

Meadville/Lombard Theological School
Advanced Preaching Course
Spring, 2010

Thursdays, 9 am-noon
King's Chapel Room
Professor: David E. Bumbaugh
Office Hours: By Appointment

Purpose: This course will provide extensive opportunities for writing, preaching and critiquing sermons, using various evaluative tools and methods, in an effort 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
Craddock, Fred B., OVERHEARING THE GOSPEL, Chalice Press
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
Schlafer, David J.: SURVIVING THE SERMON: A GUIDE TO PREACHING FOR
THOSE WHO HAVE TO LISTEN
Tisdale, Leonora Tibbs, PREACHING AS LOCAL THEOLOGY AND FOLK
ART, Fortress

REQUIREMENTS:

Participants in this class will write and submit eight 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. Each sermon will be read and critiqued by the instructor.

Participants will preach as many sermons as time and class-size permit. Each presentation will be critiqued by fellow students, and by the instructor.

In Addition, each student will rewrite one sermon in response to the class critique of that sermon. This rewritten sermon will be accompanied by a brief paper (three to five pages) detailing the changes made in the original sermon and the reasons for making those changes. This rewritten sermon and accompanying paper will be due on the last day of the semester.

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 letter grades, the grades will be based upon class participation (one-third), sermon presentations, both written and oral (one-third), and rewritten sermon and final paper (one-third)

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

February 4: Introduction to the course: Preaching As Worship

Text: Taylor: WHEN GOD IS SILENT

February 11: Methods of Homiletics:

Text: Eslinger, Richard L., THE WEB OF PREACHING: NEW OPTIONS IN HOMILETIC METHOD

February 18: Preaching Styles and Content:

Text: Buttrick: Homiletic

February 25: Craddock: OVERHEARING THE GOSPEL

March 4: Reading Week

March 11: Critiquing the Sermon:

Text: Childers, Jana, PERFORMING THE WORD: PREACHING AS THEATRE

March 18: Sermon Presentations

March 25: Sermon Presentations

April 1: Spring Break

April 8: Sermon Presentations

April 15: Sermon Presentations

April 22: Sermon Presentations

April 29: Sermon Presentations

May 7: Revised Sermon and Accompanying Paper due.