



SPRING 2025

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Campus map	23
Classes	6 – 20
Free Lectures	2 – 3
Registration Form	21 – 22
Travel	4 – 5

Lifelong Learning  
office 419-824-3707  
lifelong@lourdes.edu

Laura Megeath,  
Coordinator

Computer Help Desk  
419-824-3807

Class locations  
419-885-3211

### Welcome to Lifelong Learning at Lourdes!

Each semester, Lifelong Learning offers a fresh array of classes with new speakers as well as our favorite instructors. Get to know us better at a free talk each month!

### What is Lifelong Learning?

It's fun! Educational, engaging, and social classes, trips, and lectures organized by Lourdes University. Learning for fun, with no exams or grades!

- Free monthly lectures open to the public
- Classes on a wide range of topics with new classes every semester
- Special events on and off the Lourdes campus
- Travel – fun daytrips with all the details taken care of

### Who can join?

Lifelong Learning invites all adults who find joy in learning, regardless of age, religion, or educational background. Thanks to generous donors, **scholarships** are available by calling the office at (419) 824 - 3707 for additional information. All requests are confidential.

### What are the benefits of membership?

- Join a community of friendly and inquisitive people
- Discounts on all classes, travel, and events

Membership is optional but pays for itself if you participate in a couple of events. All memberships expire on July 31, 2025 regardless of the date you join. To be fair, the cost of membership is highest in the fall semester, lower in the spring, and lowest in the summer semester.

---

### *Travel with Lifelong Learning*

#### **Unholy Toledo Tour**

Revisit Toledo's darkest days when gangsters ruled the city...

March 19

#### **The Rat Pack**

Celebrity, glamour, and music that pulls your heartstrings!

April 27

We look forward to seeing you at Lourdes!



# MONTHLY LECTURES

*You are invited! Completely free, no reservations, and no strings attached. This Monthly Lecture Series is an opportunity to hear outstanding speakers in a friendly environment. Join us for refreshments at 9:15 AM followed by presentations from 10:00 to 11:00 AM in the Franciscan Center.*

## **Preserving the Soul of Motown**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Friday, January 17

Founded by Berry Gordy in 1959, Motown began as a record label but quickly grew into a cultural phenomenon defined by its unique sound, widespread appeal, and crossover ability. The "sound of young America" began in Studio A, a recording studio in a converted house in Detroit. Later dubbed Hitsville U.S.A., that house is now home to the Motown Museum. The Museum, which was sold to Berry Gordy's sister, Esther Gordy Edwards, safeguards an impressive collection of artifacts that trace the evolution of Motown from its humble beginnings to its global influence. Discover how this collection of oral histories, sound recordings, photographs, clothing, instruments, sheet music, and even fan letters capture the authentic Motown story. Learn about the major expansion currently underway, set to triple the museum's size within the next two years.

Alexis Perego is the Director of Archives & Collections at the Motown Museum. A certified archivist, Alexis earned her B.A. in art history at Lourdes University. She also holds her M.S. in information from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins. She has been working in museums, libraries, and archives since 2010.

## **Toledo Zoo: 125 years of Contributing to the Community**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Friday, February 21

The Toledo Zoo & Aquarium has been in existence for nearly 125 years. In that time the Zoo has hosted millions and millions of guests, providing family recreation, inspiration, and education. As a result, the Zoo is one of the most beloved entities in Northwest Ohio. While most everyone from the area is familiar with the Zoo, few are aware of its full scope of impact in the community. Jeff Sailer, the President & CEO, will explore the many ways that the Zoo provides real value to the Toledo area in terms of quality of life,

economic impact, and community service. The presentation will serve as a window into the complex and vast operations of the Zoo, spanning diverse topics from the Maumee River ecosystem to reclamation of derelict properties to serving the most vulnerable among us. You will leave with a new perspective on the Zoo and its true value to our region.

## **A Baseball Life**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Friday, March 21

Roger Bresnahan is the only person from Toledo to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. He lived his entire life in the city, playing for and then owning the Mud Hens. Bresnahan began his major league baseball career in 1897 as an 18-year-old pitcher and ended it in 1915 as a catcher, after famously introducing shin guards for the position. He was so widely admired that the Baseball Hall of Fame awarded him a plaque only six years after it opened. He played every position, coached, and managed. He survived a near-fatal accident on the field and, as a first responder, helped save lives during the aftermath of a horrific railroad crash. He was later principal owner and president of the Toledo American Association franchise for eight years.

John R. Husman is the Toledo Mud Hens Team Historian and has been a member of the Society for American Baseball Research since 1982. His book on Roger Bresnahan was published last year.

## **Made in Ohio**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Friday, April 11

Ohio was and remains tailor-made for commerce, transportation, invention, and manufacturing. Located between Lake Erie and the Ohio River, it was perfect for canals, railways, and, ultimately, highways, which allowed coal, iron ore, and oil into industrial centers such as Cleveland, Dayton, Akron, Youngstown, and Cincinnati. These powerhouse communities fostered the ingenuity

and practical inventiveness that made Ohio a mecca for manufacturing. Beyond heavy industry, the state also nurtured the growth of all American goods and brands like Quaker Oats, Smucker's jellies and jams, Diamond matches, Sherwin-Williams paints, the Etch-A-Sketch, Play-Doh, and many more. Author Conrade C. Hinds places a spotlight on dreamers and builders in the Buckeye State.

Conrade C. Hinds is a registered Architect in Ohio and New York and a retired Project Manager with the City of Columbus. In addition to being a 50-year veteran and teacher of yodeling, he is also a storyteller with a special focus on forgotten history.

### **The Economic Power of Education**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Friday, May 16

Education is vital for economic advancement, both for individuals as well as for entire communities. Toledo is the only major city in Ohio without community-supported early childhood

education, despite research showing that for every dollar invested in early childhood education there is a seven to thirteen dollars return on that investment. In theory and in practice, the earlier in a child's life this investment is made, the greater the return. HOPE Toledo is an organization with the goal of supporting and ensuring high quality education for Toledo's youth from birth to career. Learn how they are working to implement a comprehensive, community-based approach to early childhood education and care and why this must become "priority #1" for our region.

Rev. John C. Jones brings a rich background in business, leadership development, and community organizing to the education sector. Rev. Jones is passionate about the success of all children and the support of both families and the service providers around them. Graduating from Central State University and receiving an Executive MBA from the University of Toledo, Rev. Jones is proud to call Toledo and Northwest Ohio his home for his entire life.

## **HOT TOPICS**

*After the monthly lecture, join us for a buffet lunch of soup, sandwiches, and dessert followed by a presentation and lively discussion. Fridays, 11:15 AM – 12:45 PM, also in the Franciscan Center. Reservations are requested at least one week prior.*

### **Trail Fire**

11:15 – 12:45 PM, Friday, January 17

*The Trail Fire of 1961* is a new documentary film about Toledo firefighting's deadliest disaster. A gasoline tanker on the Anthony Wayne Trail overturned and caught fire, resulting in a massive explosion. Four firefighters died and 80 people were injured, including 38 children and 12 firefighters. This documentary includes interviews with firefighters who were at the scene that day and rarely seen video of the fire and explosion. After watching the movie, we will hear from members of the Toledo Firefighters Museum about the making of the documentary.

This film was produced by the Toledo Firefighters Museum with generous support from Hanson Inc., Dream Louder Music, RL Creative, The Toledo Blade, Level 2 Audio and Narrator Jerry Anderson.

Joe Walter was a member of the Toledo Fire Department from 1972 to 2002 and retired

from the position of Assistant Chief. Phillip Kaplan was the documentary's writer and director. Phil is the Media Resource Manager and Multimedia Journalist for the Toledo Blade. Michael Posadny serves as Battalion Chief in the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department and is in charge of Homeland Security/Special Operations.

### **Cybersecurity**

11:15 – 12:45 PM, Friday, February 21

In today's world, our personal information is more valuable than ever—and criminals know it. Cybercriminals use sophisticated techniques to appear legitimate; they pose as friends or family members, banks, charities, and even healthcare providers to steal information in order to conduct identity theft, credit card fraud, and more. Safeguarding your identity and personal information online is just as important as understanding how to use the latest technology. Learn how to protect yourself from online threats

with practical tips and strategies in this cybersecurity presentation. Presenter Paige Hill serves as the Associate Chief Information Officer for the Lourdes University Information Technology Department.

**Who's Making Your Decisions?**  
11:15 – 12:45 PM, Friday, March 21

As adults, we often make plans for the future, but one area that is always neglected is advance care planning. Only about 30% of adults have discussed their wishes or made a written plan for their healthcare wishes. “Why do I need to do advance care planning?” “What do I need to put in my paperwork?” “My paperwork is complete, now what?” These are some of the questions that will be answered in this presentation. Afterward, you will have the opportunity to schedule a one-on-one session with the presenter to help complete your advanced care planning.

Dawn Gramling, LISW-S, APHSW-C, has been a medical social worker for over 20 years providing countless conversations to those looking to their medical future. Working at Hospice of Northwest Ohio for the last 8 years, Dawn has seen the impacts of a lack of preparation during a medical crisis. Dawn's certification as an Advance Care Planning

Facilitator allows her to have those important, yet sometimes difficult, conversations with people who are ready to advocate for themselves and their healthcare.

