MNST 5108 – Ministry Identity and Practice (Draft)

Fall Semester 2011 - North Park Theological Seminary

Tuesdays 6:30PM – 9:00PM

Instructors: Dr. Jo Ann Deasy and Dr. Timothy L. Johnson

Course description:

This is a three credit course which is required for the MACM degree. The intention of this class is to lay a theological foundation for all the various concentrations provided in the MACM. The course objectives align with the first and seventh outcomes listed for the MACM in the seminary catalog.

1. To live and work under Scripture's authority by developing a foundational knowledge of the Bible in English and engaging responsibly in the interpretation and application of teaching.
2. Developing understanding of the vocation and practice of ministry, including its joys, challenges, and breadth.

Required Reading:

- *Calling: A Song for the Baptized* by Caroline A. Westerhoff
    - Read by Sept. 22, 2011
- *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit* by Craig Van Gelder
    - Read by Oct. 27, 2011
- One book on the ministry of the laity from the list below (book review required):
    - *The Empowering Church: How One Congregation Supports Lay People's Ministries in the World* by Davida Foy Crabtree
    - *Meet Me On The Patio* by Karl A. Olsson.
    - *Boundary Leaders: Leadership Skills for People of Faith* by Gary Gunderson
    - *The Other Six Days: Vocation, Work, and Ministry in Biblical Perspective* by R. Paul Stevens
        - Book Review due on Oct. 13, 2011.
- One book from a culture different than your own (see list of suggestions, oral presentation required)
    - Book review and presentation due on Nov. 10, 2011.

Students are expected to:

1. Prepare for each class session by reading the assigned texts
2. Prepare a 5-minute presentation on one of the four gospels presenting key themes and how they relate to your personality or passion for ministry. (Due Sept. 15, 2011)
3. Write a three-page book review on a book related to the ministry of the laity from the list above. See attached instructions. (Due Oct. 13, 2011)
4. Prepare a three-page book review on a book from a culture different than your own. See attached instructions. (Report and Presentation due on Nov. 10, 2011)
    a. Make an oral presentation (7-10 minutes) summarizing your book review.
5. Final Paper:
    a. Prepare a 5-minute presentation on the metaphor for ministry that you are considering for your final paper. (Due Oct. 27, 2011)
    b. Prepare a 15 minute presentation outlining the key themes from your final paper. (Due Dec. 8, 2011)
    c. Write a 10 page (double-spaced) paper outlining a metaphor for ministry which provides a biblical and theological basis for your ministry in the church. The paper should integrate material for the course lectures and readings. (Due Monday, Dec. 12, 2011)

Grading Rubric:

10% Gospel presentation
10% Initial Metaphor presentation
30% Book Reviews (15% each)
10% Presentation on Book Review from a different culture
30% Final Paper
10% Class participation and attendance (Each student is allowed one absence. Additional absences will result in a loss of 2 points.)

Class Schedule

9/1	Class Introduction Ministry in the Gospels A New Testament Approach to Congregations Due: *Read the first two chapters of all four Gospels*
9/8	Principles of Communication Guest Presenters (tentative)
9/15	Gospel Presentations Biblical Metaphors for Congregations
9/22	Baptism and Ministry Class Discussion of the book *"Calling: A Song for the Baptized"*
9/29	Communion and Ministry Table as Metaphor for Ministry
10/6	Ministerial Health and Ethics with guests from The Department of the Ordered Ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church (tentative)
10/13	Ministry of The Laity With discussion of the Crabtree, Gunderson, Olsson, and Stevens books Due: *Laity Book Report*
10/20	Fall Break
10/27	Metaphor Presentations Class Discussion on *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit*
11/3	Congregating the Gospel: Metaphors and Messes Guest Presenter: organizational conflict (tentative)
11/10	Cultural Approaches to Ministry Presentations on Book Reviews Due: *Book Review on Books from a Different Culture* and *Presentations on these books*

