

ADVANCED PREACHING  
January 23-24, 2010  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Professor: David E. Bumbaugh

**PURPOSE:**

This course will examine preaching theory, elements of sermon writing, and will provide extensive opportunities for writing, preaching and critiquing sermons, using various evaluative tools and methods to strengthen the preaching ministry of each student.

**REQUIRED READING:**

Buttrick, David, **HOMILETIC**, Fortress Press, pp 5-234

**PREACHING THE NEW AND THE NOW**, Westminster, John  
Knox Press, pp1-24

**Childers, Jana, PERFORMING THE WORD: PREACHING AS THEATRE**,  
Abingdon

Hogan, Lucy Lind and Robert Reid, **CONNECTING WITH THE CONGREGATION:  
RHETORIC AND THE ART OF PREACHING**, Abingdon

Schlafer, David J., **SURVIVING THE SERMON, A Guide to Preaching  
for Those Who Have to Listen**, Cowley.

Taylor, Barbara Brown, **WHEN GOD IS SILENT**, Cowley

Troeger, Thomas H., **IMAGINING A SERMON**, Abingdon.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

Long, Thomas G., **The Witness of Preaching**, Westminster/John Knox

Lowrey, Eugene W., **THE SERMON: DANCING THE EDGE OF MYSTERY**

**McClure, John S., ed, BEST ADVICE FOR PREACHING**. Fortress Press  
Abingdon

Tisdale, Leonora Tibbs, **PREACHING AS LOCAL THEOLOGY AND FOLK  
ART**, Fortress.

**ADDITIONAL SOURCES:** Watch Moodle for additional materials that will be posted from time to time to enrich or challenge our thinking.

**EXPECTATIONS:**

Participants in this class will read the required texts and be prepared to discuss them in class.

In advance of the class each student will write a five-page paper outlining the student's understanding of the nature of the act of preaching, the authority he or she claims as preacher,

and the sermonic styles which she/he finds most comfortable and most challenging. The Paper will be posted in Moodle, the electronic classroom, not later than November 1, and be available to all members of the class. The purpose of this paper is to allow us to begin in advance to think critically about the art of the sermon and introduce us to each other before the class gathers in Chicago on January 11. Therefore, students are expected to read each other's papers, and are invited to respond on Moodle.

Each student will write and submit four sermons, including orders of worship for each sermon (text of all readings and hymns included). At least one of these sermons will be focused upon a seasonal celebration and one on an issue of social justice. Each sermon will be read and critiqued by the instructor.

Each participant will preach as many sermons as class size and time will permit. Each presentation will be critiqued by the instructor and by fellow students, one of whom will focus on style of sermon, one of whom will focus on content of sermon, and one of whom will focus on presentation.

In Addition, each student will rewrite one sermon in response to the class critique of that sermon. This rewritten sermon will be due on March 15. This rewritten sermon should include an analysis of the changes made and the rationale behind those changes.

### **GRADES:**

The instructor believes that this is a class which might appropriately be taken on a pass-fail basis. However, if students prefer to receive grades, the grades will be based upon class participation (one-third), sermon presentations, both written and oral (one-third), and sermon re-write (one-third).

### **Requirements and Deadlines:**

Prior to class: Send 5 page paper on the act of preaching (due November 1)  
Read the required texts

Bring to Class: Four Sermons with orders of worship.

Submit one rewritten sermon by March 15

**THE STRUCTURE OF THE CLASS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND THE BEST USE OF THE TIME AVAILABLE.**