

The Scroll

*Notes and News
from the
Brethren Academy for
Ministerial Leadership*

Winter 2018

IN THIS EDITION: English-Language Ministry Updates
Upcoming Course Lists

Spanish-Language Ministry Updates
Continuing Education Events

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh.
To us the path of knowledge show,
and cause us in thy ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

“O Come, O Come Immanuel,” vs. 5
Henry Sloan Coffin, *Hymns of the Kingdom of God*, 1916

Dear Friends,

May Wisdom be our companion and our guide, in the season of Christmas and in the year to come.

Thank you for your companionship in education and training in the past year. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

God is with us! Immanuel! Thanks be to God!



Janet



Fran



EFSM Congregational Workshop Weekend: Lakeview Church of the Brethren

Carrie Eikler, coordinator of English-language ministry training Program, had the special delight of joining the Lakeview Church of the Brethren in northern Michigan just as the leaves were peaking at the height of color. Lakeview is the newest EFSM Congregation (Education for Shared Ministry) with the Brethren Academy. David Amsden will serve as the congregation's minister in training. David currently splits his time between the ministry of Lakeview and his very important role in the community as a postal carrier.

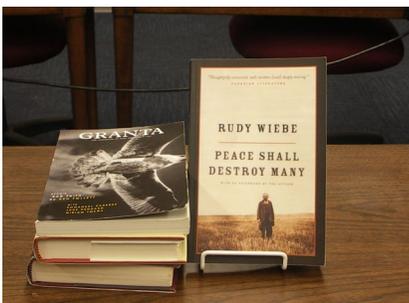
Joining David in his program are three other members of the congregation, the laity In training. The group will be joined by supervising pastor Frances Townsend, a local Church of the Brethren pastor, who will guide the group as they grow and learn together. Blessings to the Lakeview congregation as they start this exciting new opportunity!

Narrative Theology with Scott Holland

Professor Scott Holland held a weekend intensive at Bethany Theological Seminary in January. This course drew nine students across the country from California to Maryland.

Narrative Theology was a fun class with plenty of insights into truth and life experiences through the use of fictional stories. During the class we discussed several books and what their stories were revealing to us or what we each got out of the books. There were good and lively discussions with everybody's thoughts heard and respected. There was a time at the end of the class where we presented our own stories, some fictional and some not, with a discussion of what those stories meant to each of us. It was a pleasure to see how the story we each told was understood by our fellow classmates and if the points we were trying to make registered with them. The class was an exercise in examining stories of others but also allowing us to be creative with our own story. The instructor, Dr. Scott Holland, was easygoing and informative, and I believe we all found ways to enhance our ministry through the class. I would highly recommend this class as a part of your studies.

- Larry Lutz, TRIM student, Southern Ohio District



Front: Larry Lutz, OHS; Jessica Webster, PAW; Rita Carter, ANE; Scott Holland, Bethany Seminary

Back: Randall Westfall, MI; Adam Ulm, ANE; Gene Hollenberg, INN, Mike Trott, SHEN; Jody Romero, PSWD

TWO EXCITING CLASSROOM OPPORTUNITIES

It is a treat for the Brethren Academy to offer two onsite courses in new locations this winter! These (and all Brethren Academy courses) are open to everyone, not just those in a ministry training program. Therefore, please consider passing these opportunities on to those in your congregation who might be interested.

Race and the Congregation – Elgin, Illinois, February 21-24, 2019

The Church of the Brethren holds that "all war is sin." But how do we consider this historic peace stance against the current backdrop of social issues that impact Black Americans? **Eric Bishop, adjunct professor at the University of La Verne (California)**, will guide students as they rethink the definition of war vs. social conflict; discuss and analyze what it means to be an African- American minority in US society; analyze the context in which Black Americans join the Church of the Brethren congregations and the comfort level therein; discuss how we welcome those who do not look like us; and create an inviting church home without being paternal, colonial, or requiring the loss of identity.



Eric Bishop

Survey of the Bible – Miami, Florida, March 1-3, 2019



Steven Schweitzer

Join with sisters and brothers from the Miami Haitian Church of the Brethren and instructor **Steve Schweitzer, biblical scholar and academic dean at Bethany Theological Seminary**, to explore what the Bible meant to its original audiences. The course will pay particular attention to historical and literary contexts to assist in interpretation. How the original audiences read scripture was often very different than how we do but not always. Students will learn how to interpret a biblical text by being attentive to historical and literary contexts and drawing on academic resources.

