

# REGISTRATION FORM

(Online registration available at [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp)!)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Are you affiliated with a particular denomination?  Yes  No

If yes, please list \_\_\_\_\_

Education level  Some college  Bachelor  Seminary degree  Other degree

## MY CLASS CHOICES\*

- Arts in the Church \$80.00 *(includes lunch)*
- The Bible and Life Today \$196.00 *(includes lunch)*
- Celtic Spirituality \$98.00 *(includes lunch)*
- The Church's Bible \$196.00 *(includes lunch)*
- Controversies, Councils, and Creeds: Nicea Then and Now \$196.00 *(includes lunch)*
- Deepening the Spiritual Life of a Progressive Congregation \$98.00 *(includes lunch)*

- Dying Well: Honoring Choices \$180.00
- Finding God in Everyday Life \$196.00 *(includes lunch)*
- Great Theologians of the Church Speak to Today: Reinhold Niebuhr \$180.00
- How the Congregation Can Empower Its Laity for Ministry \$196.00 *(includes lunch)*
- Leading in a Time of Change \$180.00
- Transforming Conflict: Dealing with Difficult People in Your Congregation \$124.00 *(includes supply fee)*

\* Limited scholarships are available. All classes offer discounts for multiple registrants who register as a group. For scholarship information or discounted rates and registration, call 651.255.6138.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

Make checks payable to UTS.

Partial refunds are available for cancellations.

## RETURN REGISTRATION FORM TO:

*Susan Hastings*  
3000 Fifth Street Northwest  
New Brighton, MN 55112-2598  
[shastings@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:shastings@unitedseminary.edu)  
651.633.4315 (fax)

## DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:

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651.255.6138

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO:

[www.unitedseminary.edu](http://www.unitedseminary.edu)

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UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OF THE TWIN CITIES  
3000 FIFTH STREET NORTHWEST  
NEW BRIGHTON, MN 55112-2598



ENGAGE YOUR  
LIFE AND FAITH

# ACADEMY FOR VITAL CHRISTIANITY

*IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MINNESOTA  
CONFERENCES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
AND THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH*

SPRING 2012  
ACADEMY CLASSES  
SHORT CLASSES FOR A RICHER LIFE



UNITED THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY OF THE TWIN CITIES  
AN ECUMENICAL GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL  
SCHOOL OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



The Academy for Vital Christianity—a “seminary” without walls—offers short-term classes on religion and spirituality in churches throughout the metro area and beyond.

## WHY TAKE A CLASS?

- To deepen your faith and knowledge
- To enhance your congregational life
- To explore meaningful questions with others

## WHAT IS INVOLVED?

Each class offers five to 10 hours of contact on evenings or weekends. Instructors are members of United’s renowned faculty and other regional experts. Reading is involved but no grades are given.

## WHAT IS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT?

The same inquisitive, inclusive, and hospitable environment found at United’s regular classes. Dialogue and a respectful exchange of views are encouraged.

## WHAT DOES IT COST?

An alternative to regular seminary classes, Academy fees are kept low to welcome all. Scholarship funds may be available through your denomination or church. Sign up with a friend or fellow members of your congregation and receive a multiple registrant discount!

## HOW DO I REGISTER?

Register online at [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp) or call 651.255.6138.

**NEW!** SELECT ACADEMY CLASSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

## BIBLE AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### THE CHURCH’S BIBLE

*Marilyn Salmon*

Little Falls, First United Church UCC UMC  
Saturdays—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, February 11 & March 10

In this class, we will explore the Bible’s central place in Christianity and learn how it came to be and when. How do we read the Bible in a way that honors both faith and reason?

*This class is offered in partnership with the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.*

### DYING WELL: HONORING CHOICES

*Leaders to be announced*

Plymouth, Plymouth Presbyterian Church  
Tuesdays—7:00-9:00 PM, March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 10

How can faith communities help as individuals and families face profound spiritual, medical, and ethical questions at the end of life? Leaders in end-of-life care will explore these questions with us.

### DEEPENING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF A PROGRESSIVE CONGREGATION

*Barbara Anne Keely*

Rochester, Christ United Methodist Church  
Saturday—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, March 17

In busy congregations, spirituality can get lost. In this one-day experiential class, we will participate together in old and new spiritual practices designed to deepen a congregation’s spiritual life.

**“This course was extremely informative on the origins of the gospels and how they are the same and different with each other. Paul Capetz is extremely knowledgeable and a great teacher.”**

-Dan Durdin, Maple Grove, MN

### THE BIBLE AND LIFE TODAY

*Neil Elliott*

Stillwater, First United Methodist Church  
Saturdays—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, March 24 & 31

Marcus Borg’s *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* will provide background for our discussions about the ways we read and use the Bible.

### CELTIC SPIRITUALITY

*Martha Postlethwaite & Ramona Scarpace*

Mankato, Centenary United Methodist Church  
Saturday—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, March 31

In this class you will be introduced to Celtic spirituality and become a pilgrim as you learn from history and participate in Celtic spiritual practices celebrating the sacredness at the heart of all things.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

### HOW THE CONGREGATION CAN EMPOWER ITS LAITY FOR MINISTRY

*Jean Morris Trumbauer*

Duluth, First United Methodist Church  
Saturdays—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, March 3 & 17

This class will offer an organized way to empower laity for ministry that goes beyond time and talent forms.

### TRANSFORMING CONFLICT: DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE IN YOUR CONGREGATION

*Mark Sundby*

This class will be offered online.  
Tuesdays—7:00-8:00 PM, March 6, 13, 20, 27

This online class will help participants identify, analyze, and manage difficult personalities and behaviors.

### LEADING IN A TIME OF CHANGE

*Jean Morris Trumbauer*

This class will be offered online.  
Thursdays—7:00-9:00 PM, May 10, 17, 31; June 7, 14

In this online interactive class participants will explore positive models for creative change.

### ARTS IN THE CHURCH

*Cindi Beth Johnson*

St. Paul, St. Paul’s United Church of Christ  
Saturday—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, March 24

With a particular emphasis on visual arts, this session offers new models for integrating the arts into congregational settings to enliven worship, education, and outreach.

## EXPLORING THEOLOGY AND CHURCH HISTORY

### GREAT THEOLOGIANS OF THE CHURCH SPEAK TO TODAY: REINHOLD NIEBUHR

*Paul E. Capetz*

Bloomington, Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church  
Tuesdays—7:00-9:00 PM, April 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8

Reinhold Niebuhr melded his experience in workers’ rights with classical insights from the Bible, Augustine, Luther, Calvin, and Kierkegaard to develop the most compelling Christian interpretation of human nature for our time.

### FINDING GOD IN EVERYDAY LIFE

*Eleazar S. Fernandez*

Wayzata, Wayzata Community Church  
Saturdays—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, April 14 & 28

In this class participants will develop a language for naming and reflecting on the presence of God in their lives.

### CONTROVERSIES, COUNCILS, AND CREEDS: NICEA THEN AND NOW

*William Bulson*

Minnetonka, St. David’s Episcopal Church  
Saturdays—9:30 AM-3:30 PM, May 5 & June 2

What were the conflicts resolved in the 4<sup>th</sup> century Council of Nicea and how do they live on today?

*This class is offered in partnership with the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.*

For more detailed class descriptions and leader bios, go to [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp).