathering together in small groups throughout the year we meet new friends and strengthen relationships with one another, and with God. We also build a sturdy foundation that enables each person to ask the tough questions, struggle with the difficulties and joys of life, engage in dialogue, and respond faithfully to things that really matter.

If you have a topic, book of the Bible, service project, or book you would like to suggest for a future study please contact me.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome, invited and included to participate in any or all these spiritual growth opportunities at St. John United Church of Christ.

**For more information about the series or financial assistance to participate in one or more of the opportunities contact:
Pastor and Teacher, Keith M. Haithcock, Pastor@StJohnChurch.net**

For a copy of the full 2018/2019 brochure go to:
<https://stjohnchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2017-18-Spiritual-Growth-Series-COMPLET-BROCHURE.pdf>



*Rev. Keith M. Haithcock,
Pastor and Teacher*

2018/2019 Spiritual Growth Series at St. John Church
520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073 859.261.2066 StJohnChurch.net

STATEMENTS OF ST. JOHN CHURCH

Vision Statement

We are a source of hope and opportunity
for people who need us.

The community understands us
the way we understand ourselves.

Our ministry is open, accessible, and inviting in ways that
encourage all members of the community
to use their gifts in ministry.

Adopted by Church Council June 2012

Mission Statement

Our caring congregation feeds the spiritual and physical
needs of the community.

Adopted by Church Council June 2012

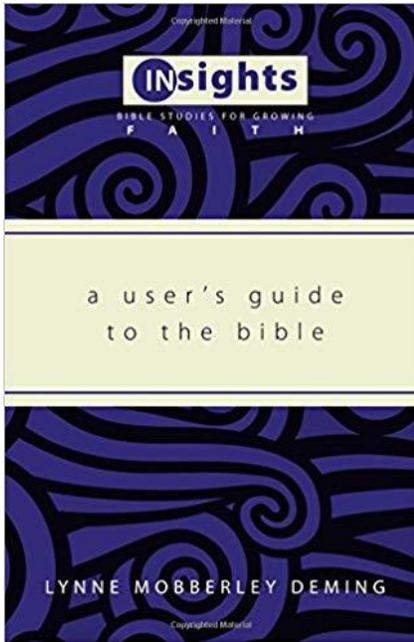
Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of St. John United Church of Christ,
declare ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation.

We know that as the Church we are many members,
but one body in Christ. With Christ we affirm that we are called
to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that we are called
to act as agents of reconciliation and wholeness
within the world and within the church itself.

We pledge to welcome people of all races, ages, abilities,
ethnicities, socio-economic levels, sexual orientations and
gender identities into the full life and ministry of the church.
We affirm and celebrate all loving and committed relationships.
We seek actively to include and support those who because of
fear and prejudice find themselves in exile from a spiritual
community. We commit ourselves to caring and concern for all.

Adopted by the congregation November 2003



One Session Study Bible 101 session #1

A User's Guide to the Bible

One 4-hour session

Saturday, October 27, 2018

9:30a to 2p, Room 102

Bring a bag lunch

A practical introduction to the bible for adults and youth. In this study you will learn about how the Bible came into being, its contents, date, and authorship of each biblical book,

be introduced to some basic Bible study tools, and learn how to use them.

**Previous Bible knowledge or experience is not required.
Bibles are available.**

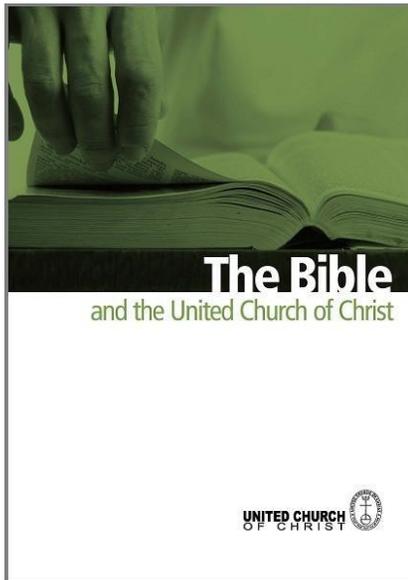
Register by October 21, 2018 by calling 859.261.2066, ext. 202; emailing: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net; signing up at the Welcome Table; or using your Sunday Information Card.

**At least 7 registrants are required for session to take place.
Books are provided - Return at the end of the session.**

Registrants are encouraged to view these youtube videos prior to class:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXsP5KTFtcw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cC8YD1bZ0II>



One Session Study Bible 101 session #2

*The Bible and the
United Church of Christ*

One 4-hour session
Saturday, January 26, 2019
(Snow date, February 2)
9:30a to 2p, Room 102
Bring a bag lunch

"The Bible and the United
Church of Christ" is a collection
written by members of the

Writer's Group in response to requests for this kind of resource. You will find several essays on our approach to the Bible, some FAQ's about the Bible, suggested passages to commit "to heart," an essay on the hard parts of the Bible, and a list of some of the Bible's most interesting and arresting stories.