Other Upcoming Courses

Christianity in the Early-Modern and Modern World – Online, January 23-March 13, 2019

Ken Rogers, professor of historical studies at Bethany Seminary will lead this eight-week online course, providing a brief overview of the history of Christianity from the Reformation to World War II. Students will study key Christian thinkers and become familiar with some of the major issues, events, and personalities in Christian history.

How to Think Theologically – Online, March 13-April 30, 2019

In this course **Nate Inglis, assistant professor of theological studies at Bethany Seminary**, will guide students in conversation about how to think theologically as a practice of creative and critical reflection on God, Jesus, humanity, and the world in dialogue with challenges Christian communities face today. By connecting the theological tradition with current social issues, students will consider ways to respond to them from a Christian peacemaking perspective.

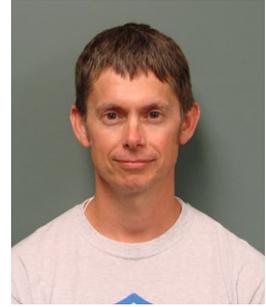
For information on registration, and to see more courses that are coming soon, visit <https://bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy>.

To register or pay online, look for the Courses/TRIM Payment button on our course listings or home page.

STUDENT TESTIMONIES

Defining Set-Apart Ministry within the Bivocational Reality

Defining Set-Apart Ministry within the Bivocational Reality - don't let the name fool you. This class is a must for anyone who is a bi-vocational minister. What the class is really about is how to navigate the challenging life of bi-vocational ministry. No one can truly be prepared for what ministry calls for, especially when you're working a full time job and have answered the call to ministry. Reverend Sandy Jenkins (Constance Church of the Brethren, Hebron KY) has experienced what it means to be a bi-vocational minister and brings that wisdom to the class, along with a lot of very helpful information on how to find the balance between ministry and life. I am also a bi-vocational minister and this course has been a blessing for me and my ministry. It has helped me to recognize the value of my calling, as well as find more balance between life and ministry. The blessings and benefits of this course cannot truly be expressed by words; they must be experienced.



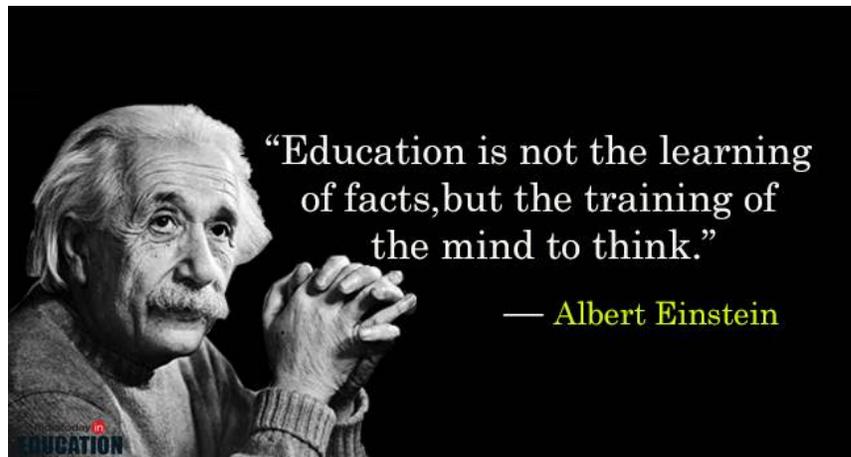
Arnold Collett, TRIM student, OHS District

Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures



Rich Miller, TRIM student, PAS District

I am currently finishing up the Brethren Academy class Introduction to the Hebrew Bible. This class was taught by Matt Boersma. I found this class to be both rewarding and engaging. It took me to new levels of reading the ancient Hebrew texts. I spent time reading the scriptures through a new and very fresh lens. Matt's class caused me to examine how the differing genres affect how we interpret the text. Engaging with the others in the class through the online forum, we were able to lift each other to new levels of understanding. Matt made it very simple to communicate our levels of understanding, and his class was very personal. He was reachable when questions arose, and he made us reach within ourselves to acquire the knowledge to navigate through this class. I would recommend this class to anybody that wants to learn how we came up with the canon that we know as the Old Testament or the Hebrew scriptures.



