

“**Holy,**  
holy, holy  
is the **Lord** God  
**Almighty,**  
who was,  
**and is, and is**  
**to come.”**

Revelation 4:8

LA CASA DE CRISTO  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ADULT EDUCATION  
WINTER/SPRING/SUMMER 2012

WINTER SESSION I  
JANUARY 8 - FEBRUARY 12  
SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:15AM

PRAYER COACH: FOR ALL WHO WANT TO GET OFF  
THE BENCH AND INTO THE PRAYING FIELD

Need to get your prayer life into shape? Maybe you have no prayer life at all, and aren't sure where to start. In *Prayer Coach*, author James L. Nicodem, gives you the encouragement and insight you need to start and continue a healthy and passionate prayer life. Learn how to establish times and routines for prayer, follow the Spirit's promptings and more. This course will discuss the obstacles to prayer and then offer practical suggestions and basic principles on how to strengthen this spiritual discipline. **Dan Mangelsdorf** will facilitate this **7 week** class. The book cost is \$12.

CHRISTIANITY IN CRISIS: WHAT DO WE REALLY  
BELIEVE?

The faith was under attack, both from within and without. The attackers were persuasive and influential. The church leaders were disorganized and couldn't agree with each other. Factions were forming and heading off in their own directions. When did this happen? Would you believe less than one generation after Jesus ascended to Heaven? How did the faith survive? Come to this **6 week** class taught by **Elliott Gappinger** and find out!

PSALM 51

Join **Don Stevens** for a whole new perspective on Psalm 51, especially verses 10-12. We say these words every week in the offertory, but do we really understand the importance of these six lines? Join us to find out. It is sure to give you a new perspective on our relationship and dependence on God. This class will meet for **6 weeks**.

## SUNDAY MORNING AT 10:30AM

### A FIRST CENTURY LOOK AT LUKE 15

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is the best known and perhaps the least understood of all the stories told by Jesus. After two centuries of reflection by countless readers, can this great parable offer us refreshing insights about its three characters? Has the understanding of those insights changed over the centuries because of changing culture? Timothy Keller's recent book, *The Prodigal God*, will be a launching pad for class discussion, personal reflection, and application of the parable's message to everyday life. Join **Pastor Arne Markland** in a look-see at this amazing story. The class will be **6 weeks** long. The cost of the book is \$10.

### THE CHRISTIAN ATHEIST

Do you believe in God but still worry all the time? Do you believe in God but are ashamed of your past, or not sure he loves you? Do you believe in God but not in the power of prayer? Come join **Pastor Jeff Ruby** for this **5 week** class as we explore Craig Groeschel's book *The Christian Atheist*. Why do so many of us live lives where we profess Jesus as Lord, but act like we don't believe he exists? Craig Groeschel is the founding pastor of Lifechurch.tv, a multi-campus church with eighty weekly worship services in fourteen locations. If you have questions about your faith life, want to unleash the Holy Spirit, or are struggling in your faith journey, this is for you! Cost for the book is \$10.

### GRACE-BASED PARENTING: BUILDING CHARACTER

The second course in this series will help parents raise kids who turn out right by building character into their hearts. *Grace Based Parenting* shows moms and dads how to love their kids the way God loves his – with grace! It gives parents a realistic job description for raising spiritually strong children who grow up with a sense of calm and a heart full of purpose and hope. You will learn how to 1) raise kids who can thrive in a hostile culture; 2) instill the six most critical character traits that a child needs to turn out right; 3) prepare kids to face the biggest challenges of life; 4) maximize the potential of your children's future; and 5) learn to create designed dilemmas to build your child's character.

**Neil Gatten** and **Amy Anderson** will lead this course for **5 weeks**. Participant's workbook for the class is \$8; and the optional book, *Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right*, is \$8.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION  
FEBRUARY 19,  
SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:15 & 10:30  
COPING IN FAITH: STRESS, ANXIETY AND  
DEPRESSION

Sunday, February 19, 2012, will be a special Sunday as La Casa de Cristo presents *Coping in Faith: Stress, Anxiety, and Depression*. Watch for details on special classes that day and a special emphasis in worship!

