

2010/2011

Christian Formation



The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration



Christian Formation – 2010-2011

By Virginia Holleman

The Mission of the Adult Christian Formation program at Transfiguration is to provide opportunities for the Holy Spirit to transform adults - through study, prayer and fellowship – in order for us to better seek and serve Christ in all persons. Our Objective continues to be to provide opportunities for all parishioners to grow and develop our understanding of faith while we strive, both as individuals and as a Community of Faith, to challenge and alter our lives for God's service.

We are offering several areas of study for adults on Sunday Mornings.

THE BIBLE CLASS

This year promises to hold your attention as we begin, "Once Upon a Time" and learn more about our faith by listening to and engaging theologically with The Great Stories of the Old Testament.

THE EPISCOPALIAN CLASS

In The Episcopalian Class, we will continue our study of what it means to be an Episcopalian and Anglican and will take a in-depth look at Progressive Christianity, ending with lectures on Episcopal Identity and the Great Jewish Festivals.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Will offer a broad spectrum of classes from spirituality to cultural contexts and will include two classes on Sacred Music, one in the Fall and one in the Spring, as well as other classes to pique your interest. Both the Bible Class and Episcopal Class will have a team of teachers facilitating the presentation and discussion.

GOSPEL TAKE-OUT

As a lectionary Gospel class, "Gospel Take-Out" will discuss, in an informal setting, the week's Gospel reading and its relevance to today, while at the same time continuing to build community.

iPARENT & G.P.S.

iParent is a class which targets parents of young children and promises to be helpful, fun, and educational - with lots of community-building. We are introducing a new class this year, G.P.S. (Giving Parents Support) which will target parents of upper-elementary through high school and also promises to be both educational and community-building.

FAQ SESSIONS

Will attempt to answer those frequently asked questions – and even some you haven't asked and would like to – for visitors, new members and even those of us who have been around a while!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Our Director of Children's Ministries, Gaye Lynn Huddleston, continues the lectionary –based curriculum for our children ages 3 – 6th grade during the Christian Formation Hour. Also offered are two Godly Play classrooms, one for preschool – Kindergarten ages and one for early elementary ages. Various opportunities for age appropriate worship and learning are offered throughout the year for families.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jeb Honeyman, our Director of Youth Ministries, will continue with the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) curriculum for our

Youth and will offer a variety of activities throughout the year for our teenagers to gather as community to work, worship and play together.

Being formed as a Christian is a life-long endeavor; we believe what goes on in our classrooms is an essential part of that ongoing formation which is why your entire Christian Formation team – for children, youth and adults – is inviting you to join your friends - both old and new - on August 29 as we begin another exciting year of Christian Formation at Transfiguration!

See you at Rally Day – August 21 and 22 – to sign-up and receive more information.

Fall 2010	Aug. 29 – Oct. 6 <i>6 weeks</i>	Oct. 10 – Nov. 14 <i>6 weeks</i>	Nov. 21 – Dec. 12 <i>4 weeks</i>
Episcopalian Class <i>Vestry Room</i>	Living the Questions: Exploring Progressive Christianity		
Bible Class <i>Conference Room 1</i>	The Theology of "Once Upon a Time"		
The Bigger Picture Class <i>Staff Room</i>	Sacred Music: The Gothic Revolution <i>Mat Thekkil</i>	Mudhouse Sabbath <i>Marc Kivel</i>	Tilling and Keeping Your Own Garden of Eden <i>John Caldwell</i>
Lectionary Gospel Class <i>Parlor</i>	Gospel Take-Out <i>Ed Daley & Tom Hauser</i>		
FAQ's Class <i>Hospitality Room</i>	Frequently Asked Questions's <i>Welcoming Team</i>		
Parents' (of younger children) Class <i>Room S204</i>	iParent		
Parents' (of older children) Class <i>Large Conf. Room - Niles Bldg.</i>	G.P.S. Giving Parents Support		

Fall 2010 – 16 weeks, beginning August 29, ending December 12.

