NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HSTY 7300 COVENANT HISTORY AND THEOLOGY
Philip J. Anderson, Professor
Spring Semester 2012

The purpose of this survey course is to assist the student in gaining a deeper knowledge of and appreciation for the history of the Evangelical Covenant Church. This includes background in the Lutheran reformation tradition of Sweden and Europe as well as the "free church" movements that influenced the revivals of the nineteenth century. The transplantation of the Swedish renewal to America by Swedish immigrants provides the immediate context of the denomination's history. The course will also examine the theological roots of the Covenant's tradition and explore the meanings of that heritage for today.

The normal format will be lecture and discussion. Students are encouraged to raise pertinent questions in class arising from the lectures and readings. The primary emphases in the course are basic mastery of the assigned texts, the opportunity to research some facet of Covenant history in depth, and the ability to discern and articulate in constructive ways the relevance of the historical issues for the life of the church. There will also be opportunity to participate in a group presentation on an important issue in Covenant life.

Please note: HSTY5200 and HSTY5201 are prerequisites for admission to this course, unless permission is granted by the instructor.

Required Texts are available through Covenant Communications at its offices at 5201 N. Francisco, or its online bookstore at www.covenantbookstore.com

Glenn P. Anderson, ed., *Covenant Roots: Sources and Affirmations*, second edition (1999).
Donald C. Frisk, *Covenant Affirmations: This We Believe* (1981)
Karl A. Olsson, *By One Spirit* (1962).
_____, *Into One Body. . . By the Cross*, vol. 2 (1986)
Zenos E. Hawkinson, *Anatomy of the Pilgrim Experience: Reflections on Being a Covenanter* (2000)
Selected essays that will be on Moodle (so noted as MD)

Two major bibliographies will be posted on Moodle: a general bibliography of Covenant history and theology; and a bibliography of articles in the *Covenant Quarterly* pertaining to the Covenant's life and thought.

Written Assignments:

1. **Reflection Paper** on the theme: "My Perceptions of the Covenant Church." Here the student is offered early in the term the opportunity to reflect on his/her pilgrimage in the church, how one came to know the Covenant Church, and what the "essence" of the denomination is understood to be. **This 3-4 page paper is due no later than January 25**.

2. **Research Paper** on some aspect of Covenant history and theology. Special emphasis will be given to the ECC's oral history projects, if interested. The student should consult with the professor concerning the topic and preliminary resources. **Written topic proposals are due no later than February 16**. The paper is to be approximately fifteen (15) pages, typed double-spaced (250 words per page, 12 point, 1" margins), fully annotated with bibliography, and is **due no later than May 1**. NPTS policy regarding plagiarism and intellectual integrity will be observed.

3. **An in-class midterm examination** will be given **March 8**.

4. **A final examination** will be given **May 10 or 11**.

PLEASE PUT YOUR BOX NUMBER ON ALL PAPERS AND EXAMS

Group Presentations:

Each member of the class will be involved in one of five group presentations. All are expected equally to be involved in and committed to the time and work necessary to prepare for the presentation. Each group will provide a progress planning report to the instructor one week prior to the presentation and assign an essay-length reading for the class, which will be posted on Blackboard.

Stop by my office or make an appointment to discuss any matter pertaining to the course (or anything for that matter!): 773-244-6218; panderson@northpark.edu

North Park Theological Seminary provides services for students with documented disabilities to ensure equal access to programs, services, facilities, and activities. Students with a disability who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Seminary Academic Services as soon as possible. If desired or necessary, discussion pertaining to documentation and accommodation can take place at another suitable location or by telephone. Further information about the American Disabilities Act Services is found in the Student Academic Handbook.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

January 17: INTRODUCTION

January 19: THE ESSENCE OF THE BELIEVERS' CHURCH TRADITION

Olsson (BOS), 3-34
Frisk, Chapter 1
Anderson, Chapters 5-8

January 23: THE CHURCH OF SWEDEN AND ITS PEOPLE

January 25: PIETISM AND MORAVIANISM: THE SOURCE OF RENEWAL

Reflection paper due today

Olsson (BOS), 35-46
Frisk, Chapter 2
Z. Hawkinson, Chapters 6-12
J. Weborg, "Pietism" (MD)
Spener, *Pia Desideria* (MD)

