

# GURNEE COMMUNITY CHURCH Connect

DECEMBER 17, 2017

**NEW ADULT CLASSES STARTING:** We have several new adult classes starting up in January. Please visit the Adult Education table in the Narthex **TODAY** for information and signups. Two of the new classes are featured in today's NEXT STEP insert (see below).

CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 24

10:45am

5:00pm

7:00pm

**NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY EVENT:** Sunday, **December 31** we will be having a New Year's Eve party and sleepover (optional!) for families with children aged 0 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The party will go from 5:00-8:00 pm. There will be dinner, a missional outreach project and games. Those that stay for the overnight will have gym equipment, video games, movies, snacks, live countdown, breakfast in the morning and more! (Bring a tent to put up or just some sleeping bags). What a fun way to spend time with each other and avoid driving late at night! Sign up online or at the TruKids check-in desk.



**MEN'S  
CONFERENCE**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2018**

**SAVE THE DATE 2/3/18**

**Registration is now open at the GCC website**

**VERITAS RETREAT SCHOLARSHIPS:** Veritas has it's youth Winter Retreat January 5-7 at Camp Timberlake, WI. Several students need financial help to be able to attend. Would you consider providing a \$100 scholarship to allow a student to attend? Checks should be made out to Gurnee Community Church and passed to Josiah Goering or the Church Office, clearly marked as Veritas Scholarship.

**GCC POLOS ON SALE:** Get the first shirt for \$20 and the second for just \$10! They make a great Christmas gift. Adult sizes Small to 3XL.



Order online at: <http://gcchome.org/resources/polo-shirts>.

## **PASTOR PAUL KATTNER ORDINATION:**

At the congregational meeting June 11, 2017, the congregation of GCC unanimously approved a call to ordain Paul Kattner. This was concurrent with the call of Paul Kattner to the position of Associate Pastor here at GCC, which was effective immediately.

In the tradition of Congregational Churches, after an individual has (1) received a call from God to vocational Christian ministry; (2) prepared themselves through appropriate education; and (3) sufficiently demonstrated the gifts and character necessary during a period of ministry equivalent to at least one year full-time; it is then appropriate for the church that has nurtured and supported that individual through the years of preparation to publicly confirm what God has already done through the solemn act of ordination.

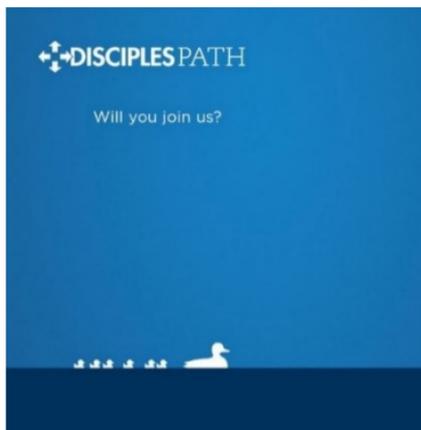
Pastor Paul Kattner has received and responded to such a call to ministry. He has prepared himself through the pursuit and receipt of a Masters of Arts in Theological Studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He has also demonstrated the necessary gifts and character as both an Elder and most recently a Pastor of GCC. GCC has been Paul's church home through his entire process of call, response, and preparation.

After prayerful consideration, the Board of Elders recommended to the congregation of GCC that Paul be ordained as a Christian minister, and therefore publicly recognized as one set apart for vocational Christian ministry. This recommendation was unanimously approved at the congregational meeting held on June 11, 2017.

The process of ordination requires the calling of a council of pastors and delegates from churches in our area (known as a Vicinage Council) to review the qualifications of the candidate and make a recommendation to GCC as to whether or not they agree that ordination is appropriate. This process is not just a formality or tradition, but rather it insures the integrity of the process and gives meaning and credibility to the status conveyed as an ordained minister. This Vicinage Council will convene on January 7, 2017 at 2:30pm.

**You are invited!** At 6:00pm on **January 14**, there will be a Service of Ordination for Pastor Paul in the sanctuary at GCC. All members and friends of GCC are invited to attend. Following the service, there will be a cake reception in the Family Life Center.

Featured **NEXT STEP** Opportunity



A **Disciple's Path** is:

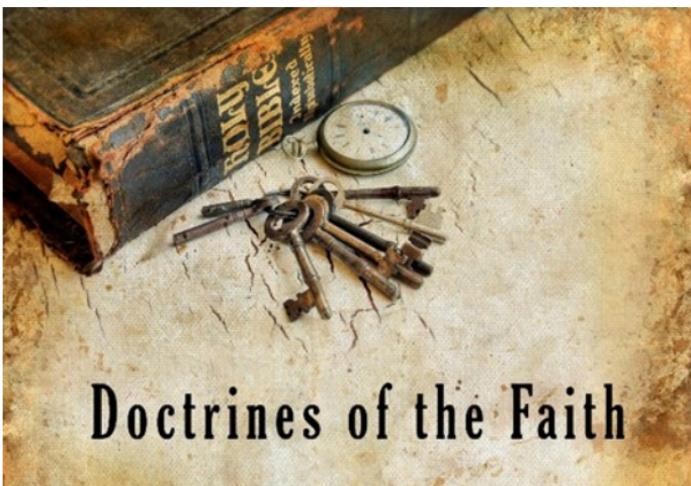
## **Progressive, Disciplined, Relational, Replicable**

Salvation is not an event – it is a relationship with the God who saves. And this is a relationship that can grow and mature. That is, as believers, we are going somewhere – or at least we should be. This is not aimless wandering. A Disciple faithfully follows the path of Jesus.

