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Faith Builders

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Faith Builders contributes to the growth of Christian communities by providing Christ-centered training and resources.



WINTER TERM 26

Faith Builders Educational Programs

January 5 - February 6, 2026

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24

Winter Term 2026

	WEEK ONE Jan. 5-9	WEEK TWO Jan. 12-16	WEEK THREE Jan. 19-23	WEEK FOUR Jan. 26-30	WEEK FIVE Feb. 2-6
Breakfast 7:15-7:45					
Chapel 8:00-8:30	M: Speaker T: Small Groups W: Worship R: Small Groups F: Speaker				
Period A 8:40-10:10	Church History: Reformation to the Present				
	Reading the Bible			Anabaptism as Worldview	
Period B 10:20-11:50	Women Caring for Women (M, W, F)				
	Minor Prophets			Issues in Church Leadership	
	Listening to & Enjoying Good Music			Music in the Life of the Church	
Lunch 11:45-12:45					
Period C 12:15-1:45	Music Fundamentals				
	Growing into a Godly Woman (M, W, F)			Creating Life-Giving Spaces	
	An Anabaptist View of Peace, Violence, & Politics			Fire in the East	
Period D 1:55-3:25	Life & Leadership for Men				
	Understanding Depression				
	Ruth & Other Women of the Bible			Writing to Communicate	
Period E 3:35-5:05	Historical Theology				
	Class Voice (M, W, F)			Beginning Choral Conducting	
	Early Anabaptist Biblical Hermeneutics			Poetry of Faith: The Christian Tradition in English	
Supper 5:15-6:00					

ABOUT WINTER TERM

Winter Term offers courses in various disciplines, including Bible, music, history, and theology. Courses are structured to allow students to attend for as few as two weeks.

COURSE INFORMATION

Courses may be taken for credit or audited. The suggested workload is 6-8 credits or 2-3 courses. Students are expected to take two classes per day for credit. Three classes per day is a typical maximum load. Students who audit do not complete all homework, take exams, or receive a grade.

EXPENSES

Costs are based on the number of weeks attending, the number of courses taken, lodging, meals, and various fees. Find more details at fbep.org/wt.

INSTRUCTORS

Instructors are selected for characterizing love of God and for demonstrating capability in the discipline they teach.



Cynthia Brubaker
Homemaker



Steven Brubaker
FBEP Administrator,
FBTI Instructor



Edsel Burdge
Historian, Bible
teacher



John Coblentz
Pastor, Author



Janelle Glick
Homemaker, Life
Coach, Mentor



Kendra Kennell
Greenhouse laborer,
Mentor



Lucas Hilty
FBTI Instructor, Pastor,
Mentor



Melvin Lehman
Pastor, Retired teacher



Nelson Martin
Mechanic, Conductor,
Composer



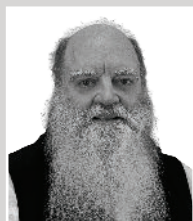
Brandon Mullet
FBTI Instructor,
Choir director



Marie Mullet
Homemaker, Mentor



Josh Nisley
FBTI Instructor,
Highschool teacher



Stephen Russell
FBTI Instructor,
Mentor



Anita Yoder
FB Communications,
Mentor

course descriptions

Winter Term 2026



 Filled boxes indicate course length. This course runs for the first three weeks of Winter Term.

 Filled section indicates the credit hours. This course earns one credit hour.

Any course is subject to cancellation if the minimum student enrollment is not met. Preference is given to early enrollees. Classes are limited to a maximum of 30 students.

Reading the Bible BIB 150

Steven Brubaker

Reading the Bible is a course that cultivates the attitudes, discipline, concepts, skills, and intention necessary for reading thB bible, moving toward its intended meaning, and making the response God desires.

Course not available for audit.

Minor Prophets BIB 384

Melvin Lehman

This course introduces students to the significance of the word of the Lord as it breaks forth in the Minor Prophets. The course also projects some parallels on our own era. We assume this is not possible without an understanding of the time and geographic context wherein these words were written and compiled.

Ruth & Other Women of the Bible BIB 391

Kendra Kennell

Together, we will study the life of Ruth and other women woven throughout Scripture. We will look at their lives through the stories that are recorded in Scripture, and aim to apply what we learn. We will look at the history and culture that surrounds their stories and how God worked in their lives. These women of the Bible faced real challenges, just as we do.

Writing to Communicate ENG 105

Anita Yoder

This course is for those who would rather eat their pencil than write an email or newsletter article. We will learn and practice the building blocks of effective communication and explore ways to approach the terrifying blank page with confidence.

Course not available for audit. Limited to 15 students.

Church History: Reformation to the Present HIS 341

Stephen Russell

This class is a survey of church history beginning with the Reformation and continuing up to today. This survey is divided into two periods: the Reformation and the Modern Church.

Fire in the East: The Spread and Spirituality of Early Eastern Christianity HIS 342

Lucas Hilty

Because we have inherited the Christian traditions of Western Europe, many North American Christians are oblivious to the rich spiritual heritage of the early Church in the East. In this course, we encounter bishops, singers, teachers, and monks whose devotion to Christ produced great works of doctrine, devotional poetry, and haunting hymns. The story of the Church in the East—for centuries home to the majority of the world's Christians—and its spread from the Middle East, across central Asia, and into China and India deserves the attention of those who are interested in these regions today, as well as students of the work of God across time and cultures.