Spring 2011	Jan. 9 – Feb. 13 <i>6 weeks</i>	Feb. 20 – Mar. 27 <i>6 weeks</i>	Apr. 3 – May 8 <i>4 weeks</i>
Episcopalian Class <i>Vestry Room</i>	Living the Questions: Exploring Progressive Christianity	Episcopal Identity: The Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Episcopal Church <i>(ends March 20)</i>	The Festivals of Judaism <i>(begins March 27)</i>
Bible Class <i>Conference Room 1</i>	The Theology of "Once Upon a Time"		
The Bigger Picture Class <i>Staff Room</i>	Sacred Music: Palestrina & Popes <i>Mat Thekkil</i>	Title To Be Announced <i>Eric Gormley</i>	The Blessing Way <i>Marc Kivel</i>
Lectionary Gospel Class <i>Parlor</i>	Gospel Take-Out <i>Ed Daley & Tom Hauser</i>		
FAQ's Class <i>Hospitality Room</i>	Frequently Asked Questions's <i>Welcoming Team</i>		
Parents' (of younger children) Class <i>Room S204</i>	iParent		
Parents' (of older children) Class <i>Large Conf. Room - Niles Bldg.</i>	G.P.S. Giving Parents Support		

Spring 2011 – 16 weeks, beginning January 9, ending May 8. **(no classes on April 17, Palm Sunday or April 24, Easter).**

Adult Christian Formation —

THE EPISCOPAL CLASS *Class meets in the Vestry Room*

Living the Questions: Exploring Progressive Christianity *(Aug. 29 – Feb. 13)*

This is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity. It will be a 21 week series with a 20 minutes video of notable scholars and discussion by the participants along with handouts for further study.

Among those who contribute to this program are Walter Brueggemann, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenze, Diana Butler Bass, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Amy-Jill Levine, Brian McLaren, Helen Prejean and John Shelby Spong. Among the topics are Taking the Bible Seriously, Out into the World: Challenges facing Progressive Christians, The Prophet Jesus, The Myth of Redemptive Violence, Debunking the Rapture, Honoring Creation, Embracing Mystery.

*Led by Michael Merriman and
Small Group discussion leaders*

Episcopal Identity: The Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Episcopal Church *(Feb. 20 – Mar. 20)*

When candidates for ordination take their Oath of Conformity – I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and

worship of the Episcopal Church – what exactly are they committing to and what, as a result, can we expect of them. Where do we find the Doctrine, the Discipline, and the Worship? Explore what gives the Episcopal Church its particular identity and ethos in a series.

*Led by Michael Merriman,
Jerry D. Godwin, and others*

The Festivals of Judaism *(Mar. 27 – May 1)*

When we read the Christian Scriptures, especially the Gospels, we often find Jesus present at and taking part in the festivals of Judaism. Jesus celebrated the rituals and traditions of his Jewish faith. These holidays/holidays remind the Jewish people of their historical and current relationship with G-d, serve as their shared communal memory, and are formative...These festivals by which the Jewish people remember and participate in the great events of their history and current life with God, also became formative for much of what Christians do in our liturgical life (though, sadly, much of Christianity has lost touch with an awareness of Christianity's Jewish roots, and the importance of recovering that awareness). Lainey Grace and Harriet Cohen are a Jewish/Christian family who share in each other's traditions. They will help us explore the historic and Biblical meanings of the festivals and contemporary ways of celebrating them. This is a five-week course beginning Sunday, March 27.

*Led by Lainey Grace and
Harriet Cohen*

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Class will meet in Conference Room 2

This class will have the more familiar structure of past years with several short courses offered by a variety of teachers. We call it The Bigger Picture because we think that Transfiguration looks well beyond the narrow confines of many in our denomination and even the Christian faith. So we will look at some of the issues that challenge us as Christians and modern-day people today as well as spiritual tools both old and new.

Sacred Music: The Gothic Revolution Part 1 of 4

– Mat Thekkil

The Sacred Music series of classes will explore the history of early Sacred Music in the church. We will follow the presentation of topics found in the BBC series: "Sacred Music." The course will combine video presentation and live lecture/discussion. In this first of four parts, we will explore the early history of Sacred Music in Medieval Europe and the birth of polyphony. Topics will include: Plainsong and early polyphony, the contribution of architecture and mathematics to early music, early attempts to transcribe and teach music, contributions of musicians/artists of the period who would lay the foundation for further musical study. There may also be an optional Practicum section, to be held on a weeknight, to explore some topics further using practical demonstrations and experiments.