WINTER SESSION II  
FEBRUARY 26 - APRIL 1  
SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:15 AND 10:30  
JOHN'S VISION ... OUR HOPE: A STUDY OF REVELATION

Lent 2012 will provide many opportunities to delve into this last book of the Bible!

† **Read the Book of Revelation** a few chapters each week. In the Lenten study booklet available in January, there will be a section that explains some of the terms and symbols that you will encounter in your reading.

† **Use the daily devotions** based on the themes of Revelation for your time with the Lord each day. The devotions, written by **Pastor Carol Peters**, will also be included in the Lenten study book. In addition, **special activities for families**, prepared by **Amy Anderson** and based on the daily topics, have been included. The weekly themes are:

Week 1: God and the Lamb	Week 4: Values and Virtues
Week 2: Saints and Servants	Week 5: War and Victory
Week 3: Worship and Praise	Week 6: Hopes and Promises

† **Join a small group!** The small groups will look at some of the ways the weekly themes from Revelation impact our lives today. There will be day and evening groups as well as groups meeting on Sunday mornings so you will be certain to find one for your schedule.

† Come to the **midweek Lenten services** during which we will be looking at the seven churches and the letters the Lord sent to them.

† Sign up for the **Monday night Bible study**, taught by **Pastor Peters**, which will examine Revelation chapter by chapter.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 22!

SPRING SESSION I  
APRIL 15 - MAY 20  
SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:15

## THE ME I WANT TO BE: BECOMING GOD'S BEST VISION OF YOU

Discover the great task—and joy—of becoming God's best version of you! Best-selling author and Pastor John Ortberg, explains that Christ's vision for each of us is to grow spiritually toward a life in which his Spirit flows like a river – and assures us that this is God's project, not our own. But if God has a perfect vision for your life, why does spiritual growth seem so difficult? John Ortberg has some intriguing answers to that question, and he has organized his thoughts and God's words into a straightforward and timely guide for living your best life. You will discover how to gauge your spiritual health and measure the gap between where you are now and where God intends you to be. Spiritual Growth can be challenging, however, Ortberg makes it FUN and interactive. **Mike Thomas** will facilitate this **5 week** class. Cost for the Participant's Guide is \$8 and the optional book *The Me I Want to Be* is \$11.

## GOD'S STORY, YOUR STORY

Do you ever wonder if there is a cohesive storyline to the chaos, confusion, and clutter of your daily life? In this **6 session** video study, based on Max Lucado's new book of the same title, you will see how the story of God's eternal redemption continues to be told through your individual story right now. You will discover how the ancient stories of Scripture reveal God's plan for you today. As Max says, "Above and around us God directs a grander saga, written by his hand, orchestrated by his will, unveiled according to his calendar. And you are a part of it." Join us to see what your life looks like when God's story becomes your story. **Pastor Steve Theil** will lead this class. Cost for the Participant's Guide is \$10; and the optional book *God's Story, Your Story* is \$13.

## THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

*And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.* - Revelation 21:4

This course is based on a video course by Anne Graham Lotz and the book *Heaven Your Real Home* by Joni Eareckson Tada. Truth from God's Word, including John's glorious description of heaven, will take away any fear of death and fill one with hope for the future. **Glen and Tricia Roth** will facilitate this **6 week** class.

## SUNDAY MORNING AT 10:30

### GOD PROVIDES

Throughout history, people have wrestled with the concept of trusting God to meet their needs versus relying on their own efforts, other people, money, or other things society has to offer.

This course, led by **Tom Bettcher**, will focus on stirring accounts and parables found in the Bible that reveal how God wants to be our provider above anything else. In each session of this **6 week** class you will view a theater-quality, epic short film that will inspire you by presenting wisdom, truth, encouragement and practical steps you can take to develop and deepen a relationship of trust with God. The companion workbook is \$6.