GRADUATE CREDIT FOR ACADEMY STUDENTS

There is a new way for Brethren Academy students to enroll in Bethany courses! Starting immediately, an Academy student may apply as an **Academy student for graduate credit**. As such, any student who successfully completes their course will receive not only credit toward their Academy transcript but also toward their own graduate record. Should an Academy student choose to later pursue a graduate certificate or degree from Bethany, the graduate credits earned may be applied to their program. (Those who already have a graduate transcript will add to it!)

What sets this new category apart is, largely, the cost. An **Academy student for graduate credit** pays \$500 a course, a third of the regular fee!

To learn both Academy and graduate credit, Academy students need to do the following:

1. Obtain permission to take the course from the instructor, academic dean and the director of the Brethren Academy
2. Apply to Bethany as an **Academy student for graduate credit** and pay the \$500 fee (\$50 application fee waived)
3. Successfully complete the course by fulfilling all the requirements set forth by the instructor

Students who successfully complete a course for graduate credit will receive three credits on their graduate transcript and one credit on their Academy transcript.

Graduate Courses for Academy Credit

In addition to this new opportunity, Academy students may continue to enroll in Bethany courses for Academy credit alone. To do so, Academy students need to do the following:

1. Obtain permission to take the course from the Instructor, Academic Dean and the Director of the Brethren Academy
2. Apply to Bethany as an **auditor** and pay the \$350 fee (\$50 application fee waived)
3. Successfully audit the course by
 - meeting the attendance requirement
 - completing the assigned reading
 - engaging in the course through participation
 - completing reduced assignments that may be required by the instructor

Students interested in a Bethany course for graduate credit, Academy credit, or both will find course offerings in the [2018-19 Academic Catalog](#).

If you have questions, please contact the Academy at academy@bethanyseminary.edu.



Upcoming Brethren Academy-Level Courses

Courses are open to Academy students, pastors (2.0 CEUs), and all interested persons.

To register, contact the Brethren Academy at academy@bethanyseminary.edu or 765-983-1824.

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

Winter/Spring 2019

Christianity in the Early-Modern and Modern World, online

January 23-March 12, 2019

Instructor: H. Kendall Rogers

(credits: BT, BTS)

Registration Deadline: December 19, 2018

Race and the Congregation, weekend intensive

February 21-24, 2019

Church of the Brethren General Offices, Elgin, IL

Instructor: Eric Bishop

(credits: MS, BCE)

Registration Deadline: January 17, 2019

Survey of the Bible, weekend intensive

Miami Haitian COB, Miami, FL

March 1-3, 2019

Instructor: Steve Schweitzer

(credits: BS, BTS, IE)

Registration Deadline: January 25, 2019

How to Think Theologically, online

March 13-April 30, 2019

Instructor: Nate Inglis

(credit: BT, BTS)

Registration Deadline: February 6, 2019

Church of the Brethren Polity, online

April 3-May 28, 2019

Instructor: Torin Eikler

(credit: MS, FCR)

Registration Deadline: February 27, 2019

Summer/Fall 2019

DISU at Annual Conference Pre-Conference Gathering

Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC

July 2-3, 2019

(credits: MS, AC Experience available)

Registration Deadline: May 28, 2019

Death and Dying, online

September 4-October 29, 2019

Instructor: Debbie Eisenbise

(credits: MS)

Registration Deadline: August 31, 2019

Church of the Brethren History, weekend intensive

October 11-13, 2019

Miami Haitian COB, Miami, FL

Instructor: Denise Kettering-Lane

(credits: BS, BTS, IE)

Registration Deadline: September 6, 2019

Introduction to New Testament, online

October 16-December 3, 2019

Instructor: Matt Boersma

(credits: BT, FCR)

Registration Deadline: September 11, 2019

Interim Ministry, online

September 25-November 19, 2019

Instructor: Tara Hornbacker

(credits: MS, BTS)

Registration Deadline: August 21, 2019

Rev. 12/12/18

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 precourse 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.

You can now register and pay for BAML courses and fees online!

bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy

2019 Horario de Cursos SeBAH / 2019 SeBAH Course Schedule

El programa de cursos SeBAH ha sido establecido y enviado a los estudiantes y coordinadores del distrito. La inscripción para el próximo curso, *Proyecto Pastoral*, ya está abierta. Para inscribirse, contacte a la Academia de Hermanos para el Liderazgo Ministerial, academy@bethanyseminary.edu.

The SeBAH course schedule for 2019 has been set and sent to students and district coordinators. Registration for the next course, *Proyecto Pastoral*, is now open. To register contact the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership at academy@bethanyseminary.edu.