**The State of Publishing Today**  
11:15 – 12:45 PM, Friday, April 11

Book publishers must continually respond to changes in technology and contemporary trends. The invention of electronic books and their subsequent popularity on Kindle and Amazon are one example. Now, the widespread use of social media and the push to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) are changing the world of publishing. Publishers are also sensitive to the increasing number of book bans. Author E.M. Anderson will discuss the state of modern publishing, particularly of mainstream and traditional fiction, and how these issues affect authors, workers in the industry, and ultimately which books get published

E.M. Anderson is the author of *The Remarkable Retirement of Edna Fisher* (Midnight Meadow Publishing, 2023) and *The Keeper of Lonely Spirits* (MIRA Books/HarperCollins, 2025), as well as various short stories. She has experience working with both independent publishers and one of the country's biggest presses.

## TRAVEL

**Unholy Toledo Tour**

Step into the shadowy world of 1930s Toledo, a time of G-Men, speakeasies, and notorious gangsters like Pretty Boy Floyd, Baby Face Nelson, and Machine Gun Kelly. Brace yourself for the gripping tale of Thomas Yonnie Licavoli and his Detroit mob, who descended upon Toledo in 1931, leaving a trail of violence, unlike anything the city had seen before—14 murders in just 36 months.

Historian Tedd Long will take us on a journey back in time to Toledo's darkest days, when the infamous Tenderloin district rivaled the city's gambling halls in notoriety. Find the former illicit hotspots and notorious hangouts the notorious Licavoli Gang, the enigmatic club owner Jack Kennedy, kingpin Jimmy Hayes, and a

colorful cast of characters—each meticulously researched and historically accurate. The tour's climax centers around the most sensational crime of the era: the July 1933 assassination of Jack Kennedy, a young club owner and bootlegger, in Point Place. Experience Jack's gripping story firsthand during this two-hour driving tour, spanning downtown Toledo and the city's northern reaches.

At the end of the tour, we will enjoy a delicious lunch at Angelo's Northwood Villa, once a haven for alcohol and gambling, amongst other organized crime activities. Operated by the gambling kingpin Jimmy Hayes, its location was perfect for smuggling whiskey from Canada, into Detroit, and throughout Michigan and Ohio. Choose from chopped sirloin, baked mostaccioli,

the Villa chicken salad, a perch sandwich, and chicken parmigiana sandwich. Indulge in Angelo's own tiramisu for dessert!

Wednesday, March 19. The bus departs from Lourdes University parking lot M at 10:00 AM and returns at 2:00 PM. \$102 for members, \$114 for nonmembers.

### **The Rat Pack**

The Rat Pack was the epitome of celebrity, glitz, and glamour. The trio was led by singer and actor Frank Sinatra. Then there was Dean Martin, the crooner who exuded a playful charm. Lastly there is Sammy Davis Jr., the multi-talented performer who entertained audiences with his singing, dancing, and impersonations. Now, they are back together again in a new show, *the Rat Pack Lounge*.

The show begins with Frank, Dean, and Sammy up in heaven. God tells them they left some unfinished business back on Earth. It seems Frank made an unfulfilled promise to Vic, the owner of the Rat Pack Lounge. Now he and the boys have one night to make things right. Includes hits like "My Way," "What Kind of Fool Am I?" and "Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime." This show will leave you singing and savoring the days of highballs and high rollers! The show will be performed at Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester, Michigan. Their innovative,

Broadway-quality productions make audiences smile, laugh, and cry.

Lunch before the show will be at the Alfoccino Italian Restaurant where old school ambiance combines with freshly prepared Italian cuisine. Roast beef au jus, broiled salmon, two pasta dishes, and salad will be served family-style. Save room for the dessert of cheesecake and cannoli!

Sunday, April 27. The bus departs from Lourdes University parking lot M at 9:30 AM and returns 5:30 - 6:00 PM. \$175 for members, \$187 for nonmembers.

### **More Trips on Website**

Lifelong Learning is working on the following trips, but full details were not ready as of this printing. Dates, descriptions, and prices will be posted at [www.Lourdes.edu/Travel](http://www.Lourdes.edu/Travel) as soon as they are available. Alerts will be sent via email and Facebook when trip details are posted to the website.

- A Day of Magic –a magic museum & show
- Fabulous Frankenmuth –includes river cruise!
- First Ford Factory –plus the renovated Detroit train station
- Home & Gardens of the Auto Barons
- Zingerman's & Matthei Botanical Garden

**Please Note:** *If you have special dietary considerations (e.g. vegetarian), you must notify Lifelong Learning at the time of registration*

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Building Bridges: The Power of Ecumenical Dialogue**

Noon – 1:00 PM, Thursday, February 27

In 1964, the relationship between the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church took a dramatic turn from isolationism towards dialogue when Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras met on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem to pray together. One tangible result of this meeting was the founding of the Tantur Ecumenical Institute. Located between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, Tantur is uniquely located as an oasis of encounter, learning, prayer, and hospitality amidst

the immense geo-political complexity of this part of the world.

Ecumenism is the idea that Christians from different denominations should work together to promote unity and cooperation among their churches. Join us to learn more about the founding of Tantur as an ecumenical institute, the importance that Vatican II placed on ecumenism and interreligious dialog, how Tantur fosters ecumenism today, and the importance of relationships in ecumenical dialog.

Joining us from Israel via Zoom will be Rev. John M. Paul, the Rector at Tantur, Mr. Nizar Halloun, the Program Director, and Sr. Marie-Farouza, the Program Coordinator.

### **The Fritz Byers Band**

11:15 – 12:45 PM, Friday, May 16

Enjoy an intimate concert of original music that mines the many veins of the American tradition, including folk, country, the blues, and everything in between. After the show, meet and mingle with the members of the band and talk about the music. A wonderful way to celebrate the end of the semester with Lifelong Learning friends. A bountiful hot lunch buffet before the show is included!

### **Fr. Bacik Lectures**

5:30 PM, Thursday, April 3

5:30 PM, Tuesday, May 20

Fr. Jim Bacik will continue his lecture series with titles to be announced later. Presentations will be in the Franciscan Center theater. *No reservations are necessary.* General admission is \$10 (cash or check only) payable at the door.

### **Manor House Tour**

Group A: 9:00 – noon, Saturday, May 3 OR

Group B: 9:00 – noon, Saturday, May 10

Since space is limited, identical programs will be offered each day.

Wildwood Manor House is a Toledo icon as well as the centerpiece of the beautiful Wildwood Preserve Metropark. This is your opportunity to indulge in a private tour of the majestic mansion, including all four floors and details not seen in daily tours.

Stranleigh, as it was originally known, was built with the fortune of R. A. Stranahan. With more than 30,000 total square feet, the Manor House features more than 50 rooms, 16 fireplaces, and 17 bathrooms. This imposing home was built by R.A. Stranahan who, together with his brother, founded Champion Spark Plug Company. Ultimately becoming wealthy beyond their greatest imagination, the brothers used their money and influence to help see Toledo and the nation through the troubling times of the Great Depression and World War II.

Please note that there is a small, two-person elevator available for use if the stairs are a difficulty.

## **CLASSES**

### **The Historical and the Theological Jesus**

Paul Mueller

9:30 – noon, Thursdays

February 6 – March 13 (6 weeks)

How did Jesus actually live? We have the Gospel descriptions of his life, but what was the culture in which he lived? How did that culture influence the Gospel stories? These questions will be investigated, with further consideration and comparison of Jesus as he is seen in theology and the churches.

Paul Mueller is an adjunct instructor of theology at Lourdes University. He received his Master of Arts degree in theology at Lourdes in 2011, and his doctorate in theology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 2021. He is an active member of St. Joseph Parish in Sylvania.

### **Japan: From World War II Enemy to Contemporary Ally**

Tom Sorosiak

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Mondays

February 10 – March 3 (4 weeks)

Within the last 80 years the relationship between Japan and the United States has transformed from bitter enemy to partners. To better understand this transformation, four principle areas will be discussed: the people of Japan and their lifestyle, Japan's economy, geography, and Japanese culture. Together, these factors influence the country's impact, both globally and specifically on the economy and geopolitical standing of the United States.

Tom Sorosiak received a Keizai Koho Fellowship from the Japanese government which allowed him to study in Japan. He has retired from teaching in the History Department at

BGSU. He has taught a graduate course and workshops on Holocaust education and genocide. Tom also co-produced with WGTE a documentary, *Freedom Means Never Surrender*, that was awarded first place in international biography and received the Gold Telly Winner in Television - Biography.

### **Chess Practice for Beginners**

Jeremy Conn

10:00 – noon, Saturdays

Session 1: February 15 – March 15 (5 weeks)

Session 2: March 22 – April 26 (no class April 19; 5 weeks)

Play and learn chess in a beginner-friendly environment! Guided practice for beginning players who are still mastering the rules of chess. This course is for players who would like to test or increase their comfort with their knowledge and understanding of the rules of chess in a setting exclusively tailored for beginners. The main activity during class meetings will be playing games, with opportunities to have questions answered; for additional interest, trivia and puzzles will be presented.

Regulation chess sets and boards will be provided for use during each class meeting.

