

About Faith Dialogues at Saint Mark

"Faith seeks understanding" — so said Anselm, Saint, Archbishop, and Theologian. Faith Dialogues at Saint Mark (formerly the Visiting Theologian program) seeks to promote understanding among the faithful, not only within the parish of Saint Mark, but also within the wider church as a gift to the entire Salem community.



Since the early 1970's, Saint Mark has welcomed more than thirty distinguished theologians and scholars into the Congregation's life of worship, learning and service. Teachers of church history, ethics, Bible, culture, art, theology, liturgy and sacramental life have enriched our community's deliberation on what it means to believe in the God of Israel and live accordingly. The ecumenical community, including students at Willamette University, Western Oregon University and Mount Angel Seminary, have participated.

By means of visiting teachers, Saint Mark hopes to encourage lively reflection and faithful action within the Congregation and all faith communities, inviting broad participation in the program for the sake of mutual appreciation, growth in common understanding and service.

Recent Visiting Speakers

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| 2017 Dr. Samuel Torvend | 2011 Lisa Dahill |
| 2016 Helmuth Rilling | 2010 Stephen Bouman |
| 2015 Susan Pitchford | 2009 Martin Marty |
| 2014 David & Susan
Palo Cherwien | 2009 Bruce Bengtson |
| 2013 Barbara Rossing | 2009 Phyllis Anderson |
| 2012 Mark Allan Powell | 2008 Bishop Gomez |

Welcoming
ALL IN CHRIST
Journeying
TOGETHER IN FAITH
Reaching
OUT IN SERVICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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stmarksalem.org/about/faith-dialogues



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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

08.2018

FAITH DIALOGUES AT SAINT MARK

FAITH • UNDERSTANDING • COMMUNITY



Rev. Dr. Barbara Lundblad
*Joe R. Engle of Preaching Emerita,
Union Theological Seminary, NYC*

November 16th–18th, 2018

**NEW
DATES**



SAINT MARK
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Schedule of Events

All events are **free** and
open to the public.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00–8:30PM **Jesus Would Bake the Cake: A Christian Case for Sexual Justice**
Saint Mark Sanctuary ~ Doors open at 6:30PM

8:30PM **Fellowship & Reception**
Fireside Lounge

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

9:00–10:30AM **Preaching in a Polarized Society**
Saint Mark Sanctuary

11:00AM–Noon **What Do I Expect from a Sermon?**
Saint Mark Sanctuary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:45–10:45AM **Sunday Forum**
Fireside Lounge

Session Descriptions

FRIDAY NIGHT LECTURE // 7:00PM

Jesus Would Bake the Cake: A Christian Case for Sexual Justice

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act has been used to support the right of businesses to refuse services to same-gender couples. Some fear that a more conservative Supreme Court may overturn the legalization of gay marriage. Many Christian people don't know what to say when neighbors question their faith on this topic: Haven't you abandoned the Bible? Aren't you obeying culture rather than God? How can you even call yourself a Christian if you say gay marriage is good? In our time together we will explore strategies and resources for addressing these questions.

SATURDAY WORKSHOP // 9:00–10:30AM

Preaching in a Polarized Society

Note: This workshop is directed at clergy but all are welcome.

How do we preach in our divided culture where political allegiance is often more defining than denomination or theology? How do we preach on social issues when listeners don't want to hear politics from the pulpit? We know some congregations are primarily "liberal" or "conservative" with most members identifying with one label or the other. But many congregations include people who hold very different views. Fred Craddock often reminded us that "what is said is not as important as what is heard." What strategies can help us bridge the hearing gap? How can we help listeners move into and through resistance? What can we do to help people hear hard words (such as the words often spoken by Jesus?)

SATURDAY WORKSHOP // 11:00AM–Noon

What Do I Expect from a Sermon?

This session is especially for lay people and others who usually listen to sermons rather than preach them. We will talk about the following, as well as concerns on your mind: What can help me really listen to a sermon? How can I give feedback to the preacher that is more helpful than "Nice sermon, Pastor"? What do you do with questions that remain when the sermon is over? If you could preach a sermon, what would you say? We'll look together at one Gospel text for Advent: where do you imagine a sermon on this text could take us?

This Year's Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Barbara K. Lundblad



BARBARA K. LUNDBLAD is the Joe R. Engle Professor of Preaching Emerita at Union Theological Seminary. She received a B.A. from Augustana College and a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School. She is also the recipient of numerous honorary doctorates, including the Lutheran School of

Theology at Chicago. An ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, she served for sixteen years as pastor of Our Saviour's Atonement Lutheran Church in New York City. While teaching at Union she also served as Pastoral Associate at Advent Lutheran Church in Manhattan.

*The Joe R. Engle of Preaching Emerita,
Union Theological Seminary, NYC*

A preacher on The Protestant Hour radio program since 1983, Professor Lundblad has appeared on the Chicago Evening Club television series **30 Good Minutes**. She has preached in hundreds of congregations and universities; has lectured extensively in this country and internationally; and has given the Beecher Lectures at Yale Divinity School and other major conferences. She is the author of **Transforming the Stone: Preaching through Resistance to Change and Marking Time: Preaching Biblical Stories in Present Tense**.

Reverend Lundblad has held many leadership positions in the Lutheran church, including the ELCA Church Council, and has been a strong advocate for the inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in the church.