Disciple's Path is a series of 5-6 week small-group based studies that will teach you what it means to be a true follower of Jesus Christ. Eminently practical, this series explores the questions of: How do I make Jesus the center of my life? How do I connect with God in a deep and personal way? How do I model Jesus in my everyday life? Disciple's Path will strengthen your faith, deepen your understanding of what it means to truly follow Jesus Christ, and equip you with the tools to live faithfully in this life.

To register for Disciple's Path, stop by the table in the Narthex or visit [gcchome.org](http://gcchome.org). For more information contact [paulkattner@gcchome.org](mailto:paulkattner@gcchome.org).

**NEXT STEP**

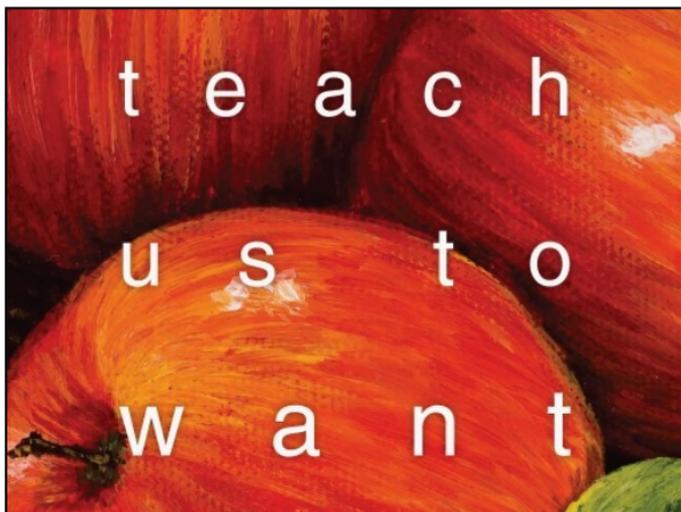


## [Doctrines of the Christian Faith](#)

What does Scripture teach us about the nature of God? What about humanity and our relationship with the God who created us? Did Jesus really have to die and how does atonement actually work? What is the means by which we come to faith and what confidence can that give us for our salvation? For that matter, is the Bible even reliable?

Join us beginning **January 11, 2018** for an in-depth **34-week** study of the Doctrines of the Faith. We will take a deep dive into Scripture to uncover the essential teachings of our Christian profession and consider how these beliefs shape the way we live in the world today.

In addition to a Thursday evening class session, this course requires out-of-class reading and study averaging a few hours per week (\$25).

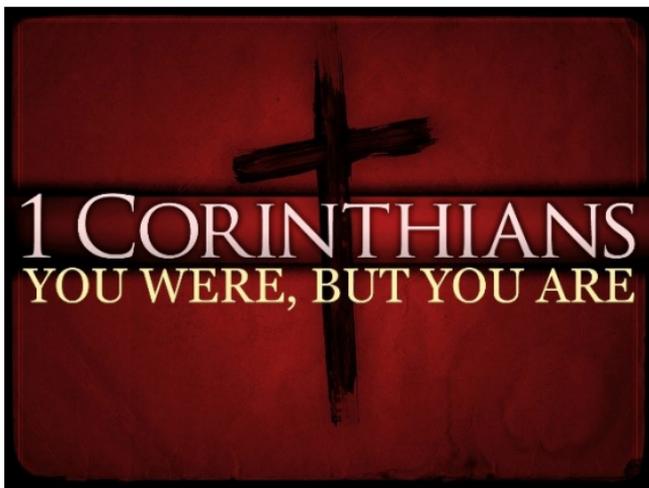


### **Women's Sunday AM Topical Class**

The story of each person is a story of want—desires unmet, hopes dashed, passions pursued, and ambitions fulfilled. Our wants cannot be ignored. But when desire is informed by Scripture and re-formed by our spiritual practices, it can root us more deeply in the fundamental belief that God is good and generous and can invite us into active kingdom participation.

Jen Pollock Michel guides us on a journey of understanding who we are when we want, and reintroduces us to a God who gives us the desires of our hearts. That same good God calls us into a new reality in which we seek first his kingdom and righteousness, and we discover our disordered desires burned away while our truest longings are happily fulfilled and purified.

This Sunday AM Women's Class begins on 01/14 at 9:00 am in room 113 and will continue for five weeks. For more information on this life topics class contact Lynn Kattner (lakattner@aol.com).



### Sunday AM Bible Study

The Christian journey of faith is not a straight line toward righteousness – our natural orientation toward sinful thoughts and behaviors often conspires against us. The good news is that we do not need to walk this path alone – God has called us into the fellowship and community of the church.

Two thousand years ago the Apostle Paul wrote to the churches in Corinth who were struggling with the same issues that we face today. In this letter he reminded his readers that they no longer needed to be 'who they were,' but, through Christ Jesus, they could be so much more.

Join us Sunday mornings at 8:00 and 9:00 am (same material repeated) in the Community Room for an in-depth study of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians. There is no homework or advance preparation needed for this class and all are welcome whenever they can make it. Begins 01/07.