

The Lutheran Hour Ministries “Mission U” Witnessing Classes at St. John!



“...in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you...” First Peter 3:15

Have you ever heard or read that verse above with fear in your heart. Maybe you just wondered what you would say or how you would say it. Have you wanted to talk to a family member, co-worker or friend about Jesus but did not know how to go about starting the conversation? We have the answer for you!

Pastor Jim and I are going to offer the first three courses of the Lutheran Hour Ministries Mission U program, beginning in March and continuing through May. This is a program being used throughout the LCMS and the Ohio District has a special relationship with Lutheran Hour Ministries.

You will find the course outlines below. Each of these courses will be taught during one five-hour Saturday class that will include lunch. Each lesson will be a “team-teaching” experience with Pastor and I each taking a section of each course. We hope this keeps the interest and energy high for each session.

The dates for each class are listed next to each course description. It would be best if you can attend all three, since they build on each other, but attending any one course will be helpful for you. Each offering will cost \$10 per person so that we can cover materials and provide lunch and snacks during the day. We hope to have a large part of our congregation participating in these courses. Come and be equipped to share the greatest truths of all time, in a way that can impact lives for all eternity!

Contact Pastor or I if you have any questions. You can sign-up for the class using the sheet on the bulletin board in the church entrance. If you want to attend the class but cannot afford the fee, please let Pastor or I know and we will get it taken care of for you.

To God be the Glory!
Michael <+>

March 10, 2012 MU-101: Equipping to Share: Everyday Evangelism

During section one, we will identify witnessing hindrances, tackle how we can overcome these obstacles to faith-sharing and discuss the importance of prayer in everyday evangelism.

Section two will explore the mission we have been given, the message we are to carry forth and the privileged role God has assigned us.

In section three, we will look at everyday opportunities for sharing Christ. We will learn to identify a person’s worldview in order to connect with his or her heart. We will discuss the importance of being Spirit-led to be an effective witness. We will also learn ways to witness in brief encounters.

Section four will focus on how we can witness within long-term relationships to family members and friends as well as how to be a Christian witness during times of crisis. You will also learn to personalize your witness, utilizing Scripture to become ready to respond to a person's "Yes" or their "No."

April 14, 2012 MU-102: Witnessing Methods: Seven Styles of Faith-Sharing

Section one will reveal the seven styles of faith-sharing and tackle how to utilize the first two styles: Lifestyle Witnessing and Relational Witnessing.

Section two will focus on styles three and four: Testimonial Witnessing and Situational Witnessing. You will also be stretched to consider your personal testimony.

Section three is centered on the last three styles: Servanthood, Invitational witnessing and Utilizing Witnessing Tools. You will put your knowledge to work through a video case study.

In section four, you will identify your natural style, recognize and apply yourself to a secondary style and learn to determine an appropriate and effective style in each everyday situation.

May 12, 2012 MU-201: Dealing with Tough Questions

Section one will reveal the truth about cultural opposition to Christianity in America, including what is displayed in the media. We will discuss the recent rise of other religions and how to share the one true God in a world full of alternatives.

In section two, we will learn to identify the root of a question. We will also discuss those tough questions prevalent in society today such as "Why do bad things happen?" and "Why does God say, 'No'?"

In section three, we will discuss what to do when you cannot think of an answer to a difficult question. We will also tackle tough objections and discuss the more common objections and how to deal with them.

In section four, we will discuss the art of apologetics. How helpful is arguing, really? We will also get down to the common source of every objection: spiritual warfare.