Jeremy Conn is a strong amateur chess player, aspiring chess master, and experienced coach for beginning and intermediate players.

### **Chess Practice for Improving Beginners**

Jeremy Conn

1:00 – 3:00 PM, Saturdays

Session 1: February 15 – March 15 (5 weeks)

Session 2: March 22 – April 26 (no class April 19; 5 weeks)

Compete and improve against other improving chess players! Guided practice for players who have already mastered the mechanics of the game, and who want to improve their play. Compete against other improving beginners to reinforce the knowledge and skills necessary to improve beyond the beginner level. Students will be presented with a summary of the body of knowledge to master at this level before graduating to the intermediate level, and level-

appropriate training exercises will be provided at each class meeting.

Regulation chess sets and boards will be provided for use during each class meeting.

### **Ancient Pathways: Tracing the First Humans Across North America**

Marya Czech

1:00 - 2:30 PM, Mondays

Feb. 17 – March 10 (4 weeks)

This class will take a comprehensive and engaging look at one of the most debated and intriguing chapters in human history: the arrival of the first humans in North America. These first arrivals shaped the cultural and environmental history of North America, and their story teaches us so much about human resilience and innovation. Delve into archaeological discoveries, scientific debates, and the enduring legacy of early migration as people explored the land we now know as Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

Instructor Marya Czech is a retired professor from the Lourdes University Biology Department and currently works as a regional environmentalist.

### **Coffee Tasting**

10:00 – 11:00 AM, Tuesday, February 18

Coffee is one of the most popular drinks in the world. People love it for its flavors, but there are also other components –such as the variety and aroma– that make each one distinctive. Taste three unique coffees as we trace the journey of a coffee bean from the tree to your cup, learning how each step can affect the taste.

Our guides on this journey will be Mary Jo and Matthew Boyd, owners of Doodle Bean Coffee, a locally owned, small-batch specialty coffee roasting company.

### **The Will of the People: Readings in American Democracy II**

Hugh Grefe

1:30 – 3:30 PM, Wednesdays

February 19 – March 12 (4 weeks)

With the powerful impact of the digital age and social media, there are daily challenges to the functioning of the U.S. as one of the world's

oldest democracies. Indeed, our democracy rises out of the ideas enshrined in documents nearly 250 years old. How relevant are these ideas and documents today? How have Americans grappled with the same issues that inspired and bedeviled our forebears? How are modern issues different? In the midst of the super-heated rhetoric of current debate, what can we learn from our nation's historical conversations?

The book for this course, *The Will of the People: Readings in American Democracy*, brings together 14 illustrative texts and invites discussion of their meaning and continuing significance. Join in a discussion of our nation's ongoing and challenging efforts to achieve a more perfect democracy. This is the second semester of this class, and we will read a rich array of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century writings by Americans including Abraham Lincoln, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony and Langston Hughes. Participation in the preceding semester is not required.

Published by the Great Books Foundation, *The Will of the People* will be available for purchase on the Lourdes University campus for \$14.

Facilitator Hugh Grefe earned a Master of Arts in History at the University of Toledo and has served in a variety of senior staff and board roles in the greater Toledo community. In 2002 he was awarded a Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship to participate in the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

### **Great Decisions – 2025**

Hugh Grefe

1:30 – 3:00 PM, Thursdays

February 20 – March 20, April 3, 10, and 24 (8 sessions)

Delve into the biggest topics in international news! Explore topics ranging from the changing role of the US in the world economy, a look at the future of NATO and European security, the impact of AI on US national security, US-China relations, and more. Discussions are based on materials from the Foreign Policy Association which selects eight critical issues each year.

Read a chapter in the briefing book at home, then watch a video briefing at the start of class before diving into a spirited and structured discussion of the most critical global issues facing America today. The textbook required for this class, *Great Decisions*, is available for purchase online. The book is also available for purchase on the Lourdes University campus for \$35.

### **Great Russian Operas**

Dr. Christopher Williams

3:30 – 5:00 PM, Mondays

March 17 – 31 (3 weeks); *Exclusively online*

Opera was central to the formation of a Russian cultural identity in the nineteenth century, though language and the remoteness of Russian history from a European mainstream were obstacles to its wide appreciation in America and the West. Through discussion of the three most important composers of Russian opera—Modest Mussorgsky (*Boris Godunov*, *Khovanshchina*); Piotr Tchaikovsky (*Eugene Onegin*, *The Queen of Spades*); and Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (*Christmas Eve*, *The Invisible City of Kitezh*, *The Golden Cockerel*)—this class will explore the unique power of opera to define Russia's role in the world. Drawing on the instructor's extensive knowledge and expertise in this field, each class meeting will highlight two operas, with other musical works and trends introduced to provide context.

Dr. Christopher Williams holds a Ph.D. in Music History and Literature from the University of California at Berkeley, and has taught at UT, BGSU, the Universität Salzburg, and in the joint program of the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University.

### **Thoreau at *Walden* and in Civil Disobedience**

Cynthia Nowak

9:30 – 11:00 AM, Tuesdays

February 25 – March 25 (5 weeks)

Henry David Thoreau, Walden Pond and that cabin of his. He wasn't a hermit (though you might call *Walden* his manifesto) or a tree-hugger (though a lady friend suggested an equivalence between Henry and an elm tree). Thoreau remains an American original and an American enigma: naturalist, lawbreaker, contrarian, anti-



slavery crusader, sponge for new experiences and seeker of the Visitor Who Never Arrives. This class will bring him and *Walden* to life via lively tell-all discussions, videos and a chance to create your own “life in the woods” by his side.

Cynthia Nowak, who earned her master’s degree in literature at the University of Toledo, has opened new vistas in Thoreau’s life and works for many college students, always finding new aspects of that often-misunderstood writer — slated for an upcoming Ken Burns documentary.

### **In Search of Three Pines: Travels Through Quebec**

Jan Whitaker

10:00 – 11:30 AM, Wednesday, Feb. 26

Fans of Louise Penny’s Chief Inspector Gamache mysteries, as well as followers of the television series, realize that Three Pines is a fictional town set in the very real province of Quebec. Join us for an exploration of the beautiful Quebec countryside, from the charming Eastern Townships to the major cities of Quebec and Montreal and on to the majestic Laurentian Mountains and the hidden gem that is the Gaspé Peninsula. Learn about the history of the province and its role in the settlement of North America.

An inveterate traveler, willing to go anywhere anytime, Jan Whitaker is an Ohio native with a lifelong interest in the history of our area. Previously, Jan spoke about the 1,200-mile Buckeye Trail and shared personal stories of her hike, as well as regional National Park Sites she has visited.

### **Chenin Blanc From Around the World**

Nicholas Kubiak

6:30 – 8:30 PM, Wednesday, February 26

Join us for a captivating journey through the vineyards of the world as we explore the incredible versatility of Chenin Blanc. Often called the “chameleon grape,” Chenin Blanc thrives in a variety of climates and soils, resulting in an impressive spectrum of styles—from crisp, mineral-driven dry whites to lusciously sweet dessert wines, and even vibrant sparkling options. Everyone is invited to bring food for pairing with six select wines.

Nicholas Kubiak is a Certified Specialist of Wine and Spirits and a veteran of our local wine industry.

### **Chronicling Two of Toledo’s Big Celebrations**

Donna Christian Rehfeldt

2:00 – 3:00 PM, Friday

February 28 – March 7 (2 weeks)

The King Wamba Carnival was promoted nationally and was expected to become Toledo’s annual festival. In 1909 it was a massive week-long celebration highlighting Toledo’s growth and businesses that earned the city the nickname “the Mardi Gras of the North.” Discover how and why the theme of King Wamba was chosen and learn about the many events of Toledo’s historic carnival.

An entirely different celebration was held when Toledo Central Union Station first opened. On the official opening day in 1950, over 70,000 people visited the train station. Hear the stories from the ensuing week celebrating of one of the last union stations constructed in the United States.

Donna Christian Rehfeldt was a librarian in the Local History & Genealogy Department of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library for 40 years. She has a master’s degree in history from Bowling Green State University. Donna serves as president of the Toledo History Museum.

### **The Sizzling Sixties: From Camelot to Woodstock**

Shari O’Brien, JD, Ph.D.

1:00 – 4:00 PM, with a generous break

Tuesdays, March 4 – April 1 (5 weeks)

Very likely, you were there, living the 1960s as a pre-teen, teen, or young adult. And the decade was a little like adolescence itself: exuberant, imaginative, mercurial, daring, at times defiant, idealistic, and marked by vicissitudes. It was a wild time, replete with strivings toward a New Frontier, heart-rending assassinations, endless protests, pulsating music, mind-bending drugs, long-haired hippies, miniskirts, and innovations that reached the very hem of the heavens. We’ll revisit those years by exploring key fields of endeavor: global and national affairs and politics; civil rights; medicine,

science, and technology; business and industry; entertainment including sports, television, film, and music; and a little of the arts and journalism. Among are complex cast of characters are Ho Chi Minh, Pope John Paul XXIII, Eldridge Cleaver, Dr. John Rock, Rachel Carson, Gus Grissom, Phil Knight, Twiggy, Muhammad Ali, Andy Griffith, Audrey Hepburn, Johnny Cash, Dianna Ross, Charles Manson, Truman Capote, and Ralph Nader. Be there again!

