

From Jesus to Luther

Orientation week Feb. 18, 2019

Course Sessions: Feb. 22 – May 9, 2019

Pr. Adam Wutka, facilitator

This course provides an overview of the history of the Christian church from its beginning until the dawn of the Reformation. In addition to the video lectures, the primary textbook is *The Story of Christianity, Volume I* by Justo L. Gonzalez.

Facilitator as Resource

The class facilitator will be familiar with the lectures and reading material, read student postings, and will be rotating the type of interface he uses with the student each week. The weeks that there is a live chat that will be the interface. Other weeks the facilitator will be responding to either essays or to the key question forum or give a general written response to the issues of that week.

Course Schedule

Tuesday, February 19, 7:30 PM Central Time, Conference Call (1 hour). This call will be done with a video-conference tool called Zoom. You do not need to have an account and instructions will be in the class site. If you do not have a camera and microphone connected with your computer you may call in by phone instead. This time will be used to acquaint you with the class website and how to use it, to become acquainted with each other, as well as to establish your covenant as a class. The facilitator for this course is Pr. Adam Wutka. Adam has been serving at two ELCA congregations in central Kansas for the past thirteen years: St. Mark, Great Bend; and St. Paul, Galatia. In addition to preaching and teaching in Bible studies and education programs for adults and youth at his congregations and occasionally at community events or other area congregations, he also teaches in an area-wide Lutheran Confirmation program which he co-founded over a decade ago. Additionally, Pastor Adam is currently teaching Latin to a group of youth in the local homeschool co-op.

Weekly course guide:

Sometime Friday through Monday...

- Watch the lectures for the session
- Read any assigned readings
- Post your thoughts in the discussion essay forum

Tuesday through Thursday

- Read the forum postings
- Respond to 2 of your classmates in the discussion essay forum with a 1-3 sentence response
- Post your thoughts in the key question forum

By Friday evening of each week

- Read the forum postings
- In the key question forum respond to at least 2 other participants with 1-3 sentences.

Variation: Sessions 4 and 8

In these 2 sessions instead of the second forum, there will be a Zoom call for 1 hour on Tuesday evening at 7:30 PM Central Time. Instructions will be in the class website. Session 8 will be stretched over 2 weeks to accommodate Holy Week and Easter schedules.

Final Paper

For those taking this course for any certification, the final paper is due May 23 two weeks after the completion of the course.

Course Sessions

Friday February 22

Session 1: Beginnings: the Fullness of Time

Friday March 1

Session 2: The First Great Preachers of the Faith

Friday March 8

Session 3: Persecution and Piety

Friday March 15

Session 4: Establishing the Faith of the Church

During this week there will be a one hour Zoom call instead of a threaded discussion.

Friday March 22

Session 5: Monasticism and the Fathers of the Church

Friday March 29

Session 6: Early Missionary Movements

Friday April 5

Session 7: The Church in Turmoil: West and East

Friday April 12

Session 8: The Papacy and the Empire

This session will be over 2 weeks. There will be a one hour Zoom call on Tuesday April 23.

Friday April 26

Session 9: Struggles, Theological and Political

Friday May 3

Session 10: Reforming Efforts before the Reformation