

The Scroll

Notes and News
from the
Brethren Academy for
Ministerial Leadership

June 2015

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TRIM CLASS

Now the Silence, Now the Songs: The Body of Christ at Worship



Lani Wright led this eight-week online course from February 2 to March 27. This was a popular Ministry Skills class with nineteen TRIM, EFSM, and continuing education students participating. They explored the theology and structure of worship as expressed in the free church tradition.

The textbooks used were *Worship for the Whole People of God: Vital Worship for the 21st Century* by Ruth C. Duck and *Beyond the Worship Wars* by Thomas G. Long.

Narrative Theology



On the weekend of April 16-19, seven students from across the country gathered at McPherson College (Western Plains District) to participate in the Narrative Theology course taught by Scott Holland.

"The great Jewish writer Elie Wiesel suggests that God made humanity because God loves stories. Our souls and society are wonderfully story shaped. In our Narrative Theology class, we pondered together how stories save us as we invited the stories of God to enter our own narratives, confessions, and conversations. Narrative theologians remind us that "we tell a story to find another story." As we studied texts and considered the living texts of our lives, we enjoyed learning new stories about God, world, self, and others."

- Scott Holland

The textbooks used were *Uncovering Spiritual Narratives: Using Story in Pastoral Care and Ministry* by Suzanne M. Coyle, *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi* by Amy-Jill Levine, and *Holy the Firm* by Annie Dillard.

Education for a Shared Ministry Kickoff Weekend Uses Technology

An EFSM Kickoff Weekend took place March 27-29 with Peace Community Church of the Brethren in Windsor, Colorado (Western Plains District). The ministers-in-training, supervising pastor, district liaison and Congregational Training Group met onsite, but due to health issues, Julie Hostetter could not lead the sessions in person. Conversations, group training processes, and worship took place using appropriate technology.

On Friday evening Ken Frantz, the supervising pastor from Huxton Church of the Brethren; Sonja Griffith, the district executive who is serving as the district liaison; and Julie met via conference call to explore the ministry training program using the EFSM notebook. They also reviewed the proposed formats for Saturday and Sunday.

On Saturday these three joined Jodi and Steve Bell, the ministers-in-training, and the other members of the Congregational Training Group: Bonnie Barrett, Bill Collins, Donna and Larry Elliot, Brenda and Jay MacDonald-Buttrum, and Eunice Zieler. The group met via Skype and participated in worship, community building, and discussion of components of EFSM. By the end of the day, they had organized a tentative outline and timeline for the next few years focused on their upcoming learning units.



Steve Bell



Jodi Bell

Again using Skype, the Sunday morning worship included music led by Jodi and Steve, a dialog scripture reading by two of the congregation's youth, and a sermon offered by Jodi. The worship concluded with an introduction to EFSM for the entire congregation and a commissioning service for those present led by Julie. It was a wonderful teaching-learning-worshipping experience that illustrated how technology can be used to "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (Eph 4:12)

District Administrative Assistants Gathering

On April 27-29, several of the districts' administrative assistants gathered in Elgin, Illinois. The time spent together included a tour of the building, an update about Nigeria from Carl and Roxanne Hill, a presentation on the new Ministerial Leadership Paper, and updates from various offices. Carrie Eiker was onsite to represent the Brethren Academy.

On Tuesday, Julie Hostetter and Fran Massie joined the group via Skype to present an update regarding the Brethren Academy. Information was shared about the TRIM and EFSM programs, the application process, the Spanish Language Ministry Program (SeBAH), Academy Certified Training Systems (ACTS), and continuing education options and events.



EFSM NEWS

EFSM Kickoff Weekend on Maryland's Eastern Shore

On the weekend of May 1-3, eight members of the Greenhill Church of the Brethren in Westover, Maryland (Mid-Atlantic District), gathered to kick off the beginning of their EFSM program. Carrie Eikler, coordinator of TRIM and EFSM, joined Doug Potvin (minister-in-training), Kevin Kinsey (supervising pastor), and members of the Congregational Training Group: Calvin Hartman, Adele Hartman, John Hartman, Sonja Johnson, Doreen McGuire, Sara Potvin, and Dorothy Smith.

Saturday began with worship focused on Exodus 35:20-29, rooting the weekend in the image of people bringing gifts and talents each possessed to the building of the tabernacle, each as they were "stirred." This followed a time of planning and preparing the CTG for their ministry training through EFSM.

Sunday was a day of celebration as Doug and the CTG were commissioned for the journey in morning worship. During this Kickoff Weekend, the members of Greenhill inspired each other, called out one another's gifts, and equipped one another for the ministry that lay ahead of them.



