

# The Evening School

## AT VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



### FALL TERM 2009



#### The Psalms and Negro Spirituals

*Dr. Judy Fentress-Williams*  
Thursday, September 17 to November 12,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

This course is an examination of the Psalms and Negro Spirituals in their respective communities. We will critically examine the contexts that produced Negro Spirituals and Psalms and we will catalogue their various functions. Whenever possible, we will listen to the psalms and spirituals as they are expressed through song or chanting. The dialogue between the sung prayers of these communities will afford a deeper understanding of their theology which will inform our use of them in worship.



#### Anglican Thought—A Distinctive Christian Vision for Our Time

*Dr. Timothy Sedgwick*  
Thursday, September 17 to November 12,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Drawing on primary texts in Anglicanism, this course will offer a contemporary account of Christian faith. Topics include, making sense of our world in an age of science, worship as celebration, forming a way of life, and addressing death and dying. Readings will include those from Richard Hooker, Jeremy Taylor, Joseph Butler, F.D. Maurice, Wm. Temple, and Desmond Tutu.



#### The Church's Song: New & Old

*Dr. Raymond Glover*  
Tuesday, September 15 to November 10,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

The Church's Song is truly "a many splendored thing" that represents the varying gifts and contributions of the church's saints down through the ages. In our time together we will study and sing their texts and tunes from The Hymnal and its more recent supplements. In doing so we will discern The Hymnal's great riches; it is indeed the "layperson's book of theology" which affords us artistic and beautiful expressions of our faith as individuals and as members of the Body of Christ, the Church. Lecture and discussions based on readings will constitute our weekly meetings as we explore ways in which we can share the riches of the Church's song with members of our own communities with whom we worship week after week.

### SPRING TERM 2010



#### Opening the Bible

*The Rev. Dr. Roger Ferlo*  
Tuesday, February 2 to April 20, 2010,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Join us in exploring several approaches to Bible reading, intended especially for lay people who have always wanted to read the Bible with both a faithful and a critical eye but were a bit afraid to try. No previous expertise or training required—just bring an open mind, and open heart, and an open Bible.



#### Contemporary Theology

*The Rev. Dr. Larry Golemon*  
Thursday, February 4 to April 22, 2010,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

This course provides a way of "mapping" contemporary Christian theologies from North America and around the globe. We will utilize Fr. Bevans "contextual theology" paradigm to see how theologies place different emphases on tradition, scripture, culture, and praxis in ways that help participants map their own theological tradition in relation to others in the contemporary scene. Readings will include selections from Radical Orthodoxy, feminist, liberation, enculturation, and biblical theologies in the last 60 years. Traditional topics of doctrine, including God, Christ, Spirit, and ecclesiology will be discussed within the comparative framework of contemporary theologies.



#### Effective Lay Ministry in the Small Church

*Marilyn Johns, D.Min*  
Thursday, February 4 to April 22, 2010,  
7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of mainline churches in this country have fewer than 100 people in worship on an average Sunday. Many cannot afford full-time clergy, so it falls on the lay people in small congregations to keep the ministry of the church healthy and strong. This course will explore the nature of the small church, signs of health in small congregations, models of ordained and non-ordained leadership, and ways of determining the future vision and ministry of the church.

Register at [www.vts.edu/icfl/registration](http://www.vts.edu/icfl/registration)

THE EVENING SCHOOL AT VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY was established in 1971 to provide serious theological education for lay people. Participants have included a cross section of members of Episcopal parishes in the Washington metropolitan area, as well as a number of persons from other denominations. The program is open to all those who wish to deepen their own understanding of the Christian faith and experience. Students may audit courses or may enroll for credit toward the Diploma in Theological Studies. (These credits are not transferable to the Seminary or other academic institutions.) Classes are taught by members of the Virginia Seminary faculty or by other qualified instructors. At least three courses are offered every semester; the Seminary's library is available to registered students in the Evening School. A bequest from the estate of Maxine Bishop of Alexandria continues to keep Evening School classes affordable. For more information about the Evening School, visit our website at: [www.vts.edu/icfl/evening](http://www.vts.edu/icfl/evening)

## EVENING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

### REGISTRATION

**Tuition per class:** \$95.00 audit; \$110 credit; 10% household discount

*Please enroll me in:*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Psalms and Negro Spirituals                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening the Bible                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anglican Thought—A Distinctive Christian Vision for Our Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Contemporary Theology                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Church's Song: New & Old                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Effective Lay Ministry in the Small Church |

### BIOGRAPHICAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) for nametag \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Parish (Name and City) \_\_\_\_\_

Gender  Female  Male

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*All correspondence and information concerning the course(s) for which you register will be sent by email. Please contact us if you are not able to receive email. Email addresses will only be used for course correspondence and for information about future offerings.

**You may register on our website** [www.vts.edu/icfl/registration](http://www.vts.edu/icfl/registration) and pay by credit card or by returning this form and a check payable to Virginia Theological Seminary. Mail to **The Evening School of Theology**, Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 200304.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Telephone 703-461-1752 ■ Fax 703-370-4366 ■ E-mail: [ICFL@vts.edu](mailto:ICFL@vts.edu) ■ Visit us at: [vts.edu/icfl](http://vts.edu/icfl)

