TENTATIVE

MNST 5108 – Ministry Identity and Practice

Fall Semester 2014 - North Park Theological Seminary

Thursdays August 28th – December 4th

6:30pm – 9:00pm

Instructor: Dr. Timothy L. Johnson

Course Description:

This is a three credit course which is required for the MACF and MACM degrees. The intention of this class is to lay a theological foundation for all the various ministry foci provided within these degrees. The course objectives align with the first and fourth outcomes listed for these degrees.

MACF (1)Interpret scripture with historical and theological integrity in relation to Christian formation. (4)Demonstrate a theologically grounded ministerial identity and growing capacity to integrate it with the ministry of Christian formation.

MACM (1)Interpret scripture with historical and theological integrity in relation to one's ministry. (4)Demonstrate a growing and theologically grounded sense of vocational identity in God's mission.

Required Reading:

- *Calling: A Song for the Baptized* by Caroline A. Westerhoff
  - Read by September 18th, 2014
- *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit* by Craig Van Gelder
  - Read by October 2nd, 2014
- 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
- One book from a culture **different than your own** (see list of suggestions, book review required)
  - Both written book reviews are due on November 6th, 2014.

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 September 11th, 2014)
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 November 6th, 2014)
4. Write a three-page book review on a book from a culture different than your own. See attached instructions. (Due on November 20th, 2014)
   a. Make an oral presentation (5-10 minutes) summarizing one of the two books you are reporting on. (Due November 6th or 20th)
5. Final Paper:
   a. Identify the metaphor for ministry that you are considering for your final paper. (Due October 23rd, 2014)
   b. Prepare a 10-15 minute presentation outlining the key ideas for your final paper. (Due December 4th, 2014)

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 from the course presentations and readings. (Due December 12th, 2014)

Grading Rubric:

10% Gospel presentation
10% Metaphor oral presentation
20% Book Reviews (10% each)
50% Final Paper
10% Class participation and attendance (Each student is allowed one absence. Additional absences will result in a loss of points.)

Class Schedule:

8/28	Class Introduction Due: *Read the first two chapters of all four Gospels* The 4 Gospels
9/4	Principles of Oral Communication Dr. Paul Koptak and Dr. Carol Noren
9/11	Oral Reports/Gospels Rev. Ira Acree Lighthouse Metaphor
9/18	Baptism in the Gospels Baptism/Exegeting Your Name Class discussion on Westerhoff book
9/25	Table as Metaphor with Rev. Richard Lucco
10/2	Class Discussion on Van Gelder book
10/9	Panel: Ministry In a Range of Arenas John and Eva Sullivan-Knoff, Eric and Laura Larson and Kari Lindholm-Johnson
10/16	Mid-Semester Break
10/23	Identify and Introduce Metaphor you will be working with
10/30	Congregating the Gospel: Biblical Metaphors for Congregations
11/6	Principles of Written Communication with Kris Bruckner Oral Book Reports Regarding Ministry of the Laity

11/13	Writing Workshop/One Page Outline of Paper The Art of Intercultural Ministry with Dr. Paul DeNeui and Rev. Pia Restrepo
11/20	Conflict: Organizational Health and Mess With guest presenter Dr. Steve Peterson Oral Book Reports Regarding Culture
11/27	Thanksgiving Break
12/4	Oral Presentation on Metaphor for Ministry

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 on November 6th, 2014.

Book Review from A Culture Unlike Your Own

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

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.*

Culture Book review due on November 20th, 2014

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.