Doug Potvin

Photos by Carrie Eikler and Kevin Kinsey



Left to Right: Adele Hartman, Sonja Johnson, Doug Potvin, Sara Potvin, Doreen McGuire, Calvin Hartman, John Hartman, Carrie Eikler



Left to Right:
Back
John Hartman, Doug Potvin, Calvin Hartman, Kevin Kinsey

Front
Adele Hartman, Doreen McGuire, Sonja Johnson, Dorothy Smith, Sarah Potvin

SeBAH-CoB NEWS

Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de Los Hermanos



Debbie Roberts, coordinator of
SeBAH-CoB program

Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs

New SeBAH Cohort Launch Postponed until Fall 2015 – Four districts have expressed interest in having students participate in a new SeBAH-CoB cohort. Participants who complete this ministry training program will fulfill the educational requirements for ordination. Names of prospective students are still being proposed, followed by district interviews before they are accepted into the program. The orientation event will be led by Rafael Barahona, director of Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education for the Mennonite Education Agency, and will take place at Camp Swatara (Bethel, Pennsylvania) October 9-11, 2015. Joel Peña, the Atlantic Northeast District SeBAH-CoB coordinator and the new coordinator of Spanish-language ministry training programs for the Brethren Academy will join Rafael and the new students at the camp. We are excited to see new interest and to welcome new students into this important opportunity for ministry training.

New Staff Position Posted - The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership announced a quarter-time position opening: coordinator of Spanish-language ministry training programs for the Church of the Brethren. The primary functions of the position are to administer the Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH-CoB) educational program, design and administer the new Spanish-language track of the Education for a Shared Ministry educational program, and work with various constituencies to provide leadership for Spanish-language ministry training programs. A job description is available at www.bethanyseminary.edu/opportunities/employment. Applications will be reviewed immediately and will be accepted until the position is filled.

Thank you, Debbie Roberts! Debbie has served as the coordinator of the SeBAH-CoB ministry training program for the past two years. We have appreciated her willingness to share her gifts, language skills, and time with us as her Bethany Seminary faculty commitment to the Brethren Academy. Her pastoral presence was a welcome addition to the BAML staff. In the future she will teach for the Brethren Academy in her role as assistant professor of reconciliation studies.

A thank-you from Debbie Roberts as she completes her service to SeBAH

Sisters and Brothers in SeBAH,

It was my privilege to work with you for these two years, and I'm grateful for both the opportunity to work with this much needed Spanish-language program and your patience with my Spanish! May God grant you many blessings as you continue on your ministry training journey!

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Programas de capacitación en idioma español del Ministerio

Nueva SeBAH Cohorte Lanzamiento Pospuesto a Fall 2015 - Cuatro distritos han expresado su interés en que los estudiantes participen en una nueva cohorte SeBAH-COB. Los participantes que completen este programa de capacitación ministerio van a cumplir con los requisitos educativos para la ordenación. Todavía se están proponiendo nombres de los futuros estudiantes, seguido de entrevistas de distrito antes de ser aceptados en el programa. El evento de orientación será dirigido por Rafael Barahona, director de Hispanic Pastoral y Educación Liderazgo para la Agencia de Educación Menonita, y tendrá lugar en el Camp Swatara (Bethel, Pennsylvania) Octubre 9-11, 2015. Joel Peña, el distrito Atlantic Northeast SeBAH- coordinador del COB y el nuevo coordinador de los programas de formación del ministerio español de lengua para la Academia Hermanos, se unirán a Rafael y los nuevos estudiantes en el campamento. Estamos muy contentos de ver un nuevo interés y dar la bienvenida a los nuevos estudiantes en esta importante oportunidad para la formación ministerio.

Nuevo Personal Posición de publicación - La Academia Hermanos para el Liderazgo Ministerial anunció una apertura de posición a tiempo trimestre: coordinador de programas de capacitación ministerio en español para la Iglesia de los Hermanos. Las principales funciones de la posición son para administrar el Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH-COB) programa educativo, el diseño y administración de la nueva pista en español de la Educación para un Ministerio Compartido programa educativo, y trabajar con diversos grupos a proporcionar liderazgo para los programas de formación del ministerio en español. Una descripción del trabajo está disponible en www.bethanyseminary.edu/opportunities/employment. Las solicitudes serán evaluadas de inmediato y se aceptarán hasta llenar el cargo.