11/17	Power and Authority in Ministry Case Studies
11/24	Thanksgiving: No Class
12/1	Ministry Concentrations
12/8	Student Final Paper Presentations

Instructions for Book Reviews:

Laity Book Report:

Read one of the following books on the laity:

1) *The Empowering Church: How One Congregation Supports Lay People's Ministries in the World* by Davida Foy Crabtree
2) *Meet Me On The Patio* by Karl A. Olsson.
3) *Boundary Leaders: Leadership Skills for People of Faith* by Gary Gunderson
4) *The Other Six Days: Vocation, Work, and Ministry in Biblical Perspective* by R. Paul Stevens

Prepare a three-page book review answering the following questions:

1) *Summarize the main point of the book in one or two sentences.*
2) *What is something that you found helpful in the book? Something that you can use in your ministry context? Something that helped you to better understand ministry?*
3) *What is something that was unsettling or disturbing about the book? Something that you disagreed with. Something that frustrated you. Something that caused you to look at ministry, the church or yourself in a new way.*

Laity book review due in class on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011.

Book Review from A Culture Other Unlike Your Own

Choose a book from the list provided below or one that you have had approved by the professors.

Prepare a three-page book review answering the following questions:

1) *Summarize the main point of the book in a paragraph or bullet points approximate a 3/4 page in length.*
2) *How is this book unlike your current context?*
3) *How is this book similar to your current context?*
4) *What is something that you found helpful in the book? Something that you can use in your ministry context? Something that helped you to better understand ministry?*
5) *What is something that was unsettling or disturbing about the book? Something that you disagreed with. Something that frustrated you. Something that caused you to look at ministry, the church or yourself in a new way.*

Book review due in class on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011.
Be prepared to share a 7-10-minute summary of your book in class on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011.

Possible Books for Culture Book Report

Ashby, Jr., Homer U. *Our Home is Over Jordan: A Black Pastoral Theology*. Chalice Press, 2003.

Cha, Peter, S. Steve Kang, and Helen Lee, eds. *Growing Healthy Asian American Churches: Ministry Insights from Groundbreaking Congregations*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

Figueroa Deck, Allan, Yolanda Tarango, and Timothy M. Matovina, eds. *Perspectivas: Hispanic Ministry*. Sheed & Ward, 1995.

Massey, Jr., Floyd and Samuel Berry McKinney. *Church Administration in the Black Perspective.* Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2003.

Maynard-Reid, Pedrito. *Diverse Worship: African-American, Caribbean & Hispanic Perspectives.* InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Montilla, R. Esteban and Ferney Medina. *Pastoral Care and Counseling with Latino/as.* Fortress Press, 2006.

Pak, Su Yon, Unzu Lee, Jung Ha kim, and Myung Ji Cho. *Singing the Lord's Song in A New Land: Korean American Practices of Faith*. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2005.

Rhodes, Lynn N. *Co-Creating: A Feminist Vision of Ministry.* Westminster Press, 1987.

Sanders, Cheryl J. *Ministry at the Margins: The Prophetic Mission of Women, Youth, and the Poor.* Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2009.

Stewart III, Carlyle Fielding. *The Empowerment Church: Speaking a New Language for Church Growth*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001. (African American)

Townes, Emilie M. *Embracing the Spirit: Womanist Perspectives on Hope, Salvation, and Transformation.* Orbis Books, 1997.

Treat, James. *Native and Christian: Indigenous Voices on Religious Identity in the United States and Canada.* Routledge Press, 1996.

Twiss, Richard. *One Church, Many Tribes: Following Jesus the Way God Made You*. Regal Books, 2000.

Wimberly, Anne E. Streaty and Evelyn L. Parker, eds. *In Search of Wisdom: Faith Formation in the Black Church.* Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2002.

Willhauck, Susan and Jacqulyn Thorpe. *The Web of Women's Leadership: Recasting Congregational Ministry*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2001.