

COSSO Newsletter

Course of Study School of Ohio (COSSO)

2011

Summer

From the Director's Desk



Greetings Course of Study Students –

In seeking feedback about our changes, I learned that a number of students are unclear as to the order in which courses may be taken. So I want to see if I can clarify this.

- 100-level courses (in any order) should be taken before any other classes are taken.
- 200, 300, and 400-level courses can be taken **in any order, except 211 (Hebrew Bible I) should be taken before 411 (Hebrew Bible II), and 311 (New Testament I) should be taken before 511 (New Testament II).**
- 500-level courses (in any order) should be taken last.

In other words, 100-level classes should be taken first. 500-level classes should be taken last. Classes in between can be taken in any order, with the noted exceptions.

I hope this clears up the questions about sequence. Please continue to give feedback so that we can continue to improve the program.

Blessings and Peace,
Diane

**The UPDATED
Course of Study Handbook
is now online
at:**

<http://www.courseofstudyschoolofohio.com/handbook.pdf>

**If you are planning to graduate
from the program within the next
year,**

MORE THAN PRAYER: Spiritual Formation-

From Rev. Rebeka Maples, Ph.D., Director of Spiritual Formation



The Ascension of Jesus is a peculiar day in the church calendar. The idea that Jesus ascended to a God "up there" is as strange as people predicting the end of the world will happen at 6 o'clock on a Saturday in May. Ascension is a good lead into a COSSO weekend because it makes us think of God in a different way. As you attend classes, I pray that you will be aware of the spirit of the risen Christ that is ever present with us. Before he disappears into the clouds, the disciples quiz him about it. Jesus' response is vague, and still applies to those who want to know the exact date for judgment day or the fulfillment of history. "It is not for you to know the times or periods, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." And Jesus says, that can happen to you at any time. God's promise is surely true – God is with us.

When, Jesus is lifted up, and the disciples are left gazing into the heavens until two figures in white robes (which is another peculiar thing) ask, "Why do you stand looking toward heaven?" It seems they are saying, when we are blessed with the Holy Spirit our mission begins right where we are. Jesus says not to worry about what God will do, let God worry about that – just receive what God is giving you – the blessing of the Holy Spirit - and pass it on to others. We will always struggle with the mystery of God in our studies and our lives, that is the nature of the process of spiritual formation. The point is, we are saved by grace and made firm by the Spirit of God, through the ascension of Jesus, and that blessing never leaves us. May we be open to receive that blessing as we gather together and to pass the blessing on when we leave this place.

Rev. Rebeka Maples

Words Words Words

From Margaret VanSickle, Writing Coach



Come join us for our Writing Workshops this COS session. Writing Workshops are offered each Friday of the session from 4:00-4:30. Each Workshop will address important topics to help you strengthen your writing.

We hope to see you there!

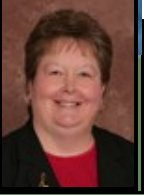
CHOIR MEMBERS ALWAYS NEEDED!

Even if you did not sign up to be part of the COSSO choir for worship, please feel free to come to rehearsal! Rehearsal will be held the **Friday of the each weekend (June 24 and July 22) at 2:30**. As most of you have found, there is strength in numbers; so don't hesitate to be part of the choir—even if you have not been offered a multi-million dollar recording contract for your singing.

All are welcome!

Views from the Coordinator

By Karen Gee



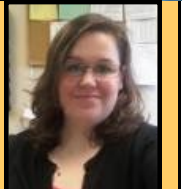
Greetings and Welcome to 2011 Summer Weekend and Summer Intensive Terms!! As we are preparing for the upcoming summer terms I wanted to give everyone a few reminders for future terms. On-campus housing fills up quickly, so if you would like to stay on-campus in one of our Dorms, please plan to register early (at least 6 months to a year early). You can register for up to 4 classes each year. If you want to take more than 4 classes per year you will need to get special permission from your D.S. You will need to have all of your signatures on the registration form and your \$30.00 registration fee for each class and your housing fee (if applicable) must accompany the registration form.

There will be several activities going on during Summer Intensive Term. Registration for Summer Intensive Term will be held **3:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 14th** in the Coffee Shop, followed by a pizza party. There will be a Spiritual Formation/Orientation/Announcements session at 6:00 p.m. in the Centrum. If you are unable to arrive Sunday night, please let me know. If you are staying in the Dorms your housing for the weekend (Aug. 20 & 21) is included. If you need to go home during that weekend you can leave your belongings in the dorm room. During the Summer Intensive Term we will be having an ice cream social, a free dinner at Ashley UMC and there will be community dinners held in the kitchen (lower level of the Dewire Residence Hall). You will receive a schedule and additional information a few weeks before each term starts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at kgee@mtso.edu, 740-362-3340 or stop by my office – Werner Hall Room 219.

Blessings,
Karen Gee

Student Life

From Megan Coggins, COSSO Assistant



This Spring, COS celebrated graduation with 5 students...



Jerry Metz
Roger Norton
Ruthann Bosley
Thomas Dawson
Gilbert Hart, Jr.

**Congratulations, Graduates!
May God continue to bless your journeys.**

FACULTY FOR 2011 SUMMER SESSION



Brooks Heck

Brooks Heck—
Teaching 111:
The Pastor as Interpreter
of the Bible

Rev. Dr. Brooks Heck received his D.Min from United Theological Seminary. He is an Elder in the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church.



Jeff Jaynes

Jeff Jaynes—
Teaching 212:
Theological Heritage:
Early and Medieval

Rev. Dr. Jeff Jaynes received his M.Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. from Ohio State University and is a Presbyterian elder. He currently teaches at MTSO.



Randall Haase

Randall Haase—
Teaching 313:
Our Mission from God:
Evangelism

Rev. Randall Haase received his M.Div from MTSO. He is an adjunct instructor in Ethics at Terra State Community College. He also serves as an Elder in the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church.



Kendall McCabe

Kendall McCabe—
Teaching 413:
Worship and Sacraments

Dr. Kendall McCabe received his Ph.D. from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is currently a professor, academic dean, and Vice President of Academic Affairs at United Theological Seminary.



David Watson

David Watson—
Teaching 511:
New Testament II

Rev. Dr. David Watson earned his Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University and is an ordained Elder in the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. He teaches New Testament and Greek at United Theological Seminary.

MUSIC REQUESTS?

Do you have a favorite hymn that you never hear when you come to campus for Course of Study weekends? Is there a choir anthem that has been a blessing to you and your congregation? I am always looking for new hymns and anthems for use in worship and with the choir; so please let me know if you have requests! Thanks...