¡Gracias Debbie Roberts! Debbie ha servido como coordinador del programa de formación del ministerio SeBAH COB durante los últimos dos años. Hemos apreciado su disposición a compartir sus dones, habilidades y tiempo de idiomas con nosotros como su compromiso con la facultad del Seminario de Bethany a la Academia Hermanos. Su presencia pastoral fue una adición bienvenida al personal BAML. En el futuro se va a enseñar a la Academia de los Hermanos en su papel como profesor asistente de estudios de reconciliación.

Una Nota de Debbie Roberts

Hermanas y Hermanos en SeBAH,

Tuve el privilegio de trabajar con usted para estos dos años, y estoy agradecido tanto por la oportunidad de trabajar con este programa en español muy necesaria, así también su paciencia con mi español! Que Dios les conceda muchas bendiciones a medida que continúe en su viaje de entrenamiento ministerio!



Upcoming Academy Level Courses

Courses are open to TRIM and EFSM students, pastors (earn 2 CEUs), and all interested persons.

Please note: While we continue to accept students beyond the Registration Deadline, on that date we determine whether we have enough students to offer a course. Many courses have required pre-course readings, so students need to be sure to allow enough time to complete those. Please do not purchase texts or make travel plans until the Registration Deadline has passed, and you receive a course confirmation. To register, contact the Brethren Academy at academy@bethanyseminary.edu or 765-983-1824.

Register for "SVMC" courses through Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center.
Forms at www.etown.edu/svmc or contact svmc@etown.edu or 717-361-1450.

[Credit descriptions: BCE – Brethren College Experience, BTS – Bethany Experience, IE-Intercultural/Ecumenical Experience, BT-Bible/Theology, MS –Ministry/Ministry Skills
FCR-Fulfills Curricular Requirement]

Summer/Fall 2015

Annual Conference DISU: onsite in Tampa, FL, Joyce Rupp, Presenter on *Delving Deeply into Compassion*; DISU Instructor: Carrie Eikler, July 10-11, 2015 (credit: MS) **Registration Deadline: June 12, 2015**

Defining Set-Apart Ministry within the Bivocational Reality, online, Instructor: Sandra Jenkins, July 20-September 11, 2015 (credit: MS) **Registration Deadline: June 22, 2015**

Christianity in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds, online, Instructor: H. Kendall Rogers, September 21-November 13, 2015 (credits: BT, BTS) **Registration Deadline: August 17, 2015**

Writing for Ministry, online, Instructor: Holly White, September 21–November 13, 2015 (credits: MS) **Registration Deadline: August 21, 2015**

Presidential Forum DISU: Just Peace, Bethany Theological Seminary, Instructor: Debbie Roberts, October 29-31, 2015 (credits: BT, BTS)

SVMC Academic Symposium Directed ISU (DISU): The Gospel of Mark and the Twenty-First Century, Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA, Keynote Speaker: Dan Ulrich; DISU Instructor: Connie Maclay, November 9, 2015 (credits: BT, BCE) **Registration Deadline: October 12, 2015**

Preaching Peace, Justice, and Care for Creation, weekend intensive, McPherson College, McPherson, KS, Instructor: David Radcliff, November 12-15, 2015 (credits: MS, BCE) **Registration Deadline: October 12, 2015**

Winter/Spring 2016

Pastoral Care, January intensive, Bethany Theological Seminary, Instructor: Carolyn Stahl Bohler, January 11-13, 2016, plus two Adobe Connect (multiframed video conference) sessions (credits: MS, BTS)

Introduction to New Testament, online, Instructor: Matt Boersma, January 18-March 11, 2016 (credits: BT, FCR)

Brethren Polity and Practice, weekend intensive, McPherson College, McPherson, KS, Instructor: Jim Tomlonson, March 10-13, 2016 (credits: MS, BCE, FCR)

Chronicles, online, Instructor: Steve Schweitzer, April 4-May 27, 2016 (credits: BT, BTS)

CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

Supervision in Ministry Class Held in ANE District

The fourth Supervision in Ministry class was held during March and April 2015 using both Bethany Seminary's technology classroom and face-to-face time in Pennsylvania. The first 1.5 hours of instruction took place on March 26 using Adobe Connect, a multiframe video conference option. Each participant and the instructor were visible and audible to the others. The technology was useful for introductions, presentations, and class discussion.

The second part of the course took place on April 17 and 18 at the Atlantic Northeast District Office in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Each participant and the instructor prepared a ministry reflection report (an account of an experience in ministry). After the modeling of the process by the instructor and one class member, each person presented his/her report and was supervised by another participant. The remainder of the group served as process observers. After each supervisory conversation, the entire group debriefed the experience. This model of supervision is based on the book *Transforming the Rough Places: The Ministry of Supervision* by Kenneth Pohly.