Poetry of Faith: The Christian Tradition in English LIT 311

Josh Nisley

The tradition of English devotional poetry is one of the oldest and richest in Western literature—and, it's a living tradition, with many accomplished poets still writing about the mystery of life with God. Beginning in the Anglo-Saxon period and continuing to the present, we will explore this long stream of poetry informed by Christian faith. Through close reading and discussion, students will not only learn about specific poets and poems but how to read and appreciate poetry.

Understanding Depression MIN 333

John Coblentz

Depression has been called the common cold of psychological disorders, with one in ten people in the U.S. experiencing depression. In this class, we survey examples of depression in the Bible, examine causes of depression, and explore helpful responses to people who are depressed.

Issues in Church Leadership MIN 335

Melvin Lehman

Church leadership has always been a challenge. The contemporary world presents a special set of challenges. This course offers a discussion forum for pastors to raise questions and share their administrative/pastoral experiences with one another.

Limited to church leaders.

Women Caring for Women MIN 336

Janelle Glick

Through scripture study, interactional learning, and reflective writing, this course helps women explore their God-given relational resources, practice Christ-like change in their coping patterns, and develop skills in compassionate listening and prayer ministry with others. A main goal of the course is to equip women to return to their communities strengthened in God's relational presence and prepared to bless others with His grace.

Course not available for audit. Minimum age of 21.

Music Fundamentals MUS 110

Nelson Martin

Emphasizes elementary theory (chord structure), music reading, and ear training skills. This course aims to instill a basic working knowledge of the language of music and to develop skill in pitch reproduction.

Listening to & Enjoying Good Music MUS 301

Brandon Mullet

This course provides the student with the background necessary to develop an appreciation for good music. Guidance is given in listening and learning to appreciate church, choral, and classical music. The basic vocabulary, forms, and genres are taught, as well as brief histories of the periods of music and the composers of great music from each of these periods.

Class Voice MUS 310

Nelson Martin

Students are instructed in the fundamentals of good singing. This course is designed for anyone who is interested in learning to sing correctly.

Beginning Choral Conducting MUS 320

Brandon Mullet

A practical, hands-on approach to choral conducting, focusing on clear communication of musical ideas with the conducting gesture and on efficient, effective rehearsal techniques. All participants will spend substantial time conducting. Some sessions will be videotaped.

Music in the Life of the Church MUS 331

Brandon Mullet

Worship is a primary function of the gathered community. This course develops a framework for thinking about the role of music in the church. In addition, students explore the practical implications of this framework for the life of the church.

Life & Leadership for Men PER 260

Melvin Lehman

Growing into a man implies growing toward leadership roles. In this study, we explore the foundations of manhood and the seasons of a man's life in the family, community, and church. The book of Nehemiah provides a framework for discussion.

Growing into a Godly Woman PER 262

Marie Mullet

God does not call me to perfection but to continual growth into who He created me to be—a woman who loves her Redeemer. This includes living a life of prayer, trust, service, and practicing the spiritual disciplines. We will also examine the lives of women of Scripture to learn what it means to be a godly woman.

Creating Life-giving Spaces PER 265

Cynthia Brubaker

"The vision of home as a place to flourish and grow fully into healthy persons has too often been lost in the busyness, distraction, and brokenness of both our secular and our Christian cultures" (Sally Clarkson). Homes need to be much more than a motel, whether inhabited by one person or a family. They can be life-giving oases of refuge and restoration in a world that has lost its way. If you are a single, married, or future homemaker, this class is for you as together we cultivate the vision for women creating vibrant, joyful homes that enable the members to flourish.

Anabaptism as Worldview PHI 260

Steven Brubaker

An exploration of the values and beliefs of the Anabaptist worldview.

Historical Theology THE 210

Stephen Russell

This course investigates the beginnings of Christian theology, how the church developed expressions for her beliefs concerning Christ and the Trinity, the division of the Great Tradition between East and West, medieval and Reformation developments, and the effects of modernity on the expressions of the church's beliefs.

An Anabaptist View of Peace, Violence, & Politics THE 321

Edsel Burdge

This course will provide a historical survey of how Anabaptists have addressed the topics of violence and peace and how they have related to political structures. It will begin with 16th century Anabaptism and will trace how their approaches developed through to the 21st century. The course will include readings in original sources and will follow a mixed format of lecture and class discussion.

Early Anabaptist Biblical Hermeneutics THE 332

Edsel Burdge

This course will address several questions: How did wider access to the Bible in both the original languages and new translations impact the Anabaptists? How did the Anabaptists' understanding of the role of the congregation in interpreting the Bible differ from Catholic and Protestant approaches? How did the Anabaptists understand the relationship of the Old and New Testaments? What use did they make of the Apocrypha? How did the Anabaptists resolve the tensions between Letter and Spirit and literal versus figurative interpretations? How do modern approaches to the Bible interpretation (dispensationalist, modernist, neo-Calvinist, feminist, and red-letter Christianity) agree or conflict with early Anabaptist understandings?



Apply for Winter Term

Scan this QR code or visit fbep.org/wt.