Mudhouse Sabbath

– Marc Kivel

How does an Orthodox Jew by birth who becomes a follower of Jesus deal with the cultural divide between the two faith communities? How does a person take the meaningful spiritual practices of her youth and make them fit in her new spiritual home? Come join another Jew who has taken the walk to Emmaus, and, using Laurel Winner's book, Mudhouse Sabbath, consider some new ways of deepening your walk in the footsteps of Jesus in light of Jewish traditions.

Classes for Sunday Morning

Tilling and Keeping Your Own Garden of Eden

— John Caldwell

“The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15). Perhaps God didn’t mean for us to do that with chemicals! Learn how to grow delicious, pesticide-free vegetables with very little work. Learn how to easily turn an area of your lawn into a productive garden. Learn how to turn your kitchen waste into compost that will enrich your garden soil, for free! John teaches a Vegetable Gardening class for the City of Plano and will be discussing what he has learned over the past 20+ years. We will tour the Fig Garden and harvest available produce.

Sacred Music: Palestrina and the Popes Part 2 of 4

— Mat Thekkil

The Sacred Music class continues with an examination of the influence of the Catholic Church and the High Renaissance on early sacred music. Part 2 will have a special focus on the life/music of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. Topics will include: the influence of the Catholic Church on the development of sacred music, the “Problem of Polyphony,” extensive study of the life/contributions of Palestrina, examination of the effect of the art and architecture of the High Renaissance (in Italy) on sacred music, the influence of the Counter-Reformation. Like Part 1, this class may also have an optional Practicum section that would be held during a weeknight.

The Blessing Way

— Marc Kivel

One of the most important and least understood spiritual practices available to Christians is the use of blessings to sanctify every moment of life. In this course participants will explore the Judaic roots of blessings, learn classic formulas for blessings of everyday events, and craft blessings of their own which speak to their encounter with God in daily living. A workbook will be available for participants prior to the class.

BIBLE CLASS: THE THEOLOGY OF “ONCE UPON A TIME,” A THEOLOGICAL APPROACH TO THE GREAT STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Class meets in Conference Room 1

As children, one of the best things we could ever hear from parents began “Once upon a time...” We learn our faith by listening to the stories of Adam and Eve, of Noah, Rachel, Esther, Susanna and others from the Old Testament, of Jesus and John and Peter and Paul and Mary...we even have feast days named for particular stories. Our class this year will look at many of the great stories from the Old Testament or Hebrew Scriptures. What do these stories tell us about God and God’s relationship to humankind when they were written? More importantly, what do these stories tell us about God

and God’s relationship to us NOW? There is more than the fact they are great stories that keeps us coming back to them year after year. What is there in Jacob that we see in ourselves? Or Joseph? Or Job? Esther, Deborah or Ruth? Come and meet our spiritual ancestors and together we will learn more about ourselves and our relationship to God. Theology, “God-talk” if you will, covers the entire range of issues concerning our relationship to God – and this class will too! *Class will be facilitated by Elaine Culver, Richard Harmon, Virginia Holleman, Alan Justice and Larry Nobles*

GOSPEL TAKE-OUT

Class meets in the Parlor

This is a class for newcomers as well as long time members! We spend time reflecting on the Gospel lesson of the day and getting to know each other in an informal atmosphere of sharing our stories as they pertain to the

Gospel while listening for relevance to take away with us to use during the coming week. We meet in the parlor each Sunday at 10:15 in an atmosphere of Christian community. *Our hosts are Ed Daley and Tom Hauser*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Class meets in the Hospitality Room

Transfiguration’s Welcome Ministry offers Sunday Morning class! The informal F-A-Q sessions will be held on Sunday mornings during Christian Formation time. This class is for anyone interested in knowing more about the many ministry opportunities available at Transfiguration and will be especially informative for visitors and

newcomers as well as long time members. It will also be a wonderful opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners and ask questions you may have about the Episcopal Church and/or Transfiguration. As part of this class we will offer tours of Transfiguration’s buildings and works of art on the fourth Sunday of every month.