The combination of online and onsite learning allowed participants to attend the first part of the class without having to travel to the Brethren Academy in Richmond, Indiana. It also meant that the instructor could travel to the region where the participants were located for the all-important in-person conversations. As is often the case, this class proved to be a rich experience in the practice of the ministry of supervision.

Front row: Jeff Rill - Lancaster (ANE), Belita Mitchell - Harrisburg First (ANE)

Back row: David W. Miller - Black Rock (PAS), Del Keeney - Mechanicsburg (PAS), Kevin Kinsey - Easton (MATL)



Photo by Mike Hostetter

Healthy Boundaries 201 – Ethics in Ministry Relations Training at Annual Conference

Lois Grove will lead the session Friday, July 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a break for lunch. Lois was trained to lead Healthy Boundaries 201 by the Faith Trust Institute and has led multiple training events in the Idaho, Illinois-Wisconsin, Missouri-Arkansas, Northern Plains, Western Pennsylvania, and Western Plains Districts.

The afternoon session will include a presentation on the 2008 Ethics in Ministry Relations paper led by Tim Button-Harrison, district executive for Northern Plains District.

If you are interested in attending this Healthy Boundaries 201 training, please contact the Brethren Academy at academy@bethanyseminary.edu. **There will be a registration fee of \$20 for this continuing education event. Registration and payment must be sent to the Brethren Academy by June 30, 2015.**

Note: If you are planning to attend this Healthy Boundaries 201 training event, you will likely need lodging in Tampa on Thursday, July 9, 2015.

Women in Leadership Insight Sessions at Annual Conference

Clergywomen's Breakfast - Sunday, July 12, 2015, 7:00 a.m.

Joyce Rupp, a member of the Servants of Mary religious community, writer, international retreat leader, conference speaker, spiritual director, and codirector of *The Institute of Compassionate Presence*



Fly While You Still Have Wings: How to Find a Balance between Independence and Surrender in the Aging Process

Joyce will address the spirituality of aging, a topic touching on both the personal and pastoral life of clergy. She will speak out of her own experience of aging as well as the journey she took with her mother's limitations and diminishment. Resiliency, regrets, faith, solitude, and surrender will be among the topics addressed.

Hosted by the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry

Sunday Evening Insight Session - July 12, 2015, 9:00 p.m.

Rhonda Pittman Gingrich, freelance writer, workshop leader, consultant, adjunct faculty (*United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities*), and *Brethren Academy* instructor

Spiritual Practices: An Ancient-Future Path to Nurture the Spiritual Lives of Children

Children have a rich spiritual life, exhibiting several beautiful, innate spiritual capacities. Unfortunately, the church often squelches, rather than nurtures, the spiritual lives of children with our focus on information and/or entertainment. A key to transforming our approach is viewing our ministry through the lens of a shared pilgrimage. We will explore the spiritual lives of children, best practices to foster a sense of shared pilgrimage, and how to use spiritual practices (classical and innovative) to nurture their spiritual lives in authentic and respectful ways. (0.1 CEU available)



Hosted by the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership and Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry

Monday Evening Insight Session - July 13, 2015, 9:00 p.m.

Connie Burkholder, pastor, *Williamson Road Church of the Brethren (Virginia)*



Praying with our Bodies

God has gifted us with physical bodies. Yet Christians have sometimes been unable to make a graceful link between the body of Jesus and the bodies of the rest of humanity, even our own bodies. We will name some stumbling blocks that keep us from befriending our bodies and explore a stance that may allow us to pray more fully and holy/wholly as Christians. (0.1 CEU available)

Hosted by the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry

Tuesday Evening Insight Session - July 14, 2015, 9:00 p.m.

Tara Hornbacker, professor of ministry formation, missional leadership, and evangelism, *Bethany Seminary*

"Continuing the Work of Jesus": Speaking and Seeking Spirituality with a CoB Accent

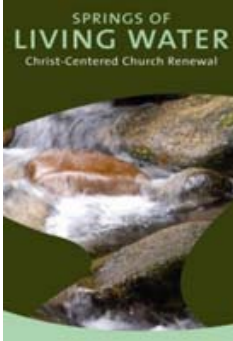
How is Church of the Brethren spirituality different from other traditions? Where are the similarities between our practice of spirituality and other Christians? Join us for discovery and discussion of spirituality from a Church of the Brethren perspective. (0.1 CEU available)



Hosted by the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership and Bethany Theological Seminary

Springs of Living Water Academy in Church Renewal

Registration Now Open for Foundations Class: Fall 2015



The Springs of Living Water Academy for pastors offers courses with learning objectives which participants localize in their setting.

