

Berean District Rev. William Z. Mathews Christian Leadership School
New Sunny Mount MB Church, 4700 West Florissant, STL, MO 63115
March 16– 20, 2026

Course Descriptions

Morning Classes

3012 People of Color in the Bible, Part III

Dr. Tonnie Bradford

The course is designed to identify those nations and personalities in the Bible who were people of color. Students will examine the contributions made by these individuals and groups.

5020 Conflict Management

Rev. Dr. John K. Coar

This course will examine basic Biblical principles that students may apply to successfully maneuver through various conflicts that frequently arise in the church and develop a model that can be used in conflict resolution.

7008 Reaching the Un-churched, Part II

Rev. Dr. Linden Bowie

This course will teach strategies to reach un-churched people and identify the reasons why people leave church. Using the model of Jesus and the apostles, it will share the biblical principle of belonging to a fellowship of believers with a spirit of restoration.

9024 Artificial Intelligence in the Church

Dr. Serena Rowan

Explores how emerging AI tools can be thoughtfully, ethically, and faithfully integrated into Christian ministry. Equips church leaders with practical ways AI can support teaching, administration, discipleship, pastoral care, and community engagement. Hands-on demonstrations-- responsible use of technology for God's purposes.

Evening Classes

1085 The Parables of Jesus

Rev. Keith Pendilton

This course will focus on the various parables that Jesus used in His teaching ministry. Students will focus on the heavenly meaning of these earthly stories. This focus will be on the background and message of each parable.

2079 Music in Christian Education

Sis. Sherry Jones

This course will explore the use of music as an integral part of the Christian Education program. Students will identify the various types of music used in Christian Education, including hymns, anthems, gospels and others.

2091 Women in the Bible, Part II

Rev. Duane Burch

This course will examine some of the issues women in the Bible days faced, which are remarkably similar to those faced today. The same Lord who healed and helped them is available to us today.

5012 Becoming an Effective Deacon

Rev. Darian Jones

This course is designed to assist the deacon in becoming aware of his biblical base. Students will be presented with ideas that will enable them to perform their duties and work harmoniously and more effectively with the pastor and other church leaders.

6003 The Work of the Church Trustee

Dea. Allen Blueitt

This course will concentrate on the responsibilities of trustees. It will introduce the work and role of trustees in the church. It defines duties of trustees, including management, building maintenance and fiscal controls.

7024 Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts (Phase IV)

Sis. Linda Mackey

This course is designed to help students to understand who God has uniquely made them to be and work through a spiritual gift assessment that will help them to discover their spiritual gift(s). Discovering their spiritual gifts(s) will prepare them to move into a meaningful area of service where they best fit into the body of Christ.

Youth Classes

Children (5-7) Stewardship: Trusted with Treasure

Sis. Nicole Hughes-Smiley

Children (8-11) Stewardship: Trusted with Treasure

Dr. Candice Woolfork & Sis. Deonna Cato

Teens (12-17) Financial Literacy

Dr. Curtis Williams