

LENTEN STUDY SERIES

Beginning on Wednesday, March 3, we will begin a Lenten Study Series, centering on the thought of St. Augustine. Augustine was surely the most influential thinker of the ancient church; he was responsible for the shape of Christian thought for the next thousand years or more. No thinker outside the biblical writers influenced the Reformers more. But this classic thinker who influenced the thought of ages to come is also still one of the most appreciated as a personal guide to the Christian faith. He himself once said that all he wanted to know is God and the soul. He is still read today for those who think similarly.

Each Wednesday evening will begin at 6:30 with a light supper. At 7 pm we will join together in a time of meditative evening prayer, led by members of our community. Following prayer, we will spend our time working through the rather exemplary life of Augustine, as well as some of his most important and timeless writings which reflect the various stages of the souls journey from youth to old age. No reading is required ahead of time, although eager participants may well want to look at Augustine's *Confessions*. Other books that will be mentioned are listed in this schedule, which is as follows.

March 3: The Restless Heart (*Confessions*, especially books 1-6)

March 10: Conversions (*Confessions* books 7-10)

March 17: What is Inside Us: The Nature of Faith

(*On Christian Teaching; On the Trinity, Sermons on the Gospel of John*)

March 24: The Disappointments and Hopes of Old Age

(*The City of God; The Spirit and the Letter.*)

All from the church family are welcome, including families, students and young adults. Teenagers may want to be part of the study, but there are also plenty of places to do homework. Please let us know if you are coming with younger children, and we will seek to provide something for them.