January 31 and February 2: NO CLASSES—Midwinter Conference

February 7: GEORGE SCOTT AND C.O. ROSENIUS

February 9: UNITY AND EVANGELICAL ECUMENISM

February 14: WALDENSTROM AND CONTROVERSY

Olsson (BOS), 47-97
Frisk, Chapter 3
Waldenström, "Sermon" (MD), also in G. Anderson, *Covenant Roots*, 101-115
Olsson, "Covenant Beginnings" (MD)

February 16: BIRTH OF THE COVENANT CHURCH IN SWEDEN

Research paper proposals due today

Olsson (BOS), 98-172
Frisk, Chapter 4
Anderson, Chapters 9-11

February 21: VISIT TO THE COVENANT ARCHIVES

February 23: UPROOTED AND TRANSPLANTED: EMIGRATION TO NORTH AMERICA

Olsson (BOS), 175-196
Frisk, Chapter 5
Z. Hawkinson, Chapters 1-2
` P. Anderson, "The Lively Exchange of Religious Ideals between the United States and Sweden during the Nineteenth Century" (MD)

February 28: SWEDISH LUTHERANS AND MISSION FRIENDS IN AMERICA

March 1: SYNODICAL EXPERIMENTS AND STRUGGLES

Olsson (BOS), 197-236
Frisk, Chapter 6
Z. Hawkinson, Chapters 3-5
P. Anderson, “Paul Peter Waldenström and America (MD)

March 6: THE EMERGENCE OF THE AMERICAN COVENANT

Olsson (BOS), 237-303
Olsson (IOB), Appendices, A-E
Frisk, Chapter 7
Anderson, Chapters 1-4
P. Anderson, “Covenant and the American Challenge” (MD)

March 8: **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

March 13 and 15: NO CLASS—Spring Break

March 20: GROWING PAINS: ARDOR AND ORDER, MISSION, AND EDUCATION

March 22: THE TEST OF UNITY AND GENERATIONAL CHANGE

Olsson (BOS), 307-409
Frisk, Chapter 8
Anderson, Chapters 12-13
P. Anderson, “Community of Friends in Christ” (MD)

March 27: THE CHALLENGE OF OMAHA AND ITS AFTERMATH

March 29: **GROUP I**: SCRIPTURE, FREEDOM, AND IDENTITY

P. Anderson, “Education and Piety” (MD)
D. Nyvall, “Inspiration of the Bible” (MD)
N. Lund, “Authority of the Holy Scriptures” (MD)

April 3: HOME MISSION AND A NEW GENERATION (1930-1945)

Olsson (BOS), 410-549
Olsson (IOB), Chapters 29-31
Frisk, Chapter 9
Anderson, Chapters 14-15

April 5: LEADERSHIP AND LIFE IN THE POST-WAR YEARS (1945-1960)

April 10: THE CHURCH COMES OF AGE: THE TURBULENT SIXTIES (1960-1970)

Olsson (BOS), 553-643
Olsson (IOB), Chapters 32-36, Appendix F

Frisk, Chapter 10
H. Gustafson, "Authority of the Inspired Word" (MD)

April 12: **GROUP II:** BAPTISM IN THE ECC

P. Anderson, "The History of Covenant Baptismal Belief and Practice" (MD)
Position on the Practice of Baptism, available at www.covchurch.org (Resources)

April 17: TENSION AND THE PRESENCE OF "FUNCTIONAL" UNITY (1970-1985)

April 19: **GROUP III**: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY

A Biblical and Theological Basis for Women in Ministry and *Called & Gifted*: both documents are available at www.covchurch.org (Resources)
M. Miller, "A Decade Later" (MD)
I. Anderson, "Two Decades Later" (MD)

April 24: THE CHALLENGE OF GROWTH AND IDENTITY (1985 and beyond)

Olsson (IOB), Chapters 37-40, Appendix G
Z. Hawkinson, Chapters 11-15

April 26: **GROUP IV**: IMMIGRATION AND ETHNICITY TODAY

Frisk, Chapter 11 and Epilogue
K. Peterson, "Transforming the Covenant" (MD)
Ondrey, "U.S. Churches and Immigration" (MD)
ECC Resolutions on Race (MD)

May 1: **GROUP V**: HUMAN SEXUALITY

Research papers due today

Towards a Biblical and Theological Discernment of God in Human Sexuality (BOOM, 2007), available at www.covchurch.org (Resources)
Peruse www.comingoutcovenant.com

May 3: **GROUP VI:** WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND SACRED SPACES

P. Anderson, "Mystic Chords of Memory" (BB)

May 8: CLASS DISCUSSION: Peering into the Future of the ECC

May 10 or 11: **FINAL EXAMINATION**