Dr. Shari O'Brien has doctorates in English and law; she worked in United States District Court and practiced law for thirty-five years. Publishing five law review articles as well as hundreds of essays and poems in national journals, she taught writing and poetry for twenty-seven years at UT and continues to write poetry today.

### **Exploring Justice in Two Cinematic Masterpieces**

Becky Hixon  
12:30 – 1:30 PM, Friday  
March 7 – 14 (2 weeks)

The concept of justice has always been hard to define—what constitutes “justice” by the letter of the law may not feel especially just to an individual or community, and there have always been those who wish to take justice into their own hands. In this class, we will consider justice through the lenses of two very different cinematic masterpieces.

The famous Japanese period drama *Rashomon* (1950), directed by Akira Kurosawa, has become synonymous with the idea that a single event can be interpreted in numerous ways. In its description of the same event from five different perspectives, the film asks how justice can be accomplished when we cannot know the truth. Separated by decades, cultures, and genres, Francis Coppola's award-winning gangster film *The Godfather* (1972) follows the Corleone family as they pursue their own version of justice in a city full of corruption and violence. If there isn't justice anywhere, the film asks, can we make our own?

Watch each film before class, either on your own or at Lourdes beginning at 3:30 PM on Thursday, March 6 and 13.

Becky Hixon is an Assistant Professor of English at Lourdes. She is currently designing a Studies in Film class that pairs temporally distant and generically distinct films together around specific theme/topics, such as the pairing explored in this class: justice.

### **Invisible Disabilities**

Anthony Knopps  
11:00 – 12:30 PM, Wednesday  
March 5 – 12 (2 weeks)

We all notice when someone has a broken arm or a broken leg. We are often happy to help them through a door or reach an item on a shelf. But what about those folks who go through life with no indication to the outside world that anything is amiss? People with disabilities are more prevalent than we realize. Explore the world of invisible disabilities with an instructor who knows these challenges all too well. You see, he shouldn't be here. Find out why and what you can do to make a difference to this hidden community!

Anthony Knopps has written several books, including *My Daddy has a Headache*. He is a senior instructor in the Graduate School of Political Management at George Washington University and his most recent book, *The No-Fail Mission*, was the subject of his last class for Lifelong Learning, “Behind the Scenes at the White House.”

### **Defending Democracy II: An examination of pluralism and Christian realism**

Dr. Keith Burris  
3:00 – 5:00 PM, Mondays  
March 10 – March 24 (3 weeks)

This course will continue our examination of the weaknesses and strengths of modern democracy, specifically representative democracy and contemporary American democracy, with special attention to intellectual and political pluralism and Christian realism.

Two books will be used in this class: *The Hedgehog and the Fox* by Isaiah Berlin and *Moral Man and Immoral Society* by Reinhold Niebuhr. The first book deals with liberal pluralism. The second does as well, but from Niebuhr's Augustinian perspective. Niebuhr's book also deals with the roots and rise of fascism.

Registration includes a copy of both books.

Keith C. Burris, Ph.D. wrote for the Toledo Blade from 1986 to 1988 and again from 2013 to 2022. His most recent position was Editorial Director and Vice President of Block Newspapers. In addition to writing for several other newspapers, Keith has also taught at Washington & Jefferson College, the University of Hartford, Trinity College, and West Virginia University.

### **The Spectrum of Jazz - Crosscurrents: Swing, Bebop, the Birth of the Cool, and More**

Fritz Byers

9:30 – 11:30 AM, Tuesdays

March 11 – April 15 (6 weeks)

Explore the diversity of jazz and the virtuosity of its most significant creators in this class, which will focus on the 1940s and 1950s, a period of extraordinary and rapid growth, change, and invention. Listen to and learn about some of the most pivotal figures in jazz history — Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Stan Getz, and more. This class builds on the concepts introduced in our two previous sessions on the history of jazz, but the earlier classes are not required to enjoy this one.

Each class meeting will involve a brief discussion of relevant social and musical history; extensive listening to recordings; open-ended time for shared reactions; and a brief conclusion that will sum up the day's listening and point toward the next session. No out-of-class reading or listening will be required, but there will be plenty of suggestions for further listening — additional works by the featured musicians as well as recordings by other artists who might be considered forerunners or protégé. No musical knowledge is assumed or necessary.

Fritz Byers has been a devoted jazz fan since his high-school days in the early 1970s. He has hosted the suite of Jazz Spectrum shows, currently comprising Jazz Spectrum Friday, Jazz Spectrum Saturday, and Jazz Spectrum Overnight, on WGTE-FM 91, on its sister stations, and now online, continuously since he created the show in April 1989. He has written extensively

about the music and currently writes and edits a blog on the Jazz Spectrum homepage, [www.wgte.org/jazz](http://www.wgte.org/jazz).

### **Dr. Walker and Her Two-Bit Friends**

Sheila Otto

10:00 – noon, Friday, March 14

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker was remarkable as a female physician during the Civil War and the only woman to win the Medal of Honor. In 2024, she was honored again in the US Mint's American Women Quarters series. This series of coins commemorates five American women each year (2022-2025).

Sheila Otto has long enjoyed taking on the persona of Dr. Walker, telling her crusading stories in her signature tuxedo and top hat. The original Dr. Walker last spoke to audiences in Toledo in 1893—*The Blade* gave her mediocre reviews! Sheila is eager to take on the role of Dr. Walker again and introduce you to her “two-bit” friends from other coins, including many remarkable American women whose names and stories you may not even know.

Come prepared to have some fun with Dr. Walker's challenging historical trivia, puzzles, and games as you get to know some unique women's stories. Begin your own search now; look through the quarters in your loose change to find a “twenty-five cent woman” to bring to class and then discover her story.

### **Fused Glass for Flowers**

Amanda Rabara

11:00 – noon, Saturday, March 15

Time for creative fun! Start with a triangle of clear glass, add pieces of colored glass and your imagination, and the result will be a unique piece of art to decorate your houseplants. Create leaves and flowers, a geometric pattern, or your own design! Fused glass flower stakes are approximately 12 inches tall and 2.5 inches at the top.

Amanda Rabara is an artist and currently teaches art in Toledo Public Schools.

### **Glass Gardens**

Jessica Trumbull

2:00 – 3:00 PM, Monday, March 17

Join us as we guide you through the art of creating your very terrarium, a miniature garden enclosed in glass! Each terrarium is an individual miniature ecosystem, and best of all, no maintenance is required! Whether you are a seasoned plant expert or just getting started on your plant journey, this fun class is perfect for everyone. All supplies, including containers, plants, springtails (insects), moss and step by step instructions will be provided.

Jessica Trumbull went to MSU for agriculture and has spent four years practicing the art of terrarium building. She now runs a small business, Glass Gardens by Jess, selling terrariums at pop up shops and artist events around Toledo.

### **World Religions**

Paul Mueller

9:30 – noon, Thursdays

March 20 – May 1 (no class April 17; 6 weeks)

This class will look at the great religions of the world, starting with the Eastern religions of Hinduism and Buddhism. We will also briefly discuss other Eastern religions and look at their commonalities. The last part of the course will deal with the great Western monotheisms of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity.

### ***Bitter Medicine – An Ohio Civil War Story***

Kim Wuescher & Sheila Otto

10:30 – noon, Wednesday, March 26

Meet Kim Wuescher, the author of *Bitter Medicine*, an Ohio-based Civil War era mystery. Get an inside view of the author's process and dive into women's struggles for equality. Kim Wuescher will be interviewed by Dr. Mary Edward Walker, a Civil War surgeon, recreated by Sheila Otto.

The speakers will discuss noteworthy people and medicine during this period in history and share anecdotes about the struggles of women with medical-career dreams and strong convictions in the Civil War period. *Bitter*

*Medicine*, the first in the Katie Harris mystery series, will also be available for sale.

Kim Wuescher is retired English teacher who writes under the pen name Mae McGraw. She is the president of the Northeast Ohio Sisters in Crime chapter and an avid reader. She lives with her husband in Medina, Ohio, and has two grown children.

### **Breaking Down the Gender Wage Gap: What's Really Going On?**

Gary Bentley

2:00 – 3:30 PM, Wednesday, March 26

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 made it illegal to pay women less than men for the same work. So why does the gender wage gap still exist? Despite progress, women are still earning less on average than their male counterparts. In 2021, a study showed women earned just 84 cents for every dollar that men made—full-time and year-round! In this class, we will dig into reasons why the wage gap persists, the factors at play, and explore the surprising reasons why some people still question its existence. Let's unravel the mystery together!

Retired Assistant Professor Gary Bentley taught in the College of Business and Leadership at Lourdes for 18 years. He previously retired from the 180<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing where he held several positions including Personnel Officer, Medical Service Corps Officer, and Executive Officer. He is a past president of the Toledo Area Human Resource Association and has an MBA from the University of Findlay.