### BE SATISFIED (ECCLESIASTES): LOOKING FOR THE ANSWER FOR THE MEANING OF LIFE

*Be Satisfied* by Warren Wiersbe has the objective of helping us enjoy life amid its uncertainties. This book is a treatise on Ecclesiastes which dives into crucial questions of King Solomon about life mysteries and perplexities. We will discuss questions Solomon asks such as:

- † Is life a prison?
- † Can we break out?
- † Who can explain life's inconsistencies such as why do the wicked prosper while the good struggle?
- † Why doesn't money solve our problems?
- † Since we all die anyway, why don't we eat, drink, and be merry?

The author does a nice job of breaking Ecclesiastes down into meaningful sections that make a lot of sense for the Christian. Join **Greg Erdmann** for this **6 week** class. The book cost is \$10.

### C.S. LEWIS: *MIRACLES*

C. S. Lewis provides interesting insights into tensions that sometimes exist between science and faith in his book *Miracles*, first published in 1947 and revised in 1960. He made a reasoned case for the existence of God and the supernatural. This class will explore Lewis' thinking in this area and the issues he raises. **Peter Faur** will lead this **6 week** class. The cost of the book is \$9.

SUMMER SESSION I  
JUNE 3-24  
SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:15

A STUDY OF LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

This **4 week** class will reinforce the Lutheran traditions of reverence for God's Word, faithfulness in worship, and understanding of Martin Luther's Small Catechism. Luther wrote the Small Catechism for adults to use in their own faith development and as a tool for helping them teach the young. He took five key elements from historical Christian experience (the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism and the Lord's Supper), and turned them into educational experiences. This course will be taught by **Jeanna Kozak**, who is a member of La Casa for 7 years and a graduate student at Fuller Seminary Southwest, doing her internship here at La Casa through August and planning to minister upon graduation as a hospital chaplain.

WEEKDAY CLASSES  
SUNDAY/MONDAY EVENING AT 7:00

SITES FOR THE EARLY CHURCH  
JANUARY 16 & 22; FEBRUARY 6 & 13

This class will be looking at the sites of the earlier church where Paul, John, and others passed on the Gospel. These sites will also be the itinerary of the trip that **Pastor Lloyd Wallace** and **Pastor Andy Garman** are leading in April. The class is not limited to those going on the trip and you are welcome to attend to learn about the sites Paul, John, and the disciples visited.

FEBRUARY 27 - APRIL 2  
MONDAY EVENING AT 7:00

REVELATION

Each week during Lent, members will be encouraged to read three to four chapters of Revelation along with a brief commentary prepared by **Pastor Carol Peters**. A special Bible study offered each Monday night during Lent (February 27 - April 2) from 7:00 to 8:00 PM will examine the weekly readings in more depth. This class will also look at various interpretations of the biblical passages and symbols and vivid imagery. Bible "beginners" and long-time students of Scripture are all invited to this class. **Pastor Peters** will be the facilitator.

MARCH 6 - APRIL 24  
TUESDAY MORNING & EVENING AT 10:00AM & 6:00PM

### GRIEF SUPPORT

Grief is the internal response to loss, and mourning is the external process of working through the loss. This support group provides:

- † understanding of the grief process,
- † information on managing your grief;
- † information from surviving to transcending your grief.

Informational materials and the book, *Finding Your Way Through Grief: A Guide for the First Year*, by Marty Tousley, will be distributed at the first session. This **8 week** support group will meet both in the morning at 10:00 AM and evening at 6:00 PM for 1 ½ hours. **Susan Bettcher** will facilitate these groups.

JANUARY 3 - APRIL 3  
TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:30 OR 7:00

### THE TRUTH PROJECT

*The Truth Project* is an in-depth DVD-based curriculum comprised of 13 one hour lessons followed by group discussion. This study is the starting point for looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

This study will cause a transformation to occur within your hearts and minds as you build a comprehensive and systematic biblical worldview. This happens because you are continually pointed to the character of God and his truth claims for all of life.