- Five interactive two-hour phone conference calls with practical training and focused discussion over a twelve-week period
- Focused readings and spiritual disciplines
- Shepherding calls between sessions
- A few persons in the church walking with participants
- A seminal paper reflecting course content and application
- CEUs available

Level 1. Fall 2015 Foundations for Christ-Centered Church Renewal

Using a Springs of Living Water text with a spiritually grounded, servant-led approach, learn to

- ✓ go deeper in one's faith journey using a spiritual disciplines folder and devotional;
- ✓ enlist a congregation in renewal and spiritually discern and train a renewal team;
- ✓ help a congregation enter a spiritual journey with disciplines folders;
- ✓ understand servant leadership from scripture to approach the life cycle of a church;
- ✓ identify and fulfill five roles of transforming pastoral leadership for church renewal;
- ✓ implement a sevenfold path for renewal in which a church builds on its strengths;
- ✓ help a church spiritually discern a scripture, vision, and ministry plan.

Resources: Spiritual Disciplines folder on the Disciplines and *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster; *Springs of Living Water, Christ-Centered Church Renewal* by David S. Young

Class Sessions – Tuesdays: September 15, October 6 and 27, November 17, December 8

Class Time – 8:00-10:00 a.m. ET

The instructor is Dr. David S. Young with potential guests. Participants call an 800 number. Along with focused readings, participants can practice daily disciplines using folders. For a Springs of Living Water Academy brochure, please e-mail davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org or call (717)615-4515. The Springs' website is www.churchrenewalservant.org.

Please Note: Registration is due by *August 25, 2015*, earlier if possible, to allow time for reading preparation for the first session listed on the syllabus as well as to discern and enlist a few people from your congregation to walk along with you in the class.

Level 1. Winter 2016 Foundations for Christ-Centered Church Renewal with a bivocational component added that will help all participants

Class Sessions – Saturdays: February 20, March 12, April 2 and 23, May 14

Class Time – 8:00-10:00 a.m. ET

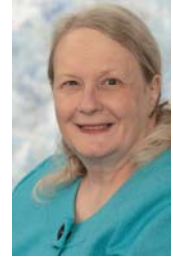
Please make your inquiries as soon as possible.

Upon Request: Level 2. A follow-up class on implementation is offered:

Servant Leadership for Church Renewal, Shepherds by the Living Springs

Gives pastors training on vital topics of churches in renewal: master preaching, dialogue and discernment, inviting and discipling new members, implementing units of renewal. Please make your inquiry known.

From the Executive Director



*God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian . . .
Give to those who lead your people fresh anointing of your grace.
Send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.*

*Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd . . .
In your tending may all ministers learn and live a shepherd's care,
Grant them courage and compassion shown through word and deed and prayer.*

From *Hymnal: A Worship Book* (Brethren Press: Elgin, IL) #632

Congratulations to the students who have completed their ministry training programs through the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership!

Training in Ministry graduates are recognized at their district conferences and also at the Annual Conference Bethany Seminary-Brethren Academy luncheon. The following brother and sisters completed their TRIM programs during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Leon Davis - Pastoral Team, Tuscarora Fellowship, Southern Pennsylvania
Marie Froman - Broadwater Church of the Brethren, Missouri-Arkansas
Sharon Heien - Pastoral Team, Fairview Church of the Brethren, Northern Plains
Leah Hileman - Minister of Music, Harrisburg First Church of the Brethren, Atlantic Northeast
Purvi Satvedi - Naperville Church of the Brethren, Illinois-Wisconsin

An Education for a Shared Ministry graduate is recognized along with his or her Congregational Training Group, supervising pastor, and district liaison during worship in their local congregation. They are also recognized at the BTS-BAML luncheon at Annual Conference.

Gabriel Garrison – Minister, Peace Valley Church of the Brethren, Missouri-Arkansas
Joshua Leck – Ministry Team, Monitor Church of the Brethren, Western Plains
Timothy Sites - Assistant Pastor, Flat Rock Church of the Brethren, Middle Pennsylvania

Please join us in offering prayers for and congratulations to our alumni/ae!

Julie *Carrie* *Fran* *Massie*

A ministry-training partnership of the Church of the
Brethren and Bethany Theological Seminary
<http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/academy>

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