

WIPPS: 'Circle of Faith Dialogues' launches February 11

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Members of different religious faiths and backgrounds will have an opportunity to share personal stories and traditions of their faith at the upcoming "Circles of Faith Dialogues."

"How much do we really know about other religions and beliefs? Circles of Faith will provide a welcoming environment to share stories and get a deeper understanding of other religious backgrounds in our community," said Julie Bunczak, program manager for Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, which is coordinating the three-part discussion series at the Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

Members of different religious faiths will share personal experiences, stories and traditions of their religion, and encourage talk about commonalities of religion.

Trained facilitators and religious leaders will lead the small-group discussions, held over the next three months on Sundays. The event schedule and topic areas will be:

Sunday, February 11 - Describe an experience with religion that changed you.

Sunday, March 11 - Tell a story about a time when you felt misunderstood or misrepresented because of the perceptions of your beliefs.

Sunday, April 15 - Tell a story about a positive experience with someone of a different faith or belief tradition.

Each session will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. at NTC.

Circles of Faith is free and open to the public, and members of all beliefs are

encouraged to attend.

To register, go to wipps.org/cof1. While registering ahead is welcomed for planning purposes, people may also come the day of the event.

If you have any questions, contact Julie Bunczak, WIPPS program manager, at julie.bunczak@uwc.edu or 715-261-6234.

Circles of Faith builds on the success of the 2016 Interfaith Dialogues, also sponsored by WIPPS. That series invited community members to hear discussion from a wide range of religious leaders from Episcopal, Catholic, Jewish, Lutheran, Muslim and Baptist faiths.

Circles of Faith, an ongoing WIPPS project, is made possible through a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council.