### **The Flavors of Alsace**

Nicholas Kubiak

6:30 – 8:30 PM, Wednesday, March 26

Discover the enchanting wines of Alsace, a region nestled in the foothills of the Vosges Mountains in northeastern France. Known for its distinctive blend of French and German influences, Alsace offers some of the most expressive and aromatic wines in the world. Explore the fascinating history and culture of Alsace, shaped by its unique geography and winemaking traditions. Learn about the region's iconic grape varieties, including Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris, and Sylvaner, and

how they thrive in Alsace's diverse soils and cool climate. Taste six different wines and feel welcome to bring food for pairing.

### **Painting in Pastels: Introduction to Impressionistic Still Life**

Mary Jane Erard & Trudy Heintz  
12:30 – 3:30 PM, Thursday, March 27

Learn about impressionistic painting and how it can be explored through watercolors and pastels. Then create your own still life inspired by carefully curated photos of flowers or fruit. This class is welcoming to everyone, whether you are experienced with these mediums or are trying this for the first time. All supplies will be provided, though you are invited to bring any pastels you might already have.

Mary Jane Erard is an experienced art teacher and previously taught Lifelong Learning classes in plein air and watercolor painting. Her art is on display and for sale at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Trudy Heintz is a Maumee water colorist who paints every day. She is an award-winning artist who has had local solo shows. Trudy is a retired TPS teacher and geriatric social worker.

### **COVID-19 and the Brain**

Dr. Carol Budzenski, Ph.D.  
10:00 – noon, Friday, March 28

It's been 5 years since COVID-19 entered our lives. Most of us have experienced this virus. What does current research show regarding COVID-19's possible effect on thinking skills, long-term and short-term? How does "brain fog" come into play and is there anything to counteract it? Come learn what the research shows.

Carol Budzenski, Ph.D. is a board-certified neuropsychologist who recently retired from the University of Toledo Medical Center where she completed neuropsychological assessments and taught graduate students and fellows.

### **Geology of the Great Lakes Region: Highlights and Points of Interest**

Deanna Bobak  
4:00 – 5:00 PM, Friday, March 28

Have you ever wondered why northwest Ohio is so flat or how Niagara Falls formed? The Great Lakes region offers a wealth of interesting geologic features. This class takes a road trip into the vast expanse of geologic time to highlight some well-known features across the Great Lakes and explain their geologic history and formation.

Deanna Bobak has a BS and MS in Geology from the University of Toledo and is an avid rockhound. She's passionate about reading the landscape and understanding how a geologic setting can influence land features and use today.

### **Guatemala: A Land of Rich History and Vibrant Culture**

Emily Osborn  
10:00 – 11:30 AM, Monday  
March 31 – April 7 (2 weeks)

Nestled in the heart of Central America, Guatemala is a country of stunning natural beauty, ancient civilizations, and deep cultural traditions. Journey through its diverse geography, from volcanic landscapes to lush rainforests, and discover how this environment shaped the powerful Maya civilization. Explore Guatemala's colonial past, its struggle for independence, and the lasting impacts of its civil war. Dive into the country's vibrant culture, with its colorful textiles, festive traditions, and over 20 distinct languages.

Emily Osborn is the Director of Mission Operations for SewHope, a Toledo-based nonprofit working to empower Guatemalan communities through education, healthcare, and sustainable development and end the injustices of poverty. For the last four years, she has traveled with a team of volunteers to the northernmost region of the country where the SewHope campus is embedded in the community. Her understanding of the country and her commitment to bridging cultural and social gaps offer a compelling perspective on Guatemala's past, present, and future.

## **Broken Made Beautiful**

Sheila Otto

9:00 – noon, Wednesday, April 2

Kintsugi (“golden joinery”) is the ancient Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with lacquer and gold. In kintsugi, the repaired piece is viewed as stronger and more beautiful, healed and transformed.

In this class we will practice the art by intentionally breaking a piece of simple pottery. Using epoxy and gold embossing compound, we will simulate the ancient art of kintsugi. After growing comfortable with the process, we will repair another piece that might have some history for you. The process of repair can be freeing. Mending, patching, transforming broken parts creates something new and beautiful. Conversation and noticing your own process will be encouraged in the class.

Kintsugi can be a fun experience of creating something new out of something broken. It can also be a metaphor to explore interior places or relationships you’d like to mend and beautify. During the Lenten season we will include time for some guided reflection with the option for journaling, silence, prayer and optional sharing.

For this class, Sheila blends her interests in storytelling and crafting with her spiritual direction and counseling experience.

## **Science and Religion**

Dr. Andy Jorgensen

10:00 – noon, Wednesdays

April 2 – 9 (2 weeks)

This course will examine different opinions on the relationship between science and religion. It is based primarily on the ideas expressed in the Ian Barbour book *When Science Meets Religion: Enemies, Strangers, or Partners?* Barbour categorizes this relationship into four paths: conflict, independence, dialogue and integration. He then places major ideas in the context of each of these paths: creation, evolution, quantum physics, genetics and the influence God with nature. The author cites certain key ideas of individuals in each of these paths. Reading Barbour’s book is recommended, but not required.

Dr. Andy Jorgensen is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at the University of Toledo and worships in an Episcopal pew.

## **Nuclear Power: Climate Savior or Unrealistic Dream**

Dr. Andy Jorgensen

1:30 – 3:30 PM, Wednesdays

April 2 – 9 (2 weeks)

Of the many proposed solutions to the problem of dealing with climate change, increasing the use nuclear power is being considered for many reasons. The production of electricity by the radioactivity decay of uranium produces no greenhouse gases so does not affect the climate. In the United States, we have successfully used this process in approximately 100 reactors spanning fifty years. There is a considerable amount of uranium in the United States and several other countries. However, there are reasonable concerns about the safety of this technology, and, quite importantly, at present we have no high-level nuclear waste storage facility in our country.

This course will consider the history of nuclear power, review the major nuclear accidents, and summarize newer systems designed to utilize this valuable resource at a time when we desperately need non-fossil fuel sources of energy. This will include studying a unit now under construction funded by Bill Gates, and plans for related units in which Google has invested.

Dr. Andy Jorgensen is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at UT. He has studied and taught Environmental Chemistry, especially topics related to Climate Change, for many years.

## **Afternoon Tea Sampler**

Kristin Baldeschwiler, B.A.

4:00 – 6:00 PM, Wednesdays

April 2 – 16, April 30 – May 14 (6 weeks)

Kristin has taught a range of classes for Lifelong Learning over the past 19 years. Join her for a sampler of both old and new lecture topics, in this order:

- Ancient Greek and Roman Architecture
- Art Nouveau, historical period from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century

- Hector Guimard, French architect and designer
- Cathedrals of Great Britain
- Frank Lloyd Wright, American architect and designer
- New Deal Architecture in Toledo (WPA and other agencies)

Kristin Baldeschwiler, a 2003 graduate of Lourdes, received her BA in Art History, works in medical education at St. Vincent medical center, and is the owner / operator of Baldeschwiler Art and Design, LLC.

### **Russian Realist Art**

Richard Ward, Ph.D.

10:00 – noon, Friday, April 4

Russian realist painters from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s were known as the Peredvizhniki, often translated as the "Wanderers." These "Wanderers" rejected control from the art academies of Petersburg and Moscow and took their art to the public, including the rural peasants.

Russian realism grew out of the protest movements of the mid 1800s and disappeared with the development of Soviet realist art under communism. Many of these paintings are in protest to the living conditions of the common people and often indicate the stark contrast between the rich and the poor. Paintings preserved primarily in the Russian Museum (in Petersburg; not the Hermitage Museum) and the Tretyakov Museum (in Moscow) will be shown and discussed.

Dick Ward studied Assyriology at the University of Chicago and received a Ph.D. in ancient history from the University of Minnesota. This is a personal study of Russian realist art that affects Dick very deeply. He lived in Russia at one time and looks forward to introducing you to the artists Repin, Perov, Polenov, Savrasov, Kramskoy, and others.

### **Artificial Intelligence: Ethical and Legal Considerations**

Katarzyna Gruszka

4:00 – 5:00 PM, Friday, April 4

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become integral to many industries, and its use is

constantly expanding. It supports business growth, increases efficiency, and drives innovation, but it also brings significant challenges and risks. Key concerns include data protection, privacy and information security, which could be compromised by uncontrolled technology development.

Regulators face a formidable challenge: creating a legal framework that will both enable the further development of AI and safeguard individuals' rights. The question of reconciling innovation with the protection of fundamental values remains open.

This class will examine approaches to the regulation of AI in the United States and the European Union, and consider what priorities dominate the debate on balancing the development and safeguards for this new technology.

Katarzyna Gruszka is a PhD candidate at the Doctoral School of Social Sciences at the University of Warsaw, Poland. Katarzyna is a lawyer and also completed a degree in European studies.

### **Investigating Watergate**

Dr. Dwayne Beggs

Noon - 1:00 PM, Tuesdays

April 8 – May 6 (no class April 22, 4 weeks)

During his presidency, Richard M. Nixon would use a group of secret operatives, referred to as the plumbers, to break into various offices to gather "dirt" on Nixon's enemies. On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1972, the plumbers were caught while attempting to place bugs into the telephones of the Democratic National Headquarters as well as trying to steal information the Nixon campaign could use to discredit his opponent, George McGovern, in the upcoming election. The break-in would lead to an investigation by two reporters from the Washington Post, which exposed the involvement of the president and ultimately led to his resignation. Join us as we give the Watergate affair a thorough investigation.

