

From Jesus to Luther

Orientation week Jan. 13, 2020

Course Sessions: Jan.17 – March 26, 2020

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

Thursday, January 16, 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 Thursday evening at 7:30 PM Central Time. Instructions will be in the class website.

Final Paper

For those taking this course for any certification, the final paper is due April 10 two weeks after the completion of the course.

Course Sessions

Friday January 17	Session 1: Beginnings: the Fullness of Time
Friday January 24	Session 2: The First Great Preachers of the Faith
Friday January 31	Session 3: Persecution and Piety
Friday February 7	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 February 14	Session 5: Monasticism and the Fathers of the Church
Friday February 21	Session 6: Early Missionary Movements
Friday February 28	Session 7: The Church in Turmoil: West and East
Friday March 6	Session 8: The Papacy and the Empire

There will be a one hour Zoom call on Thursday of this week.

Friday March 13	Session 9: Struggles, Theological and Political
Friday March 20	Session 10: Reforming Efforts before the Reformation