

**The Academy for Vital Christianity
United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities**

What is the Academy for Vital Christianity? A chance to take seminary-level classes on religion and faith at a convenient time and place.

The Academy, which offers short-term classes in churches around Minnesota, is a joint venture of United Theological Seminary in New Brighton and the Minnesota Conferences of the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church. Classes focus on such timeless issues as evil and suffering, understanding the Bible in contemporary terms, and sacred music and arts. Taught by United faculty members and regional experts, the 10-hour classes are offered evenings and weekends.

Among this spring's offerings:

*Professor Christine Smith leads discussions on how we can respond to "Eco-Injustice."

*Gail Anderson explores the Metro area's growing communities of non-Christian faiths.

*Dean Richard Weis shares a 21st century perspective on the writings of the prophets.

An interactive format encourages a lively give and take, and United's tradition of hospitality creates a sense of inclusiveness. Join others interested in strengthening their faith and understanding at a class this spring!

The early registration fee of \$175 is available up to 2 weeks before the class starts. The regular fee is \$225. There are additional charges for lunch for Saturday classes. Financial assistance may be available through your church or denomination.

For more information, including class details and registration, go to <http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp> or direct questions to Renee Flesner at 651.255.6138 or rflesner@unitedseminary.edu.