

to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the enemies he made, the parables he taught, and the roads that he traveled in this six week study that takes you from the Jordan River, through the wilderness to Capernaum, from the mountains to the Sea of Galilee, through Samaria, and on to Jerusalem. DVD clips with images of the Holy Land will enrich the experience.

April 26th through May 31st

THE CALL

by Adam Hamilton (6 sessions)

We'll wind up the 2016-2017 Wednesday Night Dinner Study season by journeying for six weeks with the Apostle Paul whose writings have shaped the lives of one-third of the world's population, a man second only to Jesus in his influence on Christian faith, whose witness defines what it means to follow Jesus Christ. What would lead a first-century rabbi to travel thousands of miles by sea and by land, to be beaten, imprisoned, and ultimately beheaded for his faith? It was a call---a call to turn the world upside down for Christ. Come consider the life and message of the Apostle Paul.



Welcome to our Church



**First United
Methodist
Church of
Arroyo Grande**

275 North Halcyon Road
805 481-2692
Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis

August 31, 2016—May 31, 2017

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Criswell Hall

5:45 p.m.—6:45 p.m.

(following the free dinners at 5:00 p.m.)

August 31st and September 7th

MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE

Brief DVD segments by Adam Hamilton

Making Sense of the Old Testament

Making Sense of the New Testament

Questions about the Nature of Scripture

The Bible and Science

Violence, Suffering, and Other Troubling Issues

Wrestling with Issues of Sexuality and Relationships

September 14th through November 16th

THE APPLAUSE OF HEAVEN

by Max Lucado (10 sessions)

A joy that can't be quenched? A peace that can't be broken? A happiness that can't be threatened? There is such a joy. It is a sacred delight, a holy gladness. You can't open your Bible without reading about it. You can't live a satisfying life without it. And it is nearer than you think. Jesus describes that sacred delight in the astonishing mountain message we now call the Beatitudes. Max Lucado, in this classic exploration of enduring joy, shows you how this familiar but revolutionary prescription for living can bless your life beyond your wildest imagining. Join us in this 10 week study of THE APPLAUSE OF HEAVEN.

November 23rd

THANKSGIVING WEEK BREAK

ADVENT

November 30th through December 28th

THE UNCLUTTERED HEART

by Beth Richardson (5 sessions)

Advent is the season when we prepare our lives---hearts, minds, and spirits---for the coming of the Christ child. We sweep out the corners of our hearts, cleaning up the clutter, to make space for God's hope, peace, joy, love and presence. Join us for this four week study and remember God as you enjoy this delightful book that focuses your heart on mind, on scripture, reflection and prayer as you prepare for the coming of Christmas.

January 4th through February 22nd

ANCHORING YOUR WELL-BEING

by Howard Clinebell, Ph.D.

(8 sessions)

"Anchor your well-being" in Christian faith. In a warm and engaging way Howard Clinebell offers insights into seven dimensions of life. Based on his reading of the Bible and our human condition, Clinebell identifies these areas of well-being as spiritual, mental, physical, relationship, work and play, crises and loss, and environmental well-being. Jesus highlighted the purpose of his ministry when he said: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10). Let this small-group study guide you on the path to experiencing life in all it's fullness.

March 1st

ASH WEDNESDAY

(study break to attend worship)

LENT/EASTER

March 8th through April 19th

(no class during Holy Week on April 12th)

THE WAY

by Adam Hamilton (6 sessions)

Travel to the Holy Land with Adam Hamilton as he retraces the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations