

RKG SPRING WORKSHOPS WITH DONNA DRUCHUNAS

APRIL 5, 6, 7 & 8, 2019

**First Baptist Church of Rochester
175 Allens Creek Road
Rochester, NY 14618**

Stories in Stitches: Friday - April 5, 2019, 9am – Noon

Experience: Intermediate. Knitters should have basic knitting skills plus experience with reading charts.

Description: In this workshop, we will learn about stories from knitters around the world, and we will learn to knit a pattern stitch from each region and knit a sampler. Stories and techniques will be different in every workshop, but each class will include topics as diverse as: Bavarian twisted-traveling stitches, Irish cables from the Aran Islands, two-color knitting from Norway, Danish texture patterns, Japanese bobbles, Ukrainian lace, Estonian nupps, Andean popcorn stitch, Lithuanian two-color braids, Latvian fringe cast-on, and Swedish twined knitting.

Grandma's Knitting: Friday - April 5, 2019, 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Skill Level: All skill levels welcome.

Description: Learn the version of Continental knitting traditionally used in Lithuania and many other parts of Eastern Europe. This technique is sometimes called Combination or Eastern Uncrossed knitting in the west, but in Lithuania it's known as Grandma's Knitting. This is a fast way to knit and many knitters find it gives them the most even tension of any technique they've tried.

Bosnian Toe-Up Sock: Saturday April 6, 2019: 9 am-Noon + 1:30 - 4:30 pm (6 hour class with lunch break)

Experience: Intermediate, need to know how to knit with double-pointed needles (or 2 circulars or 1 long circular for magic loop)

Description: In this class we will learn how to make a fascinating Bosnian toe-up sock that has a rectangular toe that is knitted flat, but without purls! The rest of the sock is knitted in-the-round with an "after-thought" heel, and decorative finishing. I have several examples of hand-knit Bosnian slipper socks that we will examine closely. We will knit a complete mini sock to learn the techniques, and you'll have a pattern to knit full-sized socks on your own.

Lithuanian Colorwork Mittens: Sunday – April 7, 2019, 9am – Noon

Experience: Intermediate, need to know how to knit with double-pointed needles (or 2 circulars or 1 long circular for magic loop)

Description: Learn to make fabulous colorwork mittens. Choose your own cuff style, thumb technique, and fingertip shaping from traditional options and decorate your mitten with Lithuanian colorwork motifs. A basic pattern is provided, but you'll learn how to make custom-fitted mittens on the fly with just a few key measurements. In this class we will also learn how to embellish our mittens with knitted fringe, baltic braids, and a decorative cast on.

Lithuanian Beaded Wristwarmers: Sunday – April 7, 2019, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Experience: Beginners welcome! If you can do the knit stitch, you can make these beaded wrist warmers. (Note: the supplies vary by level so more experienced knitters will be sufficiently challenged!)

Description: Beads add a fabulous touch! Knowing just the basics of knitting, you can easily create colorful designs with beads. Using only garter stitch and learning how to read and work from beading charts, in this workshop, we will make beautiful jeweled wrist warmer cuffs that are inspired by those popular in Lithuania. We will also learn beautiful crochet trim stitches, with and without beads, for trimming the wrist warmers.

Successful Lace Knitting: Monday – April 8, 2019, 9am – Noon

Skill Level: For the advanced-beginner to intermediate knitter. Students should know how to cast on, bind off, knit, and purl, and should have completed several projects.

Description: For years I tried to learn how to knit lace, and was frustrated as I failed each time. I finally gave up because I wanted to have fun knitting and enjoy my hobby. I was able to knit cables, fair isle, intarsia, and even entrelac with no problems, but lace stymied me over and over again. I thought I would never be able to knit lace, until I stumbled onto Dorothy Reade's simple techniques. Working from charts, understanding decreases, and knitting with worsted-weight yarn and larger needles gave me the confidence and practice I needed to ease into lace knitting. If I learned how to knit lace after years of frustration and failure, I know other knitters can, too! In this workshop we will discuss the tools and yarns used to knit lace, learn how to follow lace charts, and make one swatch in worsted-weight yarn and one in sport-weight yarn. Students will then be ready to knit a lace-weight swatch on their own, and move on to making a simple project such as a lace scarf or hat.

Explore Japanese Knitting: Socks: Monday– April 8, 2019, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Experience: Intermediate. Knitters should have experience knitting several pairs of socks on double-pointed needles (or 2 circulars or 1 long circular for magic loop) and understand the basic construction of a sock (cuff, calf, ankle, heel, heel turn, instep, foot toe).

Description: Japanese knitting books are hot right now. Although the patterns are written entirely in Japanese, they are not impossible for American audiences to read. Very light on text and very heavy on charts and schematics, with a cheat sheet of translations, any adventurous knitter can enter the world of Japanese knitting. In this class we will learn how to understand Japanese sock patterns, focusing on the charts and schematics. Because Japanese patterns usually are written for one size, we will also discuss how to resize the patterns. In addition, we will learn a few interesting Japanese stitches and techniques that can be used to add an extra level of finesse to any project.

SUPPLIES LISTS AND HOMEWORK WILL BE SENT OUT IN FEBRUARY 2019.