Two small groups will be offered this winter in the homes of members of La Casa de Cristo. Both groups will meet on Tuesday night.

GROUP 1            Home of Larry and Karen Lommen  
January 3 – March 27, 2012  
6:30 – 8:30 PM  
All ages of adults are invited

GROUP 2            Home of Don and Jan Richardson  
January 3 – April 3, 2012  
7:00 – 9:00 PM  
College age and career adults are invited

Throughout Christianity, God has called ordinary people to make an eternal difference in our world. If you have the heart to see a change within the church and your life, please consider attending!

JANUARY 10 - MAY 1  
TUESDAY EVENING AT 7:00

PRECEPTS BIBLE STUDY  
THE BOOK OF MATTHEW

Who is the promised Messiah, the King who will sit on the throne of David? What is the kingdom? What is the character and lifestyle of those who are a part of this kingdom? Matthew answers these questions and brings you face to face with the long awaited Jewish Messiah.

When Jesus came, did people receive Him as the promised Messiah? What did they say about his miracles and His teaching? What caused them to call for His crucifixion? He says He is coming back. If He came today, would people recognize Him? As you study, you will gain a deeper understanding of the resurrection and its power in your life. Then take up the challenge to share the gospel with others.

**Suzanne Viehmann** will lead this **16 week** study. The cost for two workbooks is \$35.

JANUARY 5 - APRIL 26  
THURSDAY MORNING AT 9:30

PRECEPTS BIBLE STUDY  
THE BOOK OF MATTHEW

See description for Tuesday evening.

JANUARY 5 - MAY 10  
THURSDAY MORNING AT 10:00

### PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Join **Pastor Andy Garman** as he continues this popular Bible study class. New students, visitors, and "beginners to Bible study" are welcome at any time. This session will resume with a study of a book of the New Testament. The study will continue until Lent, and then class participants will join the all-congregation Lenten journey *John's Vision . . . Our Hope: A Study of Revelation*. The Bible study will begin again after Easter. Come to gain more insight into God's Word so it can enrich your life and encourage you in your everyday living.

FEBRUARY 4 & 11  
SATURDAY MORNING AT 8:30

### BIBLE BASICS

This class will take you through the history of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. There is no homework and no group discussion, but you are welcome to study and question as much as you want. This class is meant to give you the broad scope of the Bible so you will feel comfortable in any future studies that you would like to attend. **Nancy Butters** will teach this **2 session** class. The book cost is \$2. (You may sign up for one or both classes.)

### OLD TESTAMENT BASICS

FEBRUARY 4: 8:30AM - 12:30PM

Who came first, Abraham or Moses? What are all the prophets talking about? Who said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord?" Come and find the answers to these and many more questions as we go through a quick overview of the Old Testament and explain how it all fits together.

### NEW TESTAMENT BASICS

FEBRUARY 11: 8:30AM - 12:30PM

What makes the Testament new? What is a Testament? What is an Ephesian? Who are the Mary's and Herod's? What is the "Good News"? Come and hear about the Good News of Jesus Christ and how he fits into this New Testament, along with some of the other characters like Peter, Paul and John, to name a few.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE  
CLASS DATES ARE IN PARENTHESES

SUNDAY MORNING

9:15AM

Prayer Coach (1/8-2/19)  
Christianity in Crisis: What Do We Really Believe (1/8-2/12)  
Psalm 51 (1/8-2/12)  
John's Vision...Our Hope: A Study of Revelation (2/26-4/1)  
The Me I Want to Be (4/15-5/13)  
God's Story, Your Story (4/15-5/20)  
The Hope of Heaven (4/15-5/20)  
A Study of Luther's Small Catechism for Adults (6/3-6/24)