Dr. Dwayne Beggs has taught many popular classes on many military conflicts for Lifelong Learning. Dr. Beggs earned a M.A. and a Ph.D. in U.S. Diplomatic History from BGSU. He also holds an M. Div. and served as a Youth Pastor / Associate Pastor for 22 years.

## **House Genealogy 101: Researching Your Home and Writing Its History**

Jeffrey Green

3:00 – 4:30 PM, Tuesdays

April 8 – May 13 (no class April 22, 5 weeks)

Have you ever wondered how old your home is? Who built it? Who's lived in it? Or wanted to know more about its architectural style? If you have, then this unique course is for you. Learn the basics of researching your home or property and writing its history. From identifying its architectural style and date of construction to reading a city plat or extracting information from a Sanborn Fire Insurance map, the class will help you unravel the history of your home...and maybe even solve a mystery or two! Please note that this can be a new look at your own old home, or you may choose to research another building.

Jeffrey Green has been a preservationist and public historian for over 30 years and was Historic Preservation Officer for Monroe, Michigan and an adjunct instructor in the Graduate Historic Preservation Program at Eastern Michigan University.

## **Shining a Light on Dementia**

Dawn Gramling

11:00 – noon, Monday, April 14

Nearly everyone has been exposed to or impacted by dementia in some way. But what do we know about dementia, really? This presentation will cover what dementia is, what it means to have dementia, and discuss the impact it has on individuals and loved ones. This class will be helpful for those with friends or loved ones with dementia, or those with early-stage dementia.

Dawn Gramling is a Certified Dementia Practitioner with twenty years of professional and personal experience in dementia care. Dawn has been working at Hospice of Northwest Ohio for 8 years where she supports those with dementia and their caregivers. Dawn provides ongoing education on dementia to hospice staff and the community.

## **The Rights of Animals and All of Nature**

Dr. Tim Reichard, MS, DVM

1:30 – 3:30 PM, Monday, April 14

The presentation will provide a brief overview of the progression of rights of animals and nature as seen through the lenses of history, philosophy, science, and religion. Share the speaker's personal journey on this topic through his career as a wildlife ecologist and veterinarian. Discuss with others how our individual viewpoints are evolving.

Tim Reichard grew up with animals on a dairy farm and in the wild environs of western Pennsylvania. After completing a master's degree in wildlife biology he worked as a field wildlife ecologist. He completed his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at Washington State University and worked as a zoo veterinarian at several zoos including the Toledo Zoo. Tim served on two national animal welfare committees to address animal welfare issues in all veterinary disciplines including dogs, cats, research animals, food animals, horses, wildlife and zoo animals, pet birds and poultry.

## **Vietnam's Native Religion**

Joseph Moran

1:00 – 2:30 PM Wednesday, April 16

This class will introduce the monotheistic religion Cao Dai that was established in Vietnam in 1926. This religion combines elements of Buddhism, Christianity, Taoism and Confucianism. Today, Cao Dai is the third largest religion in Vietnam, with an estimated 2 to 6 million adherents worldwide. Discover the story of how Cao Dai was established, as well as its beliefs, teachings, scriptures, organizational structure, and demographics. Learn about the holy sites and people of this faith, which include Jesus, Julius Caesar, Joan of Arc, Victor Hugo, and Lao Tzu.

Joseph Moran first learned about this religion when stationed in Vietnam. He visited the Cao Dai Temple in Tay Ninh Province in 2011. Joe has an M.A. in Criminology from BGSU and taught at Lourdes University for 20 years, primarily Criminology and Penology. In retirement, Joe has worked as a chemical dependency counselor at the Lucas County



Correctional Center (jail) and serves as treasurer of the non-profit Toledoans for Prison Awareness.

### **The Origins and Colonial Experience of the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho**

Dr. Richard F. Weisfelder

2:00 – 3:30 PM, Wednesday, April 23

The Kingdom of Lesotho is one of the least known independent nations despite its scenic beauty, rich culture and complex history. A mountainous country, it is an enclave entirely surrounded by the Republic of South Africa. Discover how this kingdom originated and became a colony of Britain in 1868. Learn about the impact of South Africa's policies of racial segregation and apartheid upon Lesotho. Explore the electoral process that led to its liberation from colonial rule in 1966. Enjoy a visual tour of Lesotho in the mid-1960s and learn about Lesotho's unique geography and role as the source of water and labor for South Africa's industrial heartland.

In 1965-1966, Richard F. Weisfelder spent 18 months in Lesotho conducting research sponsored by the Ford Foundation. He returned several times during the 1970s and 1980s and spent the academic year 1995-96 teaching at the National University of Lesotho on a Fulbright grant. Subsequently, he led three groups of US teachers to explore Lesotho and South Africa on five-week US Department of Education funded programs. His three groups of traveling retirees also found Lesotho especially fascinating. Richard taught international relations, foreign policy and African politics at universities in Botswana, Lesotho and South Africa and at the University of Toledo. He is a retired Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at UT.

### **The Relevant, Complex, but Controversial Legacy of Thomas Jefferson**

L. Paul Hood, Jr.

10:00 – 11:30 AM, Fridays

April 25 – May 9 (3 weeks)

Attend online or on campus!

A fair and accurate portrait of the true Thomas Jefferson must include his complexity, his position as a slave owner, as well as his work as a father of the Declaration of Independence.

First, we will focus on Jefferson's upbringing, education, motivation, the people who most influenced him and his early political career in his beloved Virginia.

Next, we will pivot to Jefferson's life as the colonies began to revolt against King George, culminating in Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence. His work and legacy will be viewed through the lens of direct quotes from John Adams (often a bitter adversary) to present-day thinkers.

Finally, we will examine in objective detail some of Jefferson's significant character flaws and vilified actions. These include Jefferson's decision to not attend President Washington's funeral over a political difference, his fathering a child with his slave Sally Hemings, and some highly inappropriate social behavior from a sitting president.

Please note that the instructor will be joining us via Zoom. Students are welcome to attend online or join us on campus.

A native of Louisiana and a passionate history buff, Paul Hood obtained his undergraduate and law degrees from Louisiana State University and an LL.M. in taxation from Georgetown University Law Center before settling down to practice tax and estate planning law in the New Orleans area. Paul has taught at the University of New Orleans, Northeastern University, University of Toledo, and Ohio Northern University.

### **Exploring a New Cosmic Creation Story**

Rosine Sobczak OSF

10:00 – noon, Mondays

April 28 – May 5 (2 weeks)

Explore an evolving story of Cosmic Creation and our place within it. We will draw inspiration from the works of Passionist priest Thomas Berry, mathematical cosmologist Brian Swimme, and others. Science and spirituality are joining together after centuries of separation to reveal the powers of the Universe that give us hope for the future in these turbulent times. This class will foster reflection, stimulate discussion, and inspire action, guiding you towards discovering your unique calling and the Great Work you are meant to pursue.

Registration includes a copy of the book *The Universe is a Green Dragon* by Brian Swimme.

Sister Rosine Sobczak, OSF is an Associate Biology Professor Emerita, who has linked biology and spirituality to a great degree in her own life for the past 30 years and presented insights to others who were eager to listen and grow in their own spirituality.

### **Neuro Tour**

Dr. Carol Budzenski, Ph.D.

10:00 – noon, Tuesdays

April 29 – May 6 (2 weeks)

Take a fun and interesting tour of the brain! We will explore different structures and regions of the brain via notable past case studies. Historically, much of what has been learned about the brain has been through past mishaps, illnesses and surgical events. The function of approximately 6-8 brain structures and regions, the effects of their loss and their possible recovery, will be covered through portrayal of what we know of the lives of some people who have experienced them in the past.

### **African Art and Its Influence on Artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries**

Dr. David Guip

1:00 – 3:00 PM, Wednesdays

April 30 – May 28 (5 weeks)

Since the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, African artifacts were collected by missionary societies, explorers, and European nations who engaged in colonization. These objects were available to historians and artists for investigation in written and visual formats. Learn about African art and the materials and traditions woven into them, then explore how African art influenced the work of innovative western artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

Recent acquisitions from The Toledo Museum of Art and other regional museums will be used to illustrate this series of lectures. While digital images are good, it is important to see real objects so one class meeting will include a tour of the African art collections in the Toledo Museum of Art.

Dr. David Guip is an Emeritus Professor of Art and Art History in the College of Arts and Letters at The University of Toledo and past Chairman of the Department of Art. He is Master Docent at the Toledo Museum of Art conducting tours and Gallery Groups of adults focusing on advanced study of exhibitions and the permanent collections. In addition, he was the recipient of the National Endowment of the Humanities Fellow in African Art and an Outstanding Teaching Award from the University of Toledo.

### **Behind the Shadows: Film Noir and the Rise of American Disillusionment**

Tom Roka

2:30 - 4:30 PM, Thursdays

May 1 – 15 (3 weeks)

Following the Depression and during World War II, a new style of movie began to dominate American theatres. Film noir (French for 'black film') emphasized a dark and bleak view of American life. These films portrayed men and women as flawed individuals caught up in murder and crime. Often, these leading characters are victims of boredom and loneliness. The temptation of money consistently appeared and fueled stories of doom.