iPARENT

This class is for parents of babies through early elementary and meets in the iParent Room, S204

Connect with a community of traditional and non-traditional parents in the midst of raising young kids in today’s information age. Worship, learn, share and grow together as we navigate and understand our roles as parents. Weekly Sunday morning format

includes a rotation of iParent and clergy-led topics, breakfasts, open chat time and special guest speakers. In addition, several parent-centered social gatherings will be planned throughout the year.

G.P.S. (GIVING PARENTS SUPPORT)

This class is for parents of upper elementary through high school - meets in the Large Conference Room in the Niles Building

Navigate with fellow travelers in the uncharted and often confusing time through the tween and teen years. The weekly format alternates between topics to facilitate our children and ourselves through the emotional, physical and spiritual develop-

ment changes of youth. Special guest speakers will include clergy, professionals with an expertise in youth development issues, and every month we will take time to get to know each other better and enhance our own spiritual growth.

Jesus in the Gospels

Led by Kris & Weber Baker

Jesus in the Gospels is a second generation Disciple Bible Studies class, invites believers to look at Jesus in each of the four Gospels and ask the question, "Who is the Jesus that you see?" This study will deepen discipleship through better understanding of the biblical texts and their message. This study looks at the way each Gospel writer presents events and teachings and at the picture of Jesus that emerges in each of the Gospels. JESUS IN THE GOSPELS is different from DISCIPLE

Bible study in its approach to Scripture; it looks more closely at the Gospel texts, in the kind of daily preparation and study required of the participants, in lesson layout and design, and in the nature of the study and discussion that takes place in the weekly group meeting. Completing Disciple I, "Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study," is a requirement. Information meeting for day, time and start-date will be in mid-September; watch the Blue Notices for further details.

How Then, Shall We Live? Four Simple Questions that Reveal the Beauty and Meaning of Our Lives

Led by Virginia Holleman

We all long to experience a sense of inner wholeness and guidance, to live a life of meaning, purpose and grace. How do we do this? Using Wayne Muller's book, we will look at four basic questions that shape our lives: Who Am I? What Do I Love? How Shall I Live, Knowing I Will Die? What Is My Gift to the Family of the Earth? In our time together we will explore how we can grow beyond our confusions and limitations and find the wise and ready spiritual guide that is alive in all of us. In the introduction, the author tells us, "In this book I offer these questions as contemplations, something to hold in the hand as we walk, something to feel in the heart as we live our daily lives. They enable us to gently awaken the four fundamental realms of the inner life: Identity, Love, Daily Practice, and Kindness." Join us Tuesday mornings from 10:00 until

11:30 a.m. in the Vestry Room of the South Building, beginning September 7 through May 10. The book will be available in our Kay Andrews Bookstore.



Wayne Muller

Education for Ministry (EFM)

Mentored by Elizabeth Lang

The EfM program provides people with the education to carry out the ministry each of us is called to through our baptism. Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program which covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy and theology. Students of all four years meet together regularly for nine months, once a week for three hours. The fee for each year is \$350. This class will meet in the Staff Room in the South Building from 6:30 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday nights, beginning September 13.

If you are interested in joining the group this year, please fill out an application and return it, with your check, to Virginia Holleman (in the church office) no later than August 26. If you are interested in considering the group for next year (2011-2012), please sign-up too.

The Rector's Lenten Series

Led by J. D. Godwin

Wednesday nights during Lent, beginning March 4. Holy Eucharist at 6:00 p.m. in the Church, followed by a light supper and program (topic to be determined) in Roper Hall.

Classes for Afternoon & Evening

Seeing the Face of God in Each Other

Workshop led by Dick Kerner

This workshop will give us an excellent opportunity to explore what racism is and is not; to examine our own attitudes toward racism; to understand white privilege and power; to understand the relationship between our Christian faith and racism; and to arrive at a model for the inclusion of all persons into the body of Christ. Join us on Saturday, March 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in Roper Hall. A light snack will be provided.



