

# St. Mark's Lenten Suppers & Historical Theology Series: How we read the Bible - Past, Present and Future

WITH FEATURED SPEAKERS

Wednesdays, March 13 - April 10 from 6-7:30pm

## **March 13: "Reading Scripture Behind Bars"**

**Rev. Lynn Litchfield** is GracelInside's Director of Development. She began her journey with prison ministry in 1997 as the original and sole chaplain to Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, Virginia's maximum-security women's prison. For 11.5 years, under Lynn's care more than 15,000 women cycled through FCCW where they had the opportunity to participate in the most developed religious program in any state penal institution. For six of those years, Lynn served the only woman on death row. Lynn continued to advocate for her care even after ceasing her job at FCCW. Lynn's work for "the least of these" was interrupted by a deeply personal tragedy, the death of her beautiful and precocious ten year old daughter, Alyssa Grace Divers. After 22 months of failed treatments, Alyssa died from osteosarcoma, a rare bone cancer, on New Year's Eve, 2012. Lynn returned to work for GracelInside in 2013 knowing the value of God's grace to the broken hearted. She travels and works tirelessly to raise awareness, friends and funds for GracelInside – a ministry whose work is too often "out of sight, out of mind."



## **March 20: "Reading the Scripture for Life Application"**

**Rev. Richard (Rick) Painter** is a licensed, ordained Southern Baptist minister and holds a Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has held numerous church staff positions and has pastored churches in Covington, Narrows, Daleville, and Pamplin, VA and he and his wife, Gina, were also commissioned as Church Planters for the North American Mission Board in 2000 when they moved to Botetourt. He currently works as a Mental Health Clinician and as Pastoral Director for New Lifescape Ministry.



## **March 27: "Reading the Hebrew Scriptures"**

**Rabbi Kathy Cohen** was ordained from the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1988. She holds a Masters in Hebrew Letter from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, as well as Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude, from Brandeis University. Immediately following ordination she served as the Assistant Rabbi at Rockdale Temple in Cincinnati. **Rabbi Cohen's** tenure as the spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel began in May 1996. During her years with Temple Emanuel, she has spearheaded the creation of a Jewish Preschool program, aided in a campaign for the restoration of the congregation's Torah Scrolls, and was instrumental in the renovation and enlargement of Temple Emanuel. Under her guidance, the congregation formed both a Youth Group and a Brotherhood, as well as greatly expanding the variety of adult education courses offered to the community. As the Rabbi of Temple Emanuel, she has strongly promoted diversity within the public school systems.



## **April 3: "Reading Scripture with a Disability"**

**Darla Schumm** is the John P. Wheeler Professor of Religion at Hollins University. She received her B.A. in interdisciplinary studies with concentrations in history, psychology, and women's studies from Goshen College, her M.A. in social ethics from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, and her Ph.D. in religion, ethics, and society from Vanderbilt University. Schumm's current research focuses on intersections between religious studies and disability studies. She is the coeditor of *Disability and World Religions: An Introduction*, a textbook on world religions and disability. She has several published articles in this area. She enjoys traveling, knitting, reading fiction, and playing with her son in her free time.



## **April 10: "Reading Scripture with Saints"**

**Riley Chattin** is a certified Spiritual Director and Intuitive. As a Spiritual Director he draws upon a background of diverse experiences and training, to help navigate unique spiritual paths. Riley says: "I am able to recognize that we may have our spiritual home, but we also have our own journey. While we may know that we have the opportunity to strengthen our spiritual lives, we may not know how. This is where a trained Spiritual Director can be of benefit, to expand the opportunities of spiritual growth. In addition to Spiritual Director training at the [Spiritual Direction Institute](#), I am also a certified Reiki Master, and Reflexology practitioner, which all aid in recognizing our physical, mental and spiritual needs."

