



Learning Together In Faith:

LEADERS FOR A NEW ERA OF MISSION

WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS 2006/2007

Tri-State Forum

Created in 1999, the Tri-State Forum is a lecture series designed to serve pastors, ministry professionals, and all others interested in continuing education, growth, and collegial fellowship in our common faith. Cost for forum membership, which includes all 5 lectures is \$110, or \$35 for each individual event.

The Theology of Solitude

September 21, 2006

Dr. W. Clark Gilpin



The practice of solitude is an ancient religious discipline in the history of Christianity that has played a surprisingly important role in American religious history from the colonial period to the present. Indeed, major interpreters of religion including William James and Alfred North Whitehead have come to define the quintessence of religion in terms of solitude. Religion, said Whitehead, "is what the individual does with his own solitariness." This lecture series will explore three dimensions of religious solitude in order to propose a theology of solitude: solitude and the encounter with God, solitude as ethical resistance, and solitude as the discipline of creativity. The case studies for this "theology of solitude" will be drawn from American religious history. Dr. W. Clark Gilpin is currently the Margaret E. Burton Professor of the History of Christianity at the Divinity School, the University of Chicago, and director of the university's Nicholson Center for British Studies.

Developments in Scholarship on the Fourth Gospel

October 19, 2006

Dr. Robert Kysar



Interpretation of the Gospel of John has long been a hotbed of theological debate and controversy. Even today a variety of new perspectives on this gospel are being argued (witness the number of books appearing on the market), each with its implications for teaching and preaching. Dr. Robert Kysar, a leading Johannine scholar, will provide an overview of the shifts in the interpretation of John in the latter half of the 20th century, and present his own understanding of the significance of John's gospel for the church. Many pastors have found Kysar's study and wisdom a great blessing for their teaching and preaching of this beloved gospel. Dr. Kysar is Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching and New Testament at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in Atlanta, Ga.

Bonhoeffer at 100: His Significance for Ministry and Mission Today

November 16, 2006

Dr. Craig L. Nesson



2006 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. A century later the church and world remain forever transformed by the witness of his life. Of all the major theologians of the 20th century, it is Bonhoeffer who continues to fascinate Christian people today. This event focuses on the significance of Bonhoeffer's life and writings for the life of the church in its mission today. From beginning to end, the theology of Bonhoeffer concentrates on the person of Jesus Christ. In this anniversary year, we do well to listen again to Bonhoeffer's voice through his biography and major writings: *The Cost of Discipleship*, *Life Together*, *Ethics*, and *Letters and Papers from Prison*. Both in his testimony to Christ as the center of human existence and in the witness of a life offered up to God in discipleship, Bonhoeffer remains a figure for us to reckon with yet today. This event will introduce resources that make Bonhoeffer accessible to congregational study. Dr. Craig L. Nesson is Professor of Contextual Theology, Academic Dean, and Director of Contextual Education at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

Preaching Lent and Easter

February 8, 2007

Dr. David Lose



We will focus on the lectionary texts for Lent and Easter C in the Revised Common Lectionary, with an eye toward discovering the preaching possibilities in these important passages. The intent is to provide each participant with some solid material and imaginative direction for the sermon work ahead. David Lose is the Academic Dean and the Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reclaiming the C Word: Daring to be Church Again

April 19, 2007

Kelly Fryer



Kelly A. Fryer is the author of, *Reclaiming the C Word: Daring to be Church Again*, published in April 2006. She defines the church as people who are called to participate in God's mission to bless the world...and asks the question, "How would we behave, as congregations, if we really believed that?" Her presentation builds a theological and biblical framework for a missional ecclesiology. In other words, she argues that the church is either entirely for OTHERS or it is not the church! She also suggests some practical ways to BE that kind of church in the world today... including **Five Strategic Behaviors**. Kelly is the executive director of A.R.E.: A Renewal Enterprise, which offers keynote speaking, renewal events, organizational consulting, and leadership coaching. For Tri-State Forum events, contact Julie Flater at (563) 589-0324 or continued@wartburgseminary.edu