This class will review how the popularity of film noir benefited from fears of the atomic bomb, the growth of suburbs, and postwar adjustment across the country. We will highlight key individuals and examine influential ideas of intellectuals, such as David Riesman and Albert Camus, who helped to shape the film noir genre. Two films will be shown during the course: *In a Lonely Place* starring Humphrey Bogart and *Pitfall* with Dick Powell and Lizabeth Scott.

Tom Roka is an adjunct instructor for several institutions, including Lourdes University. A college educator for nearly 30 years, Tom earned an MA from the University of Toledo.

### **Beginner Birding**

Elizabeth Anderson

9:00 – 10:30 AM, Fridays

May 2 – 9 (2 weeks)

Learn the basics of bird identification in this introductory course! You'll learn to look for size, shape, sound, markings, and more to

identify common Ohio birds. A second session will put your newfound knowledge to use as we venture to Sylvan Prairie Park to practice birding in the field. This course includes a copy of the book *AMNH Pocket Field Guide to Birds of North America (Eastern Region)* for each student to keep.

Elizabeth Anderson received an English degree from Lourdes University and now works as an administrative assistant. She is the author of *The Remarkable Retirement of Edna Fisher* (Midnight Meadow Publishing, 2023) and *The Keeper of Lonely Spirits* (MIRA Books, 2025). Elizabeth started birding 14 years ago and looks forward to sharing one of her favorite pastimes with Lifelong Learners.

### **Living American Composers of Classical Music**

Dr. Christopher Williams

3:30 – 5:00 PM, Mondays

May 5 – 19 (3 weeks); *Exclusively online*

Fans of classical music instinctively know that new music in their favorite genre is being written all the time and in large quantities. Yet, it often goes unremarked, and general introductions to classical music don't stress it nearly enough. (WGTE's commitment to new music is unusual among classical radio stations).

Over three class meetings, this course will explore some of the most influential styles driving contemporary American classical music. The first class will discuss the influence of minimalism in the music of Phillip Glass, Steve Reich, and John Adams. The second class will highlight two prominent composers at the University of Michigan: William Bolcom and Michael Daugherty. Among the composers mentioned in the third class will be Daron Hagen, Evan Ziporyn, Laura Schwendinger and Pulitzer Prize winners Jennifer Higdon and Caroline Shaw. Some or even most of these names will be unfamiliar to students, but samples from their works will help argue convincingly why composers and audiences find the dynamics of concert music continuously appealing.

### **Cyanotype Workshop: Making Artistic Prints with Light and Nature**

Margaret Lockwood-Lass

Noon – 2:30 PM, Monday, May 12 – 19 (2 weeks)

Before cameras were invented, artists discovered how to make cyanotype prints combining light and nature to make beautiful blue paper prints of plants. Today, those prints are in museums and still as blue as when they were first made. Learn about this vintage process and alternative colors and substrates. Have fun making your own beautiful paper prints with plants and sunlight.

Margaret Lockwood-Lass has worked with cyanotypes for over 30 years and still loves their wonderful blue colors and the process of printing plants and other items on alternate surfaces of all kinds. She spent her college days at the University of Iowa making and selling cyanotypes on the summer art circuits. She has taught at Owens Community College, BGSU, and Lourdes University.

### **The History and Evolution of Comic Books**

David Lockwood-Lass

1:00 – 2:30 PM, Tuesday, May 13 – 20 (2 weeks)

Comic books first appeared in the late 1800s and have played an integral role in pop culture since the 1930s. Comic books were used as patriotic propaganda during World War II, then as platforms for the social and civil rights movements of the 60s and 70s. Their influence continues to this day! This class will explore the Gold, Silver, and Bronze ages of comics covering 1937 to 1985, as well as looking at the gradation, valuation, preservation, and restoration of comic books that form the basis of collecting sequential art.

David has been collecting and studying comic books for 60 years, ever since his brother gave him his first comic in 1964. He worked as a Librarian/Children's Specialist in the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library System for 30 years and holds degrees in communications, English, history, Shakespearean literature and library science.

## **Exploring Creativity through Zentangle**

Victoria Webb

1:00 – 4:00 PM, Thursday, May 22

Join us for an engaging workshop that explores the art of Zentangle, a unique drawing technique that blends creativity and mindfulness. Learn to create intricate designs through structured patterns, allowing for your own artistic expression. The meditative process of drawing tangles also promotes relaxation and stress relief. Explore your own creativity while practicing fine motor skills. This workshop is designed for adults of all skill levels within a supportive environment to help everyone to explore self-expression through art.

A set of materials will be provided for each student that will be theirs to keep and continue their Zentangle journey.

Certified Zentangle Teacher Victoria Webb is passionate about sharing the transformative benefits of this unique art form. Her journey into Zentangle began as a personal practice, where she discovered the profound effects of mindfulness, creativity, and *stress relief* that come from drawing simple patterns. In her

classes, Victoria creates a welcoming environment and fosters a sense of community, encouraging connection among participants as they create together.

## **Organic Wines**

Nicholas Kubiak

6:30 – 8:30 PM, Wednesday, May 28

Dive into the world of organic wines and discover how sustainable practices in the vineyard and cellar create wines that are not only better for the environment but also vibrant and full of character. This class is designed to demystify organic wine, exploring what it truly means and why it matters.

In this session, we will learn the principles behind organic viticulture, including the avoidance of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, and how they impact the health of the soil, vines, and environment. Discuss the difference between organic, biodynamic, and natural wines, clearing up common misconceptions. And of course, taste six great wines! Everyone is welcome to bring food to accompany the wine.

# **S.A.V.E. Lectures**

The Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment, (S.A.V.E.) Inc. at Lourdes University has a mission to foster a personal awareness and respect for the interrelatedness of ecology, spirituality, and sustainability. S.A.V.E lectures, held in the Franciscan Center Board Room, are free and open to all, no registration necessary. For more information call 419-824-3691 or e-mail [save@lourdes.edu](mailto:save@lourdes.edu)

## **Ocean Conservancy: International Coastal Cleanup and More**

Claudia Godreau, Events Specialist and Sarah Weller, Senior Manager at International Coastal Cleanup

7:30 – 9:00 PM January 14

Ocean Conservancy works to protect the ocean from today's greatest global challenges. They create evidence-based solutions for a healthy ocean and the wildlife and communities that depend on it.

## **Spirituality of the Cosmos: What Stars Teach Us About Hope**

Linda Gibler OP, Vicarress of the Dominicans, Houston TX

7:30 – 9:00 PM, March 11

Linda delights in telling the 14-billion-year story of the Universe as well as the stories of the common things that surround us. Her book, *From the Beginning to Baptism: Scientific and Sacred Stories of Water, Oil, and Fire*, tells the cosmic stories of the primary sacramentals of baptism.

## **Laugh, Learn, Live Fully**

Katy Maag: BSN, Certified Stress Management Coach

7:30 – 9:00 PM, April 8

How to embrace environmental stewardship with humor, knowledge, and action. By intentionally incorporating humor and opportunities for laughter, we can build trust, relieve tension, and cultivate an environment conducive to open communication and teamwork.

# SPRING 2025 REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE USE ONLY

QB Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt: email

USPS

## Payment is accepted only by mail or online via our website.

To pay online with a credit card visit: [www.Lourdes.edu/LLLpayment](http://www.Lourdes.edu/LLLpayment)

*Please note that Lourdes will now apply a service charge of 2% to all credit card payments.*

To pay by mail please send completed registration form to:

Lifelong Learning  
Lourdes University  
6832 Convent Blvd.  
Sylvania OH 43560

## Payment by mail is strongly encouraged.

For more information, please call  
419 - 824 - 3707 or send an email to  
[lifelong@lourdes.edu](mailto:lifelong@lourdes.edu)

Check -made payable to *Lourdes University*- number \_\_\_\_\_

Credit:     Visa             Master Card             Discover

*Please note that Lourdes will apply a service charge of 2% to all credit card payments.*

Credit card no: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security code on reverse: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the support of generous donors, Lifelong Learning can provide financial assistance to those who would otherwise be unable to participate. For more information, please contact Laura Megeath at (419) 824-3707 for additional information. All requests are confidential.

