

Movies with a Message Returns For Advent



Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM. The movie will begin promptly at 10:30 followed by discussion/lunch time after the movie. Bring your “brown bag lunch” to enjoy during or after the movie.

December 2 - Snoopy Thanksgiving and Snoopy Christmas

Charles Schultz taught Sunday School and was a deeply religious man. In 1965 Robert Short who was a divinity student at the University of Chicago, wrote *The Gospel According to Peanuts*, and therefore Charles Shultz. We will take a brief look at the spiritual life and work of Charles M. Schulz using the Thanksgiving and Christmas specials.

December 9 - A Christmas Carol

We will use the 2009 version by Robert Zemeckis – though not in 3-D, Little wonder that Dickens’ hoary Christmas ghost story would attract him. Nor that an actor like Jim Carrey would want to voice not just Scrooge, at all his ages, but also the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet-to-Come. Other talented members of the voice cast include Gary Oldman as Scrooge’s cheerful clerk, Bob Cratchit, as well as his son, Tiny Tim, and Scrooge’s former partner Jacob Marley. Colin Firth voices the good-hearted nephew, Fred; Bob Hoskins portrays Mr. Fezziwig, the portly former employer of young Ebenezer, and Robin Wright Penn has a small part. Some critics have faulted the filmmakers for reducing Tiny Tim to a minor role, and yet when we read Dickens, we find that he is more of a plot-device than a well-rounded character in the original as well.

December 16 - It’s a Wonderful Life

This Hollywood classic offers the opportunity to discuss deeper themes such as the value of human life, how much influence does one person have, selflessness and greed, and the power of ambition – and draw parallels to *A Christmas Carol*.

