



Stevenson School for Ministry

Reorientation Fall Semester 2016

December 9, 10, 11, 2016

Formation **through**

Reorientation
(Brueggemann, *Spirituality of the Psalms*)

Welcome all students, discerners, postulants, candidates, faculty, staff,



Location: Saint Cyril
Spiritual Center
Villa Sacred Heart
580 Railroad Street
Danville, PA 17821-1698
Cost \$150.00

Pre-work:

I. Be ready to develop liturgy for the celebration of Holy Eucharist for the third Sunday of Advent

II. Consider the importance of Multi-cultural awareness in your mission and ministry

Friday /December 9, 2016,

11:30 AM Arrive, settle in

11:45 Noon day prayers

12:00 Dinner

12:30-1:00 *Welcome /Prayers/focus*

Session 1. Purpose and Focus of our time together:

- 1) **Catching up, each person bring a story about Advent**
- 2) **A focus on Multicultural awareness**
- 3) **Overview of SSFM courses and expectations**

Schedule for SSFM students and Participants:

Discernment group begins

1:00 Bible study **Matthew 11:2-11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’



“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Matthew is, of course, dealing partly with issues of his own church. In AD 80--roughly the time of Matthew's writing--the faith was doing better among gentiles than it was in Israel. This would have been thirty years into Paul's gentile mission. Gentile inclusion was no longer an issue. Now the issue was whether or not Jesus would continue to have Jewish followers as well.

Also, relations between "Christians" and Jews after the Roman-Jewish War (AD 66-70) had deteriorated. Previously, relations had been amicable, but, after the war, each tended to blame the other for the destruction of Jerusalem. The split between Christians and Jews had hardened and widened.

Matthew is making an evangelical appeal to the Jews of his day to reconsider the teachings and deeds of Jesus, teachings and deeds which exceed even those of Moses and complete the vision of the prophets. As Matthew argues repeatedly, both law and prophets--the twin pillars of Israel--find their fulfillment in Jesus.

1. *What is the central message that you would choose to prophetically engage in on the Third Sunday of Advent?*
2. *What is the role of the wilderness? Is there a tension between wilderness and the Kingdom of God? If so what is it? Describe it.*

2:00 Session I Course work—SSM courses – (all students are welcome to sit in each class as an observer)

Anglican Approaches to Scripture—the Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston
Prayer Book Studies I—the Venerable Jane Miron, and Deacon Wanda Kloza
Multicultural Sensitivity---

3:30 DISCERNMENT MODULE—KATE HARRIGAN

4:00 PM—GROUP GATHERING—CULTURAL DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is being called to embrace more fully the ethnic diversity and the potential wealth of ministries that come from peoples who have been marginalized in leadership or who have not participated at all in our communities. In order to “meet on new ground,” the Church must name and take ownership of the pull toward being culturally exclusive. It must struggle with racism, classism, and the subtle ways in which barriers have evolved and been maintained.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIpBG5WwP0M> *Eric Law responds to the question:*

Creating space for diversity of thought and culture in the church

5:00 Supper

Session 2 Course Work



5:30 PM (Note students and participants may sit in on classes as observers)
SSSFM Courses: Ethics I—Kara Slade
The Message of Mission –Duncan Johnston
Discernment Module –Discernment of Gifts with Kate Harrigan

6:45 PM

SESSION 3 COURSE work—SSM courses –

Anglican Practical Theology Course-The Rev. Dr. Jay Geisler
Discernment Course-Discernment of Gifts-The Rev. Kate Harrigan

8:00 PM Compline in the peace room

Open free time for fellowship/begin to prepare for Eucharist on Sunday Morning

Saturday /December 10, 2106

7:15 AM Bible Study James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Fredrick Buechner once wrote, "To wait for Christ is as best we can to be Christ to those who need us to be Christ to them most and to bring them the most we have of Christ's healing and hope because unless we bring it, it may never be brought at all."

1. Sharing stories of Advent

8:30 Breakfast

Session 4 Course work

9:00 — Church History I, the Rev. Dr. Mark Scheneman,
Discernment Module
Multi-cultural questions

10:20 break



Session 5---

10:30 Course work –
Hebrew Testament I—the Rev. Dr. David Zwifka

Discernment with Kate Harrigan

Noon Dinner

1:00- 2:30 Synoptic Gospels I—Dr. Deirdre Good

Break

Session 6 whole group

3:00 -- Multiculturalism Kevin Barron

4:45 Break

5:00 Supper

6:00

8:00 **Compline followed by preparing for Sunday's Celebration of Holy Eucharist**

Sunday/December 11, 2016

Reorientation

8:00 AM- 9:30 Summary and Theological Reflection

Overview of Open Enrollment Robyn

9:30 Brunch

10:30 Eucharist with theological reflection led by students working together throughout our time together.-

Noon Travel home

The third candle, the candle of joy is lit, pray together,

O come, O come, great Lord of might who to the tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times did give the law in cloud and mystery and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us:

You created us for joy-filled hearts and lives.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, That we may walk in the light of Christ forever. Amen.