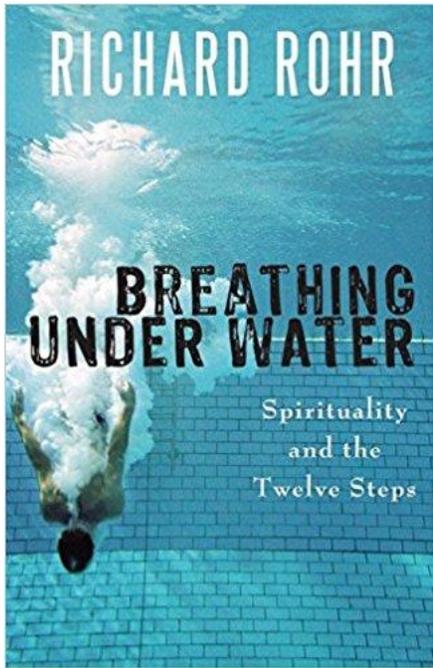
We do understand that the Bible has sometimes, perhaps often, been misused. But the answer to misuse is never disuse; it is always better use; to listen deeply to the Scriptures for the God who is still speaking.

**Previous Bible knowledge or experience is not required.
Bibles are available.**

Register by January 20, 2019 by calling 859.261.2066, ext. 202; emailing: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net; signing up at the Welcome Table; or using your Sunday Information Card.

**At least 7 registrants are required for session to take place.
Books are provided - Return at the end of the session.**

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2019 Lenten Study

***Breathing Under Water
Spirituality and the Twelve
Steps*** -By Richard Rohr

A five-week book study

Wednesdays:

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10

Time: 7p to 8:45p, Room 102

Facilitator: Keith M Haithcock

Register by March 3, 2019 by calling 859.261.2066, ext. 202; Pastor@StJohnChurch.net; the Welcome Table sign up; or your Sunday Information Card.

At least 7 registrants are required for session to take place.

Order your own book: through a local book store, local public library or Amazon.com.

We are all addicted in some way. When we learn to identify our addiction, embrace our brokenness, and surrender to God, we begin to bring healing to ourselves and our world. In *Breathing Under Water*, Richard Rohr shows how the gospel principles in the Twelve Steps can free anyone from any addiction – from an obvious dependence on alcohol or drugs to the more common but less visible addiction that we all have to sin.

We cannot stop the drowning waters of our addictive culture from rising, but we must at least see our reality for what it is, seek to properly detach from it, and build “a coral castle and learn to breathe under water.” The New Testament called it salvation or enlightenment, the twelve step program called it recovery.

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Covenant Membership Classes

(If these dates don't work for you see
the Pastor about an alternative date.)

Winter 2018:

Saturday, November 17

9a - 2p

Spring 2019:

Saturday, May 4

9a to 2p

In room 102, enter using the accessible door off the parking lot.

Lunch ordered in from a local restaurant.

Teacher: Pastor Keith Haithcock and others.

Topics include:

Introduction to St. John United Church of Christ, Statement of Faith, Spirituality, Baptism, Holy Communion, the Bible, What we believe, What does it mean to be a disciple, the six marks of discipleship, and more.



Becoming a member of the church is more than adding your name to a list. It is a matter of faith and promise (covenant) with a local faith community and the universal church. Attending class does not mean you must join. The class may help you see if you are ready for this step in your faith journey.

Registration deadline: Sunday before class date

Register by calling 859.261.2066, ext. 202; emailing:

Pastor@StJohnChurch.net; signing up at the Welcome Table; or using your Sunday Information Card.



Morning Prayer



Every Wednesday at 8a in the Sanctuary

Morning Prayer is a 30-minute period of
guided prayer, intercessory prayer,
meditation and silence
using *The Living Book of Daily Prayer*
(The Pilgrim Press) as a guide.

Accessible door off the parking lot is open at 7:45a
Please enter the Sanctuary quietly.
Begin your day with prayer.

If you would like to know more about this ministry
contact Pastor Keith at Pastor@StJohnChurch.net or
859.261.2066, ext. 202.

Weekly Bible Encounter

A Bible Study for Youth and Adults Sundays @ 9a - Room 102

The purpose of the Weekly Bible Encounter is to encounter the Bible through prayer, reading, study, scholarship and inquisitive community.

**No registration, no sign up, no commitment, no fee, no frills!
Attend when you are able.**

Let's face it, for most of us we would not read the Bible at all if we didn't have a plan. Well, here is your plan!



Led by a team of preachers, teachers, saints and sinners.

Invite a friend to come with you!

**Previous Bible knowledge or experience is not required.
Bibles are available.**

**Everyone: members, guests, friends, family, and neighbors
are always welcome.**