Wartburg Hostel

Religion in Today's World

October 9-13, 2006

Dr. Beth Leeper, Dr. Winston Persaud, & Rev. Wayne Weissenbuehler



Can we gain a better understanding of new and different faiths? Can we learn to appreciate other religions, and yet claim the uniqueness of our own faith tradition? Can we find a way to live peaceably with people of other faiths and work together for the good of God's world? These questions will be addressed in this year's Wartburg Hostel. Dr. Winston Persaud will lecture on the topic of, "Christianity Among Other World Religions;" Dr. Beth Leeper will acquaint us with some medieval women mystics who are having their say and influence today; and former bishop, Rev. Wayne Weissenbuehler will lead a Biblical study on, "Jesus as the End of Religion." Contact Julie Flater at (563) 589-0324 or continued@wartburgseminary.edu

Reading with Winston

January 15-16, 2007

Dr. Winston Persaud



This new event offers the opportunity to read and discuss *The Next Christendom: the Coming of Global Christianity* (Oxford 2002) by Philip Jenkins, in terms of its theological, missional, and practical implications for the church in today's world. Dr. Winston Persaud, Professor of Systematic Theology, will guide you in considering the following questions: What does the coming of global Christianity have to do with the life of our local congregations in our various settings? How is it or might it impact the way we do catechesis, worship, and outreach? We will begin at noon on the 15th and conclude by 3:00 pm on the 16th. Contact Julie Flater at (563) 589-0324 or continued@wartburgseminary.edu

Redeeming Congregational Conflict: Discovering God's Shalom in the Midst of Conflict

January 22-23, 2007

Rev. John Beck



Rev. John Beck, Ph.D., believes a conflict-avoidant church is at risk. Yet to be resilient with conflict we must understand how Christ's presence can be discovered in the midst of our difficulties. Beck lifts up biblical models that empower leaders to make relationships high priority. Building on the reconciliation we have in Christ can lead us to reconciliation with one another when we understand and practice "good faith" shalom-making. He demonstrates the use of practical approaches, covenants for use with leaders, approaches to difficult members, and a new understanding of Matthew 18. All pastors, lay and professional leaders, and synod staff persons interested in better understanding conflict dynamics and promoting healthy congregations are invited and encouraged to participate. A group rate is available for pastors bringing lay leaders from their congregations. Contact Julie Flater at (563) 589-0324 or continued@wartburgseminary.edu

Hein Fry Lecture

The Bible in North America

Spring 2007



Donald Senior, President, Catholic Theological Union; Donald Hagner, Fuller Seminary; and a third lecturer (Lutheran) to be named by Wartburg Theological Seminary, will address the topic: *The Bible in North America*. Check the website and future press releases for the exact date. Contact Kathy Teig at (563) 589-0300 or kteig@wartburgseminary.edu

Women of the ELCA Bible Study Seminar

May 15-16, 2007



This popular seminar is designed to provide an in-depth introduction to the September-May study for the Women of the ELCA. The writer and speaker, Dr. Martha Stortz, Professor of Historical Theology and Ethics at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, will lead the study on the Beatitudes. Contact Julie Flater at (563) 589-0324 or continued@wartburgseminary.edu

Luther Academy of the Rockies

Going Public: Christian Witness in the World

June 18-28, 2007, Allenspark Colorado

Sponsored by Wartburg, this unique ten-day event features morning lectures from noted scholars and church leaders within the Christian tradition. Afternoons and evenings are times to enjoy the spectacular setting of Meeker Park Lodge, nestled in the Rocky Mountains, near Rocky Mountain National Park. Relevant academic learning and a breathtaking setting make this event ideal for rostered leaders and their families (special programming for children and youth).



Dr. Norma Cook Everist, Professor of Church and Ministry, Wartburg Theological Seminary will present **Three Challenges: American Civil Religion, Church and State, and Ministry in Daily Life**. She will approach the interrelationship of these three topics from a theological perspective and develop ways to "do theology" in the languages parishioners speak in their everyday lives as they faithfully work for justice and peace.



