

Program, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University; Director of Music, Church of the Redeemer, New Haven; Director of the Yale Camerata. **Gabriel Löfvall**, Director of Music Ministries, Saint Patrick/Saint Anthony Church, Hartford; Artistic Director, Joyful Noise and Gaudeamus, Torrington; **Dr. Patricia Snyder**, Associate in Organ at The Hartt School and Director of Music at the Storrs Congregational Church.

❖ **Taizé Service in Observance of Mental Health Awareness Month**

Thursday, May 3rd at 7:00 PM

Meeting House at 675 Main Street

A service of prayer and meditation for those dealing with mental health issues as well as their care givers and service providers.

❖ **Sunday Morning Adult Classes** ❖

All Sunday morning classes are held at the Church House on 60 Gold Street

❖ **Going Home to God: "The 5 Wishes"**

With David Fish, Warburton Urban Resident with Center Church and Hands on Hartford

Sundays, Jan. 8 - Jan. 22 at 8:45 AM

In this three-part series, we will look at what we can do for ourselves, families, and loved ones when faced with end-of-life decisions. Examining and discussing the booklet "The 5 Wishes," which is known as the living will with a heart, we will address more than just the medical decisions one encounters when facing death. As a society, our relationship with death has gone from being something embraced by family and community to a much more sanitized procedure where family involvement is kept to a minimum. However, today, more people are becoming involved with not just how they will be treated medically during their last days, but how they will be treated, emotionally and spiritually.

❖ **"Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and How They Can Be Restored"** a book by **Marcus Borg**

With William Warner-Prouty, Center Church Moderator, & Alvin Thompson, Member of Adult Education Task-Force at Center Church

Sundays, Jan. 29 - April 1 at 8:45 AM

In this revolutionary book, renowned religious scholar and author Marcus J. Borg "cracks open the encrusted words of faith and pops them into fresh language." In this fascinating book discussion, we will be challenged to re-claim the meaning of the sacred texts, stories and words that have shaped the Christian tradition for more than two millennia in ways that make sense to Christians in the twenty-first century.

❖ **"A Public Faith: How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good"** a book by **Miroslav Volf**

With Alvin Thompson and Rev. Joseph Bradley, Members of Adult Education Task-Force at Center Church

Sundays, April 15 - June 10 at 8:45 AM

Why should Christians use the resources of our faith to speak to and to serve the common good rather than reducing faith to the private realm of the church? This new book by Prof. of Systematic Theology at Yale Divinity School Miroslav Volf will invite us into a conversation of how Center Church is called to serve the city through our thoughtful engagement with the world beyond the walls of the Meeting House.



ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE
WE ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

VALIDATED PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOLD BUILDING GARAGE ON WEEK NIGHTS AFTER 5:00 P.M.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIFIC EVENTS OR CHANGES IN SCHEDULE DUE TO THE WEATHER, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CENTERCHURCHHARTFORD.ORG

Center Church

First Church of Christ in Hartford

Celebrating 380 years of Christian ministry in the city of Hartford

Faith, Education & Culture



Historic Meeting House at 675 Main Street

❖ **A CHURCH IN THE CITY** ❖

The Adult Education program at Center Church reflects our mission to invite all persons, whether they are members of Center Church or not, to explore the places where faith and life, the sacred and the secular, God and human meet.

You are invited to join us for any of the events listed in this brochure.

Rev. Paulo Gustavo França, Minister



Church House at 60 Gold Street

**Short-term and Ongoing
Adult Programs
Winter and Spring 2012**

**❖Practicing the Psalter: the Why &
How of Psalms**

With Dr. Lucinda Mosher, Th.D.

**Mondays, Jan. 30 - March 5 at 6:30 PM
Church House at 60 Gold Street**

The psalter has been called a collection of ancient prayers for modern hearts. It has also been called a collection of poems with primitive sincerity, expressing the full range of human emotion. In the psalms can be found passages which are sublimely beautiful, and others which are shockingly brutal. What are Christians to make of this dichotomy? In this five-part series, we will consider the place of the Psalter in Christian and Jewish practice past and present. Special attention will be given to various approaches to singing psalms. We will explore the question: do Muslims have Psalms? We will learn about traditions of psalm-interpretation. We will consider the psalms as a



Center Church: a place where faith and real life intersect

resource for personal and communal devotional practice.

Dr. Lucinda Mosher, a Christian ethicist with expertise in Islam and America's religious diversity, serves currently as Hartford Seminary's Faculty Associate for Interfaith Studies. An accomplished church musician as well, her workshops often combine her expertise in inter-religious understanding with her training in theology and the arts.

❖A Night of Bossa Nova and Poetry

With Receita de Samba Duo: Anna Borges & Bill Ward and Poetry by Center Church poets Gretchen Skelly & Van Parker

Friday, February 10 at 7:00 PM

Church House at 60 Gold Street

Beat the winter blues! Enjoy an evening packed with the subtle and charming sounds of the Brazilian Bossa Nova and poetry reading by local poets.

**❖Taizé Service in Observance of the
World Day of Prayer**

Thursday, March 1st at 7:00 PM

Meeting House at 675 Main Street

Prayer is at the heart of the Christian life and we will gather with our brothers and sisters from churches across the Hartford metropolitan area to pray for the city, the church and the world.

**❖Faith in Practice: The Rich Traditions
of Spiritual Disciplines**

With Pamela Morrison-Wolf, Spiritual Director and President of Board of Directors at Spiritual Life Center in West Hartford

Thursdays, March 8, 22 and 29 at 6:30 PM

Church House at 60 Gold Street

Exploring the deeper well of spiritual practices in the Christian tradition, this three-session series will invite attendees to deepen their sense of God's presence in their lives.

**❖ Being Open & Affirming in the
Context of Sacred Music**

With Jason Charneski, Director of Music and the Arts at Center Church, and Guests

Mondays, April 30 - May 21 7:00 PM

Church House at 60 Gold Street

Many churches now reflect a diversity of cultural, ethnic, and national heritages. How might these churches honor and encourage a deepening experience of diversity in sacred music? This series will feature guest speakers – all practicing church musicians – who also have become known as leaders and educators helping to guide churches and those studying the liturgical arts into the wealth of resources that are available.

**Session 1 -- The Role of Music in a
Congregation's Worship and Communal Life.
Presenter: Dr. Patrick Evans**, Associate Professor in the Practice of Sacred Music, The Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University.

**Session 2 – Latin-American Sacred Music
Traditions. Presenter: Dr. Carolina Flores**, Instructor of Music at Manchester Community College.

**Session 3 – African-American Sacred Music
Traditions. Presenter: Mark Miller**, Lecturer, The Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University; Director of Music, Christ Church (UCC), Summit, New Jersey.

**Session 4 – Education and Encouraging New
Voices. A round-table discussion with
Marguerite Brooks**, Associate Professor (adjunct) of Choral Conducting and Coordinator of the Choral Conducting