



December 22, 2019



2020 Workshops

Facilitated by:

Betsy Majewski

Through-out the 2020 year, Betsy will be holding Christian Educational Workshops covering a variety of topics.

Workshops will be held for two hours on either Sunday afternoon or Saturday morning.

The first class will be held in the Reading area with future workshops being held around the Conference.

The first topic: **One Room School House—Model for Sunday School**
2:00—4:00 pm @ Calvary UCC, 640 Centre Ave., Reading

Workshop detail: 'A current trend in today's church is lower attendance in children's Sunday morning Sunday School. Many churches do not have the number of children of varying ages to support traditional multiple age-group classes. These churches are moving towards a "one-room school house" model where a wide range of ages are grouped together. In this workshop we'll look at ways to do this and how it can be a successful model for teaching the stories of our faith.'

Register at: psecchristed0126.eventbrite.com

Additional classes and topics (more information will be forth coming):

Mar. 21: Children's Sermons

May 2: Let's Brainstorm

Sept. 19: Rotation Workshop Model—Using Multiple Intelligence
in Sunday School

Nov. 8: Inter-generational/All Generations (ages 3-93) Sunday School

Jesus is always showing up....

Merry (almost) Christmas! I hope you are enjoying a wonderful holiday season surrounded by the people you love and who love you. I hope every dream and expectation you have for this holiday season is becoming real.

But if you are far from home or feel distant from those who are very near, if there is more tension than cheer in the air, if you are exhausted, or feel a letdown, or if your life feels like an unlikely place for Jesus to show up—pay particular attention. Because Jesus is always showing up in unlikely places, including perhaps the most unlikely place of all— in this moment *of your life*. The incarnation of the Christ light is not only a historical moment in time, it is the essence of life as a spiritual being having a human experience.

The news of Jesus' birth is announced not in a palace or a temple, not where things are bright and beautiful, not to good people, or *the right* people. Shepherds, poor and smelly people, were the first to get the good news; and the first to share it. As surprising as this would have been at that time, in retrospect, it was entirely fitting. Jesus is forever showing up in the most unlikely places and associating with the most surprising people. And the message has not changed. God is always doing something good. Right now. In you and in me.

"In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night... The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord."

This announcement changed the way we locate ourselves between here and the heavens. It's the announcement that changed the world. I hope it's the one that will change yours -- if it has not already.

With prayers for a changed world.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Bill

- Rev. William P. Worley, PSE Conference Minister