

COS 214 Practice of Preaching
West Ohio Conference
Course of Study
Methodist Theological School of Ohio

Friday/Saturday, January 22/23, 2010
Friday/Saturday, February 19/20, 2010
Instructor: Dr. Kenneth W. Cummings, Sr.
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Course Description

The focus is on preaching the gospel. The utilization of biblical exegesis, sermon preparation and delivery, and evaluation of the pastor's preaching are central concerns.

Objectives include:

- Utilization of exegesis of biblical passages for preaching with reference to the lectionary.
- Awareness of and skills for exegeting the context for preaching (congregation and community).
- Evaluation of sermons for biblical authenticity, theological soundness and contemporary relevance.
- Appropriation of insights gained from the evaluation of one's sermons.
- Analytical participation in the evaluation of the sermons of classmates.
- Development of skills in the ordering and delivery of a sermon.

Class Requirements

- Class attendance and participation
- Thorough preparation for class including completion of required readings and written assignments
- Write a sermon to be delivered in class with its manuscript to be turned in

Required Texts

Craddock, Fred B. *Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990. ISBN 0687336481

Mitchell, Henry H. *Celebration and Experience in Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990. ISBN 0687047447

Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Cambridge, MA: Cowley Publications, 1993. ISBN 156101074X

Please have available a Bible (preferably an NRSV or NIV), *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989) and *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (1992).

Assignments

1. Read Barbara Taylor's book

Write a 2-4 page reflection paper indicating what you understand to be the major premise of this book. What is Taylor saying about the "preaching life?" What are the areas, ideas, issues, images, etc. that most strike you?" How do the ideas in this book compare and contrast to your own life, thoughts, etc. and why or how?

On an additional page, indicate how long you have been preaching, where you presently serve and what concerns or issues you have about your own preaching that you hope to have addressed in this course.

Send by e-mail with a Word attachment or mail to address above by January 11, 2010.

2. Read Henry Mitchell's book. Bring this paper to class on February 19th.

Write a 3 - 5-page paper covering the following subjects in relation to:

to:

- a. how I experienced my call to preach
- b. how my sermon preparation is like or unlike that outlined in the book
- c. how I experience the involvement of the Holy Spirit in my preaching, preparation and delivery
- d. any other comments on Mitchell's book

3. Read Fred Craddock's book and be prepared to discuss it in class. Read Craddock's book and be prepared to discuss it in class on January 23, 2010.

4. Write a sermon using a text of your choice that you have preached. The sermon should not be longer than twelve minutes. Be prepared to preach this sermon in class. Turn in this sermon on the day that you preach which will be February 19th or 20th.

At the top of the manuscript include the following:

Sermon Title
Scripture Passage
Date Preached

Please observe correct spelling, punctuation, capitalization and paragraph length in your writings. Disregard for observing these basic aspects of formal writing will result in the letter grade that you receive.



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 COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO
 COS 214
Practice of Preaching
 Dr. Kenneth W. Cummings, Sr.
Winter 2010

Required Books			Retail Price	Disc.	Clergy Price
_____	<i>Preaching</i>	Craddock	22.00	20%	17.60
_____	<i>Celebration and Experience in Preaching</i>	Mitchell	18.00	20%	14.40
_____	<i>The Preaching Life</i>	Taylor	17.95	20%	14.36

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