## REFUND POLICY

Lifelong Learning will refund money for classes, trips, and events only under two circumstances:

- 1) If Lifelong Learning cancels an event or changes the dates / times of an event after a person has paid.
- 2) A person becomes so severely ill that hospitalization is required. If you are unable to attend something for which you have paid, you are welcome to sell your spot to another person. You must then notify Lifelong Learning with the name of the individual who will be attending

# SPRING 2025 REGISTRATION FORM

## Membership *All memberships expire July 31, 2025*

- New Member \$30 per person
- Continuing Member (Joined in the fall semester)
- Lourdes Society & Alumni – free
- Lourdes Parent \$15 per person

## Support Lifelong Learning & Lourdes University

- Lifelong Learning program \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Lifelong Learning scholarships \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Areas of Greatest Need at Lourdes \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Monthly Lectures

- Baseball Life Free
- Economic Power of Education Free
- Made in Ohio Free
- Preserving the Soul of Motown Free
- Toledo Zoo Free

## Hot Topics *Member / Nonmember prices listed*

- Cybersecurity \$13 / \$25
- State of Publishing Today \$13 / \$25
- Trail Fire \$13 / \$25
- Who's Making Your Decisions? \$13 / \$25

## Travel *Member / Nonmember prices listed*

- Rat Pack \$175 / \$187
- Unholy Toledo Tour \$102 / \$114

## Special Events: *Member / Nonmember prices*

- Building Bridges \$10 / \$22
- Fritz Byers Band (includes lunch buffet and show) \$22 / \$34
- Manor House Tour
  - Group A: May 3 \$20 / \$32
  - Group B: May 10 \$20 / \$32

## Classes: *Member / Nonmember prices listed*

- African Art and Its Influence \$66 / \$78
- Afternoon Tea Sampler \$75 / \$87
- Ancient Pathways \$43 / \$55
- Artificial Intelligence \$16 / \$28
- Beginner Birding \$38 / \$50
- Behind the Shadows: Film Noir \$43 / \$55
- Bitter Medicine \$21 / \$33
- Breaking Down Gender Wage Gap \$21 / \$33
- Broken Made Beautiful \$26 / \$38
- Chenin Blanc Around the World \$26 / \$38
- Chess Practice for Beginners
  - Session 1: 2/15 – 3/15 \$66 / \$78
  - Session 2: 3/22 – 4/26 \$66 / \$78
  - Both sessions 1 and 2 \$122 / \$134

- Chess Practice for Improving Beginners
  - Session 1: 2/15 – 3/15 \$66 / \$78
  - Session 2: 3/22 – 4/26 \$66 / \$78
  - Both sessions 1 and 2 \$122 / \$134
- Chronicling Toledo's Celebrations \$23 / \$35
- Coffee Tasting \$18 / \$30
- COVID-19 and the Brain \$23 / \$35
- Cyanotype Workshop \$43 / \$55
- Defending Democracy II \$87 / \$99
- Dr. Walker and her Two-Bit Friends \$23 / \$35
- Exploring Creativity with Zentangle \$55 / \$67
- Exploring a New Creation Story \$32 / \$44
- Exploring Justice in Cinema \$23 / \$35
- Flavors of Alsace \$26 / \$38
- Fused Glass for Flowers \$36 / \$48
- Geology of the Great Lakes \$16 / \$28
- Glass Gardens \$42 / \$54
- Great Decisions – 2025 \$76 / \$88
- Great Russian Operas \$34 / \$46
- Guatemala \$26 / \$38
- Historical and Theological Jesus \$81 / \$93
- History & Evolution of Comic Books \$26 / \$38
- House Genealogy 101 \$50 / \$62
- In Search of Three Pines \$21 / \$33
- Investigating Watergate \$31 / \$43
- Invisible Disabilities \$26 / \$38
- Japan: From Enemy to Ally \$31 / \$43
- Living American Composers \$34 / \$46
- Neuro Tour \$43 / \$55
- Nuclear Power \$31 / \$43
- Organic Wines \$26 / \$38
- Origins and Experience of Lesotho \$16 / \$28
- Painting in Pastels \$31 / \$43
- Relevant Legacy of T. Jefferson \$34 / \$46
- Rights of Animals and All of Nature \$23 / \$35
- Russian Realist Art \$23 / \$35
- Science and Religion \$31 / \$43
- Shining a Light on Dementia \$16 / \$28
- Sizzling Sixties \$81 / \$93
- Spectrum of Jazz – Crosscurrents \$76 / \$88
- Thoreau at *Walden* \$55 / \$67
- Vietnam's Native Religion \$21 / \$33
- Will of the People \$52 / \$64
- World Religions \$81 / \$93

Total: \$\_\_\_\_\_

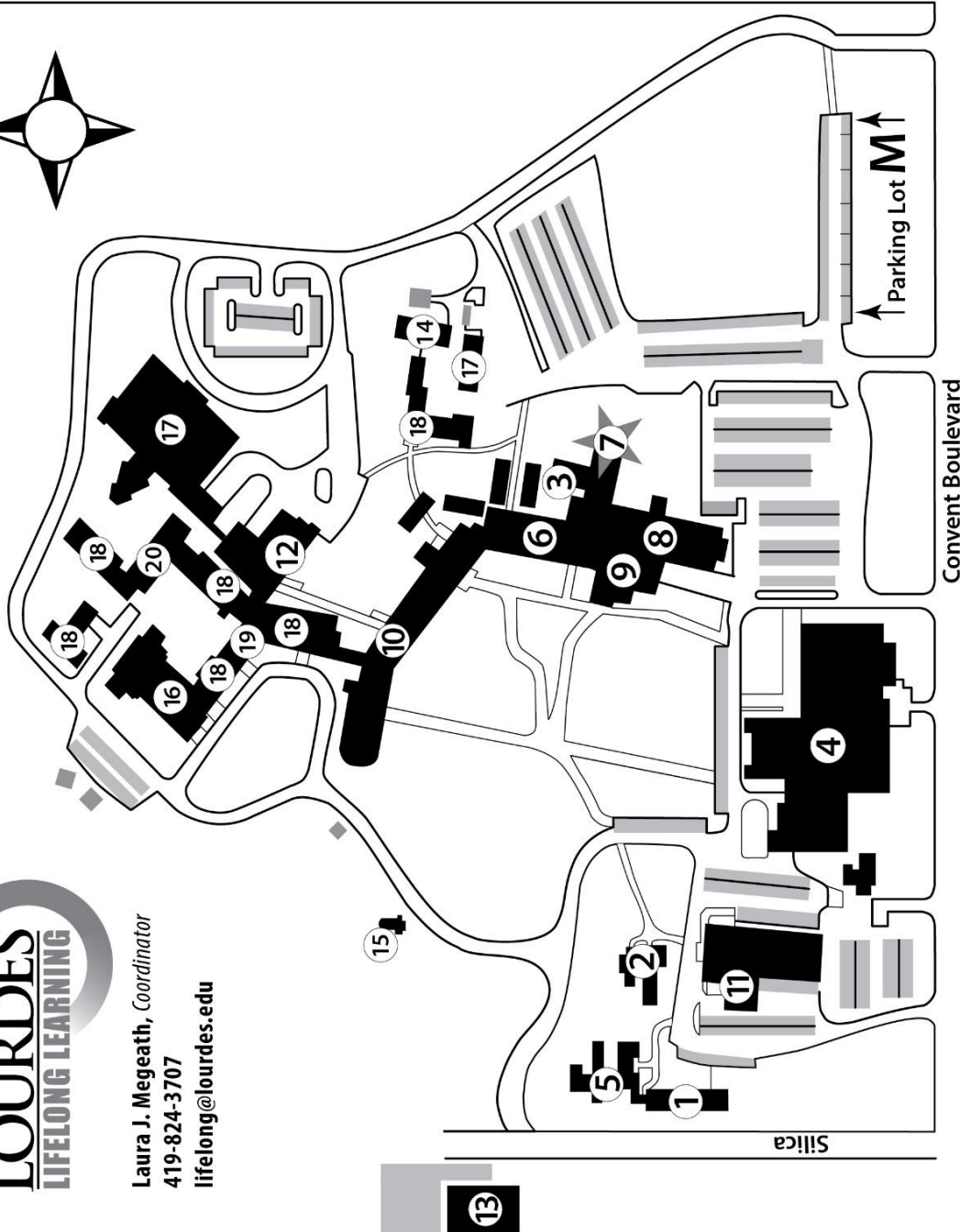
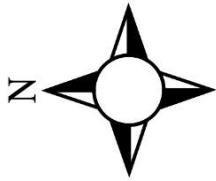
# Lifelong Learning at Lourdes University

6832 Convent Boulevard • Sylvania, Ohio 43560

[www.lourdes.edu/lifelong](http://www.lourdes.edu/lifelong)



Laura J. Megeath, Coordinator  
419-824-3707  
lifelong@lourdes.edu



## Lourdes University Buildings

- 1 Assisi Hall (ASI)
- 2 Carmel Hall (CAH)
- 3 Delp Hall (DEH)  
- Ebeid Student Center  
- Academic Success Center
- 4 Franciscan Center (FC) and Board Room
- 5 St. Agnes Hall (SAH)
- 6 Lourdes Hall (LH)  
- Appold Planetarium
- 7 Russell J. Ebeid Hall (REH)  
- Welcome Center - 419-885-3211
- 8 Mother Adelaide Hall (MAH)
- 9 Dining Hall
- 10 Saint Clare Hall (SCH)  
- Duns Scotus Library
- 11 Saint Francis Hall (SFH) and Lounge
- 12 Saint Joseph Hall (SJH)  
The Flascck Nursing Center
- 13 Canticle Center

## Sisters of Saint Francis Buildings

- 14 Alverno Studio
- 15 Portiuncula Chapel
- 16 Queen of Peace Chapel
- 17 Rosary Care Center
- 18 Sisters of Saint Francis
- 19 All Good Things
- 20 Regina Hall



Lourdes University  
6832 Convent Blvd.  
Sylvania OH 43560

## **SPRING 2025**

419-824-3707

[lifelong@lourdes.edu](mailto:lifelong@lourdes.edu)

[www.Lourdes.edu/LifeLong](http://www.Lourdes.edu/LifeLong)

