

Adult Education Classes

Spring 2025



We are a *multigenerational, social justice oriented* community of joyful, imperfect people who *welcome absolutely everybody* with hospitality, openness and acceptance.

Montclair Presbyterian Church
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mpc-family@mpcfamily.org

Adult Education Classes Spring 2025

Classes will be conducted in person or on Zoom. Please use the link below to register. A few days prior to each class you will receive an email reminder.

<http://mpcfamily.org/register-adulted>

If you have a question with online registration, contact Allen at allenspore@gmail.com

Stolen Pride: Loss, Shame and the Rise of the Right Book discussion

Arlie Hochschild



In partnership with Great Good Place for Books, MPC will be hosting National Book Award finalist and bestselling author, Arlie Hochschild. Ms. Hochschild will be discussing her latest book, *Stolen Pride: Loss, Shame and the Rise of the Right* which explores life in a struggling Appalachian town. What happens, Ms. Hochschild asks, when a proud people in a hard-hit region suffer the deep loss of pride and are confronted with a powerful political appeal that makes it feel “stolen”?

Arlie Russell Hochschild is an American professor emeritus of sociology at the University of California, Berkeley and writer. Hochschild has long focused on the human emotions that underlie moral beliefs, practices, and social life generally. She is the author of 10 books including *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning of the American Right*.

Dates: Sunday, 2/2/25

Time and Place: 11:30 am, MPC Sanctuary

“Drinks and Doubts” Returns!

Katie Kilby

After a several-year hiatus, “Drinks and Doubts” is returning this spring. With Katie Kilby facilitating the discussion, we will exchange views, beliefs, and doubts in response to broad theological questions, while sharing snacks and libations in a relaxed, informal setting.



The meetings will be held at the home of Sloan White. Please register so we know how many people will be attending and we will email Sloan’s address.

Dates: Tuesdays, 2/25, 3/25, 4/29

Time and Place: 7:00pm-8:30pm, Sloan White’s home

Culture, History and Re-emergence of California Native Peoples

Various – See below

The indigenous tribes of California have been here for nearly 14,000 years. Their cultures have been grounded in certain essential principles: Seeing life as a wondrous gift and practicing a stance of gratitude in all things; living in an intimate relationship with the natural world; and choosing to be in reciprocal relationship with Nature and with all beings.



Session 1 – March 9 - The Culture of California’s Native Peoples

In this class, we will be exploring some of this early culture and spiritual life. A resource for this class (not required) would be a recent short book, *The Serviceberry*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

Session 2 – April 6 - Recent History of California’s Native Peoples

Beginning in 1770 California’s native tribes were confronted with a series of traumatic experiences: the Spanish mission period, the Mexican Rancho period, and the period of settler domination. These were times of terrible subjugation and even genocide.

In this class, we will detail some of these events and recognize the churches’ involvement in many of them. Our speaker will be Robert McNally, the author of *The Modoc War*. A resource for this class (not required) would be a book, *An Indigenous People’s History of the United States*, by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.

Session 3 – May 4 - Re-emergence of California’s Native Peoples

Since the late 1960s native peoples have been rising up and re-asserting their cultural identity and spiritual practices. All over the country and here in California we see signs of this historic re-emergence. Native peoples are reminding us that they have been here for thousands of years and will continue to be here.

In this class, we will detail some of these developments and ask the question, “What relationship do we need to take to all of this?” A resource for this class (not required) would be a short novel, *There There*, by Tommy Orange.

Dates: Sundays, 3/9, 4/6, and 5/4

Time and Place: 11:30-am-12:45pm, Thornhill Room

Ongoing Classes

Faces of God

Sharon Noteboom

We read books to expand our understanding of our own faith tradition, as well as explore other religions and important contemporary issues. We meet most months on the first Saturday of the month from 10 - 11:30 a.m. on Zoom, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



The book chosen for each month is generally published in Contact. Sometimes the schedule may change, so if you're interested in participating and would like the most up-to-date plan for an upcoming month, please contact Jean Gregory at 510-635-8838.

Sharon Noteboom is a teacher, student and longtime member of our church.

Dates: First Saturdays	Zoom Info: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81413546027
Time: 10:00 – Noon	Meeting ID: 8141 354 6027 Password: 3391131 To dial in: +1 669 900 6833 enter Meeting ID: 8141 354 6027 and
Zoom Facilitator: Eloise Gilland	Password: 3391131

Pastor's Bible Study

Rev. Ben Daniel

If ever you have wanted to learn more about the Bible – not just as a document used to excuse bad behavior, but as an ancient, many-layered, sometimes beautiful, sometimes-awful text made holy by centuries of the faithful who have found comfort, hope and inspiration in its pages – then the Pastor's Bible Study is for you.



Everyone is welcome!

Dates: Wednesdays	Zoom Info: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81413546027
Time: 12:00 -1:30pm.	Meeting ID: 8141 354 6027 Password: 3391131 dial in: +1 669 900 6833 enter Meeting ID: 8141 354 6027 and
Zoom Facilitator: Ben Daniel	Password: 3391131

Fall 2024 MPC Adult Education Class Information

How do I join a class?

Some classes will be conducted via Zoom meetings. Please use the link below to register for the classes. Prior to the start of the class, you will receive an email with instructions for how to join the Zoom meeting.

<http://mpcfamily.org/register>

If you do not have access to a computer or mobile device and would like to call into the meeting to listen, call Allen Spore at 510-381-3207 for assistance. If you have a question/problem with online registration, contact Allen at allenmpc2020@gmail.com.

What About Cost?

Our classes are open to everyone. Donations benefit our work, but are not required.

How else can I be involved with Adult Education?

You can contact the Adult Education chair, Allen Spore, at allenspore@gmail.com for the following:

- If you'd like to join the Adult Education committee.
- If you would like to lead a class, or have an idea for a class you'd like to see.