The Sacred Path Companion

Led by Nancy Jagmin

The six-week small group will study *The Sacred Path Companion*, an interactive workbook centered on using the labyrinth for personal reflection and transformation. The book is written by Lauren Artress, author of *Walking a Sacred Path*, and a guiding force in the re-birth of the labyrinth as a spiritual tool. The book offers exercises, suggestions, and meditations aimed at topics such as the art of labyrinth walking, the lessons of the labyrinth, and using the labyrinth for healing and transformation. *The study will be facilitated by Nancy Jagmin, starting soon after the New Year; exact date, time and place to be announced.*

The Way

Catechesis for Church Membership:
Adult Baptism, Confirmation, Reception 2010-2011*

Led by Michael Merriman

Are you in one of these categories?

- Adults who have not been baptized
- Baptized Adults who have not been confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church
- Confirmed Adults who wish to deepen their commitment to Christian believing and practice

Then this series is for you. It consists of the following Stages:

Stage One

INQUIRY Seven weeks in a program called *“Connect? What it means to be part of a Eucharistic Community.”* It explores how Episcopalians approach the Bible, Worship, Prayer, Ministry and Church membership.
Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. August 23 through October 4.

A three week break follows, then:

Stage Two

FORMATION Twelve weeks learning how Episcopalians are called to live into their commitment to God and God’s Church. We will use a program called *“Commit? What it would mean to live more deeply into my Baptismal Covenant.”*

Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. November 1, 8, 15, 29, December 6, 13.

A break for Christmas, then continuing January 10 through February 21 and ending with a Retreat on March 4 & 5

Stage Three

PREPARATION for the Rites of Christian Initiation (Baptism) and of Confirmation/Reception. This takes place along with the rest of the parish in the Lenten Wednesday night programs: *March 16 through April 13.*

Please Note: The meeting nights previously announced as Thursday's have been changed to Monday's.

**We call on all current members of Transfiguration to begin inviting people to be part of this series (speak to those you know who are new to our parish, especially those who have not been baptized or confirmed). Consider strongly taking part in order to make a formal Reaffirmation of your Baptism at the Confirmation service.*

Volunteer to support by your presence some or all of these stages by contacting Michael Merriman at mmerriman@transfiguration.net or 972-233-1898, extension 237.

Children's Ministry

By Gaye Lynn Huddleston

We offer a comprehensive Christian Education program for children ages three through sixth grade. The curriculum for each age group is designed to provide children not only with knowledge, but also with a sense of belonging and of the love of God. All children under age three are cared for by our trained and loving paid childcare staff. The nursery is available from 8:45 a.m. through the 11:15 a.m. service each Sunday morning. Parents must remain on the Transfiguration campus while their children are in the church nursery.

Traditional Christian Formation, as well as two Godly Play classrooms are offered at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays for children ages three and up. Both Godly Play rooms and one traditional preschool class meet in the childcare wing off the north transept.

Preschool through grade 6 use materials that cover both faith and practice and are designed to start children on the path to a lifelong spiritual journey. In the fall, the first grade class studies a special unit during the formation hour that prepares them for First Informed Communion. In January, each third grade student is presented with a Bible during the 9:00 a.m. service.

Our second Godly Play classroom, located in the Childcare wing, will open this school year. Godly Play teaches children the art of using religious language - parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action - in the Montessori Method. Registration for this class is required and attendance will be limited. Godly Play 1 is for preschool - kindergarten students and Godly Play 2 is for children in grades 1-3.

Children's Chapel is offered during the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday services. Chapel is designed for those too old for nursery care, but too young to fully appreciate the

full service in the Nave. Children accompany their parents to the Nave for the beginning of the worship service, then follow the cross and priest to Children's Chapel during the Song of Praise. Our Children's Chapel service, led by a priest, reflects the service in the Nave. Children gather to hear the Gospel, sing, say the Creed and share Prayers of the People. An opportunity for an art response follows. They are escorted back to their parents during the Offertory hymn.

Various other opportunities for community building, family activities centered on the liturgical calendar are offered throughout the year.