10:30AM

A First Century Look at Luke 15 (1/8-2/12)  
The Christian Atheist (1/15-2/12)  
Grace Based Parenting: Building Character (1/8-2/12)  
John's Vision...Our Hope: A Study of Revelation (2/26-4/1)  
God Provides (4/15-5/20)  
Be Satisfied-Study of Ecclesiastes (4/15-5/20)  
C.S. Lewis: Miracles (4/15-5/20)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

9:15 & 10:30AM

Coping in Faith: Stress, Anxiety and Depression (2/19)

SUNDAY/MONDAY  
EVENING

7:00 - 8:30PM

Sites of the Early Church (1/16, 1/22, 2/6, 2/13)

MONDAY EVENING

7:00 - 8:00PM,

Revelation (2/27 - 4/2)

TUESDAY MORNING &  
EVENING

10:00AM OR 6:00PM

6:30 - 8:30PM

7:00 - 9:00PM

7:00 - 9:00PM

Grief Support (3/6 - 4/24)  
The Truth Project (1/3 - 3/27) Lommen's home  
The Truth Project (1/3 - 4/3) Richardson's home  
Precepts Bible Study: Matthew (1/10 - 5/1)

THURSDAY MORNING

9:30 - 11:30

10:00

Precepts Bible Study: Matthew (1/5 - 4/26)  
Pastor's Bible Study (1/5 - 5/10)

SATURDAY MORNING

8:30AM - 12:30PM

Bible Basics  
Old Testament Basics (2/4)  
New Testament Basics (2/11)

REGISTRATION FORM  
ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES  
WINTER/SPRING/SUMMER 2012

EVENT OR CLASS	COST
___ A First Century Look at Luke 15 (1/8-2/12) _____	\$10 book
___ A Study of Luther's Small Catechism for Adults (6/3-6/24)	
___ Be Satisfied-Study of Ecclesiastes (4/15-5/20) _____	\$10 book
___ Bible Basics (2/4) _____	\$2 book (both sessions
___ Bible Basics (2/11) _____	or one session)
___ C.S. Lewis: Miracles (4/15-5/20) _____	\$9 book
___ Christianity in Crisis: What Do We Really Believe? (1/8-2/12)	
___ Coping in Faith: Stress, Anxiety and Depression (2/19)	
___ God Provides (4/15-5/20) _____	\$6 workbook
___ God's Story, Your Story (4/15-5/20) _____	\$10 workbook \$13 book
___ Grace Based Parenting: Building Character (1/8-2/12)	\$8 workbk \$8 book
___ Grief Support (3/6-4/24)	
___ John's Vision...Our Hope: A Study of Revelation-9:15 AM (2/26-4/1)	
___ John's Vision...Our Hope: A Study of Revelation-10:30 AM (2/26-4/1)	
___ Pastor's Bible Study (1/5-5/10)	
___ Prayer Coach (1/8-2/19) _____	\$12 book
___ Precepts Bible Study: Matthew-9:30 AM (1/5-4/26) _____	\$35/ 2 workbooks
___ Precepts Bible Study: Matthew-7:00 PM (1/10-5/1) _____	\$35/ 2 workbooks
___ Psalm 51 (1/8-2/12)	
___ Revelation (2/27-4/2)	
___ Sites of the Early Church (1/16, 1/22, 2/6, 2/13)	
___ The Christian Atheist (1/15-2/12) _____	\$10 book
___ The Hope of Heaven (4/15-5/20)	
___ The Me I Want to Be (4/15-5/13) _____	\$8 workbook / \$11 book
___ The Truth Project-Lommen's (1/3-3/27)	
___ The Truth Project - Richardson's (1/3-4/3)	

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Childcare       YES       NO

RETURN FORM TO ADULT ED REGISTRATION TABLE  
OR THE CHURCH OFFICE  
PLEASE INCLUDE CLASS FEE WITH REGISTRATION FORM.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Adult Education Ministry  
at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church  
is to nurture a vibrant life-changing faith that helps  
learners build bridges between their faith and their life:  
The kind of faith that shapes a person's way  
of being, thinking and acting.