

Adult Discipleship @ FPC-Kingwood

Our Mission

To be a family of faith where people sense the presence of Christ, respond with passionate worship, embrace the power of personal discipleship and partner in God's mission to the world.

Our Vision

To equip the Body of Christ with intellectual tools
To understand the Bible and Reformed Theology
To grow in Grace leading to a greater maturity of faith
To boldly share the truth by means of evangelism and apologetics
To live more like Jesus Christ



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KINGWOOD

A Family of Faith - A Home for You.

How Can You Get Started?

At FPC-Kingwood, we encourage various learning settings:

Sunday School Classes

Wednesday Family Night Discipleship

Small Group Bible Study

Connections Classes

Personal Study

College & Online Courses

Church Pamphlets

Library Resources

We pray this guide will be helpful in your faith journey.

Please contact Mary Lee Irwin (marylee@fpc-kingwood.org) or
Phil Wagner (library@fpc-kingwood.org) if you would like help getting started.

**What Presbyterians Need to Know:
FPC-Kingwood Learning Streams**

**“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”
(Matthew 7:7-8)**

Bible Stream

The Bible is a library of books and different kinds of literature dedicated to a single purpose - to lead us closer to God. *Sola Scriptura* is an idea that Presbyterians have always believed in: All we need to know about God, He has revealed to us through the pages of Scripture. No study is more rewarding or beneficial than the study of God's Word.

The Origin & Nature of the Bible - The Bible originated in the mind of a God who wanted to reveal Himself to us and chose to do so by inspiring individuals across more than two millennia. Learn about:

- God's self-revelation
- The human authors of the Bible
- The timeline of the Bible
- How the Bible was written for you

The Books of the Bible - Each of the books of the Bible is unique. Each contains a unique perspective on God and holds unique truths to teach us. A correct interpretation depends on a correct understanding of the contents and the literary style of each book. Learn about:

- The Law
- The Historical Books
- Books of Poetry and Wisdom
- The Writings of the Prophets
- The Gospels
- The Acts of the Apostles and their Letters
- The Revelation

How to Read and Study the Bible - Reading the Bible is the beginning. Learning how to understand what you're reading is the task of interpretation. Seeing how the Scriptures apply to your life is the goal. And you can learn how to do all these things with the help of the Holy Spirit. Learn about:

- How to read the Bible
- The differences between the Translations
- How to interpret the Bible
- How to apply Scripture to our lives

History Stream

History for the community of faith happens within the context of universal history. Our Presbyterian beliefs are rooted in the historical truth, shaped by human history and experience. For a Christian, it is impossible to understand history without seeking to understand the influence of Jesus on history.

The Age of Jesus and the Apostles - What did it mean for God's new covenant community to be formulated and constituted in Biblical times and following the closing of the Canon. Learn about:

- The Old Testament world that Jesus knew
- Jesus and the Gospel: The Foundation of Christianity
- Acts of the Apostles

The Age of Catholic Christianity - Commissioned to carry the Good News to the ends of the earth, the early Church at times struggled for survival and later grew in influence. Learn about:

- Desert fathers
- Mystics
- Councils
- Orthodoxy
- Augustine
- Split of the Church into Eastern Orthodox and Western Roman Christianity

The Age of the Protestant Reformation - The Reformers paved the way for the creation of the modern Church and its rapid spread, including counter-reformations in what became the Roman Catholic and Anglican communions. Learn about:

- Martin Luther
- John Calvin
- Ulrich Zwingli
- John Knox and the Scottish Presbyterian Church

The Age of Presbyterianism in America - Presbyterian communities were formed in the Colonies. Methodism and Baptist traditions later grew alongside Presbyterians as America expanded westward. Presbyterians were at the heart of the modern missionary movement in this age, as well as various student movements. The American Civil War divided northern and southern Presbyterians. Learn about:

- Scots-Irish and Presbyterianism in the Colonies
- Francis Makemie - Father of American Presbyterianism
- The First American Presbytery and Synod
- Early Divisions
- Reunification
- PCUSA - Our Church today!

Theology Stream

The backbone of the Presbyterian faith tradition is its adherence to long-held theological truths taken straight from the Bible. In a real everyday sense, knowing is believing, and believing is defending and spreading our faith as Jesus would have us do.

Presbyterian Theology - Explore the foundational beliefs of our faith, answering age-old questions about how our spiritual world works – according to God's design. Learn about:

- The Nature of God and His Creation
- The Trinity – Father, Son & Holy Spirit
- Jesus Christ – Fully Human & Fully Divine
- Christ's Death, Resurrection & Salvation
- Heaven and Hell
- The Nature of Sin & Evil
- Ecclesiology – The Nature of Christ's Church
- Eschatology – The Prophecy of Things to Come
- TULIP – The 5 Principles of Calvinism
- Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion

Sources of Presbyterian Theology - Beyond the Bible, review the essential documents comprising our “faith encyclopedia,” the documents on which our Church and faith depend to provide all the answers. Learn about The Bible and Presbyterian Creeds and Confessions:

- The Nicene Creed
- The Apostles Creed
- The Scots Confession
- The Heidelberg Catechism
- The Second Helvetic Confession
- The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms
- The Theological Confession of Barmen
- The Confession of 1967
- A Brief Statement of Faith: PCUSA

Liturgical Theology of Worship - Reviews the intentional and orderly ways in which Presbyterians worship to reflect our deeply held theological and spiritual truths. Learn about:

- The Liturgy – Our Order of Worship
- The Sacraments – Baptism & Communion
- The Liturgical Calendar – Seasons of the Church

Apologetics, Defending our Faith - Understand the evidence for the truth of Christianity and the historicity of our Church. Grasp the tools – “the armor of God” in the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians – to defend our faith in our everyday walks.

Spiritual Formation Stream

A disciple is a believer in Christ who consciously seeks to build Jesus' spiritual habits into his or her life. Ten spiritual habits were central to Jesus' life and teaching. Learning these habits and learning *how* to practice them is what spiritual formation is all about. Learn about:

- **The Habit of Weekly Worship**
(Luke 4:16, Mark 1:21, Hebrews 10:24-25)
- **The Habit of Daily Prayer**
(Luke 11:1-13, Matthew 6:5-13, Ephesians 6:18)
- **The Habit of Daily Study in Scripture**
(Matthew 4:1-11, 5:17-20, Colossians 3:16)
- **The Habit of Belonging to a Small Group**
(Matthew 26:36, Mark 4:10, 6:31, Luke 5:29)
- **The Habit of Personal Involvement in God's Mission**
(Mark 1:35-39, Luke 4:16-21, John 12:20-28, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11)
- **The Habit of Invitational, Relational Evangelism**
(Matthew 9:11, John 4:9-10, Luke 18:18-26)
- **The Habit of Giving**
(Luke 6:38, 21:1-4, 1 Corinthians 9:6-12)
- **The Habit of Solitude**
(Matthew 14:13, Mark 6:31)
- **The Habit of Fasting**
(Matthew 4:1, 6:16-18, Mark 2:19-20, Acts 13:2)
- **The Habit of Love in Our Thoughts, Words and Deeds**
(John 13:34-35, Mark 12:28-31, Colossians 3:12-15, Hebrews 13:17)

Discipleship: Ready... Set... Grow... - IN CHRIST!