Mark A. Powell, Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, will present **Christ and Culture Revisited: New Testament Perspectives on Church and Society**, investigating how the New Testament documents envision the relationship between church and society and will use the information to bring a sharper Biblical focus to Niebuhr's categories.



Charles P. Lutz spent 40 years working as a lay professional in communication and social justice with Lutheran and ecumenical agencies. He will challenge us to explore four specific aspects of our vocation as superpower citizens and examine what is asked of us as just-peace builders in a world marked by a war on terror and a seemingly eternal conflict in the land of the Prince of Peace. You won't want to miss **Seeking Justice and Peace in All the Earth: Our Baptismal Vocation Up Close and Personal**. Contact Kristi Beebe at (303) 288-1212 or nlchurch1004@qwest.net

Center for Global Theologies

"Reformation Thought in East Asian Transformation: From Tsurasa toward Flower Garland."

Thursday, October 12 @ 4:30 PM in Fritschel Aud.

Dr. Paul Chung



Dr. Paul Chung, Assistant Professor of Lutheran Witness and World Christianity, Wartburg Theological Seminary, will look at Reformation thought in light of Japanese post-Hiroshima theology and the first and second generations of Minjung theological thought. Dr. Chung is the author of several articles and books, including *Martin Luther and Buddhism: Aesthetic of Suffering; Spirituality and Social Ethics in John Calvin; A Pneumatological Perspective; Theology of Radical Legacy Between East and West: Essays in Honor of Jan M. Lochman*, editor.

Globalization and the Mission of the Church in the 21st Century

Date TBA

Rev. Carol Schersten LaHurd



Rev. Carol Schersten LaHurd, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's task force on Muslim-Christian relations and Middle East Strategy, will be our guest speaker for the 2007 Spring Celebration. Contact Ann Fritschel at (563) 589-0308 or afritschel@wartburgseminary.edu

Center for Theology and the Land

26th Annual Rural Ministry Conference

March 4-6, 2007



Sustainable Ministry: Faith, Farm, and the Future
Featured speakers include: **Luther Snow**, author of the best-selling book *The Power of Asset Mapping*, and **Dr. Winston Persaud**, Professor of Systematic Theology, Wartburg Theological Seminary. Additional information is available at www.ruralministry.com

Online Courses:

Fall 2006 (see website for start dates)

Church History

Dr. Elizabeth Leeper

Discovering Hope: Best Practices for Building Vitality in Rural Congregations

Dr. Shannon Jung, Dr. Alvin Luedke, & Dr. Mark Yackel-Juleen

Engaging the Gospels: Perspectives on Following Jesus

Dr. Jim Bailey

Spring 2007 (see website for start dates)

Lutheran Ethics

Dr. Craig Nesson

Systematic Theology 2

Dr. Duane Priebe

Understanding Loss & Grief

Dr. Dan Olson

Visit www.ruralministry.com or contact the CTL Office at (563) 589-0273 or ruralmin@wartburgseminary.edu.

Center for Youth Ministries

Youth and Family Certification School

April 30-May 18, 2007

Wartburg Seminary (Week #1) and Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa (Weeks 2 & 3)

June 2007 (tba)

Trinity Lutheran College, Issaquah, Washington

September 3-21, 2007

Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa

Contact cym@wartburgseminary.edu or call 563-589-0220

Visit www.ruralministry.com or contact the CTL Office at (563) 589-0273 or ruralmin@wartburgseminary.edu.

Summer Reunion 2007

Tuesday July 17-Thursday July 19, 2007

This event features an Alumni Banquet, honoring graduates of classes with years ending in 2 and 7, a special Continuing Education class, a visit to the River Museum (the only Mississippi River museum endorsed by the Smithsonian Institute), sightseeing and dinner cruise, and the Greater Wartburg Golf Open. Contact Katharine Yarnell at (563) 589-0327 or kyarnell@wartburgseminary.edu