Youth Ministry

By Jeb Honeyman

Our church has a deep passion for youth. We know that the passion energy, and wonder with which they wrestle with their faith are invaluable to the life and ministry of our church. The Transfiguration Youth Ministry seeks to cultivate these gifts in our young people through effective relationships, participation in worship, Biblical exploration, service to the community and the world, and Christian Formation. The format we use for Christian Formation is called Journey to Adulthood, and we believe it to be the most comprehensive and useful tool available.

Journey to Adulthood

The Journey to Adulthood is a complete youth ministry program of spiritual formation for Middle and High School students. It uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries, and both serious and playful activities to underscore two guiding principles:

1. Manhood and womanhood are free gifts from God.

2. Adulthood must be earned.

There are three, two-year segments of the program:

Rite-13: The first two years (graduating classes of 2014 and 2015) focus on celebrating the individuality of each young person and their creative potential. The Rite 13 Liturgy is the community expression of this and a rite of passage from childhood towards adulthood. **Because we're in the second year of this program, Rite 13 is comprised of current 8th and 9th graders.** For 7th graders entering our program (graduating class of 2016), you will have your own class within the Youth Ministry until next year when the class of 2017 joins the group.

J2A: The middle portion of the program (classes of 2012 and 2013) engages youth with the skills and critical thinking involved in adulthood. The youth plan and embark on a pilgrimage together at the end of this segment (Summer of 2011 to

Scotland). This experience is often the spiritual highlight of their youth.

YAC: This is a mentor-based program that helps older teens (class of 2011) discern and carry out a ministry within their church or in the larger community. Vocation and development of a personal credo are also emphasized. A final rite of passage sends them out into the world as ambassadors of Christ.

You can find this information and much more at www.transfigurationyouth.net We also send out a weekly newsletter to keep you apprised of everything going on in the youth ministry. If you'd like to receive the newsletter, please send your email address to jhoneyman@transfiguration.net Please don't hesitate to use the above email to contact me at any time with any questions you have.

Meet the Instructors for Adult Christian Formation

Kris Baker holds a Master of Music degree from the University of North Texas, and is an adjunct faculty member at Brookhaven College. She is a life professed member of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis. Kris has written two books on praying with the Anglican rosary and curricula on spiritual formation and prayer. She is active with the Labyrinth Ministry and sings with the Transfiguration choir.

Weber Baker holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of North Texas, and teaches computers at Vivian Field Middle School. He is beginning the formation process for becoming a member of the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis. He is active with the Transfiguration Labyrinth Ministry.

John Caldwell has been gardening in the black Texas clay for over 20 years. His best harvest was 560 pounds of red bell peppers, Roma tomatoes, eggplant, cucumbers and figs. John's gardens are designed to be highly productive with very little work. John helped co-ordinate the Fig Garden in the NW corner of our property. The large, wooden box by our garden is a compost bin for the flowers that used to be on our altar. John will talk about 20+ years of gardening and composting.

Elaine Culver has many favorite things in life, and one of those is a good story. She has been known to stay up much too late, unable to put down a novel and go to sleep at a decent hour. Some especially fascinating stories are found in the Hebrew Scriptures, and Elaine, a student at Perkins School of Theology, enjoys reading and translating them. She looks forward to reading and sharing some of these stories with the Bible Class this coming year.

Ed Daley is a self-described "recovering Roman Catholic" who was received by the Episcopal Church in 1995. He was very involved with Episcopal Cursillo, having served four teams, and serving on the Board and as the Lay Director of Cursillo for the Dioceses of Dallas and Fort Worth for five years. Ed conceived and imple-

mented the format of *Gospel Take-Out* at St. Anne in DeSoto, serving as class leader for three years.

Joy Daley received her Master of Divinity from Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in 2001. She also has her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology and worked as a licensed counselor in various settings prior to ordination. As Vicar at Transfiguration, she assists the rector administratively and also oversees pastoral care and outreach ministries.

J.D. Godwin has been Rector of Transfiguration since July 2000, and was parish Vicar from 1982 until 2000. He served congregations in West Des Moines and Perry, Iowa before coming to Transfiguration. From 1976 through 1985, he served the National Church on the Standing Committee on Church Music which produced *The Hymnal 1982*. His passions include liturgy that is "formal without being stuffy," inclusive hospitality, and generous outreach.

Lainey Grace is a nurse massage therapist, artist and spiritual director. She studied spiritual direction with The Rev. Dr. John Westerhoff and is also a graduate of the Education for Ministry Program of the University of the South School of Theology. She has a particular interest in the power of art and creative expression to facilitate healing, personal transformation and to deepen spiritual experience.

Richard Harmon received his doctorate in Philosophy of Religion from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth and was a professor of New Testament at the Anglican School of Theology for 15 years. He was a coordinator for the Bible Study Curriculum at the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Church and has also worked to enhance dialogue between the Baptist and Roman Catholic Churches.

Tom Hauser received his Masters in Theological Studies in 1975 and his Master in Sacred Theology in 1976 from Notre Dame Graduate School of Theology. After

some time in ministry, he worked for 16 years as a leader in the post-secondary Career Education field, serving as the President of the Art Institute of Dallas and then as a Vice-President of Texans Can!, a dropout recovery program for at-risk youth. Tom admires Transfiguration's openness to new ideas and its commitment to diversity and gospel values that truly make a difference.

Virginia Holleman received her Master of Divinity degree from the Perkins School of Theology at SMU. As Assistant to the Rector at Transfiguration, she focuses her time and energies on adult Christian Formation, spiritual formation, and peace and justice issues. Virginia is passionate about the Old Testament prophets and their call "to do justice and love kindness" (Micah 6:8), and she loves the epistle writer Paul because of his passion for Jesus Christ.

Nancy Jagmin has experience with leadership training and group facilitation, both at Frito-Lay and as part of her own consulting practice. She is a certified labyrinth facilitator and currently co-leads the Fig Labyrinth Ministry. Nancy has completed four years of Disciple Bible Study. She holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology from the University of Maryland and a Graduate Certificate in Dispute Resolution from SMU.

Dick Kerner is a long-time member of Transfiguration, active in both our Peace & Justice Ministry and our Outreach Committee as well as the Diocesan Outreach Committee. He is an active member of several national Episcopal peace and justice advocacy groups including chairing the Province VII Anti-Racism Committee. Dick has been both a member and leader for Transfiguration's Honduras Mission team.

Marc Kivel has studied rabbinics in a Jerusalem yeshiva, lived in a Hasidic community, walked in knee-deep water through Hezekiah's tunnel, prayed in houses of study at sunrise. He collects hand-thrown pots for what they contain and photos of ancient doors and windows for what they

Continued on page 10

Instructors

Continued from page 9

frame. Teacher, scholar, storyteller and sometime mystic, Marc brings a wonderful dimension to our studies.

Elizabeth Lang will be the mentor for our Education for Ministry class. She has mentored EfM groups in the Dallas area for over 20 years and has served as a mentor trainer for the program as well. Her undergraduate degree is from Mount Holyoke College and her Masters degrees and PhD are from Cornell University.

Michael Merriman is an associate priest at the Church of the Transfiguration. He has been active in liturgical renewal in the

Anglican Communion for many years. He is the author of *The People's Work* which is included in our parish's service leaflets each week, editor and contributor to *The Baptismal Mystery* and the *Catechuminate*, and a one time member of the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.

Larry Nobles, ObjN, received his M.S. degree in Counseling from East Texas State University and an M.A. in Sacred Theology from the University of Dallas. He was the Dean of Students and Professor of Spiritual Theology at The Anglican School of Theology from which he re-

ceived the Licentiate in Spiritual Theology and Direction and the Diploma in Ministry. He is an Oblate of the Order of Julian of Norwich.

Mat Thekkil has been a member of Transfiguration since 2003 and is one of the founding members of neXtgen. Mat's interest in Sacred Music grew during his time at the Fig and his tenure in the Transfiguration Choir. Continuing education and teaching are active interests of Mat's: he teaches Organic and General Chemistry for The Princeton Review and is a graduate student at UT-Dallas.



The Episcopal Church of the
TRANSFIGURATION

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