<u>Nombre del Curso</u>	<u>Fechas Comienzan y Finalizan</u>			<u>Instructor</u>	
Proyecto Pastoral	2019	Enero	Marzo	En línea	Tony Brun
Comprendiendo la Biblia	2019	Enero	Marzo	En línea	Patricia Urueña
La Historia y Teología de la COB	2019	Abril	Junio	En línea	Marcos Inhauser
Del Pensamiento y Reflexión a la Página	2019	Abril	Junio	En línea	Rebeca González
Espiritualidad y Discipulado Cristiano	2019	Abril	Junio	En línea	Tony Brun
La Ética, Política y Administración de la COB	2019	Julio	Sept	En línea	Ramón Torres
Pastoral de Acompañamiento	2019	Julio	Sept	En línea	Daniel Schipani
El Evangelio de Mateo	2019	Octubre	Diciembre	En línea	Dan Ulrich
Ministerio y Transformación de Conflicto	2019	Octubre	Diciembre	En línea	Byron Pellecer

❖ Proyecto Pastoral

El propósito del Proyecto Pastoral es profundizar un área de conocimiento relacionada con el ministerio, y analizar los problemas y sus causas, a fin de proponer alternativas de solución y resolver las preguntas planteadas por la realidad de la iglesia o comunidad de fe. El objetivo es apoyar la capacitación en investigación de los estudiantes en relación con el desarrollo de la praxis teológica, prestando atención a los contextos de la comunidad y / o iglesia en los que los estudiantes llevan a cabo su vocación o trabajo profesional. Plantar una comunidad anabaptista y crear un programa social con un énfasis de paz y justicia son ejemplos de un proyecto pastoral.

The purpose of the Pastoral Project is to deepen some area of knowledge related to ministry and analyze problems and their causes in order to propose solution alternatives and resolve questions posed by the reality of the church or faith community. The goal is to support students' research training regarding the development of theological praxis, paying attention to the community and/or church contexts in which students carry out their vocation or professional work. Planting an Anabaptist community and creating a social program with a peace and justice emphasis are examples of a Pastoral Project.

❖ Comprendiendo la Biblia

El enfoque de este curso es la naturaleza e interpretación de las Escrituras. Es necesario considerar la distancia en el idioma, la cultura y la tecnología que nos separa de la audiencia original para entender el texto como lo hicieron. Examinar cómo la Iglesia ha interpretado las Escrituras en el pasado nos ayuda a analizar nuestra propia interpretación. Prestar atención a cómo se usa la Biblia para predicar y enseñar nos ayuda a determinar si la Biblia nos está hablando o si estamos hablando a la Biblia. La preparación de estudios y sermones aclarará nuestra comprensión de la Biblia.

The focus of this course is the nature and interpretation of scripture. It is necessary to consider the distance in language, culture, and technology that separates us from the original audience to understand the text as they did. Examining how the church has interpreted scripture in the past helps us to analyze our own interpretation. Paying attention to how the Bible is used in preaching and teaching helps us determine whether the Bible is speaking to us or we are speaking to the Bible. The preparation of studies and sermons will clarify understanding of the Bible.

❖ **La Historia y Teología de la Iglesia de los Hermanos**

El curso está diseñado para ofrecer a los participantes una visión histórica de los hechos anteriores a la Reforma Radical y como esta ha sido un avance a los temas tratados por los Reformadores clásicos. También se trabajará la historia de las ideas que permitieron la Reforma, el Anabautismo y el Pietismo, y como estos dieron la condiciones para el surgimiento de la Hermandad. Hará un recorrido en los años iniciales de la Hermandad en Europa, el traslado hacia América y los desafíos enfrentados en el nuevo mundo, especialmente frente a los constantes cambios que tuvo que enfrentar.

The course is designed to offer participants a historical view of the events prior to the Radical Reformation and how this has been an advance on the issues addressed by the classical Reformers. The history of the ideas that allowed the rise of Reformation, Anabaptism, and Pietism and how these gave the conditions for the emergence of the Brethren will also be addressed. The course will tour the early years of the Brethren in Europe, the move to America, and the challenges faced in the new world, especially in the face of constant changes.

❖ **Del Pensamiento y la Reflexión a la Página**

Este curso está diseñado para proporcionar experiencia de estudio en línea, y tiene como objetivo brindar a los estudiantes habilidades esenciales en el desarrollo de escritos que muestren un pensamiento reflexivo y analítico, lo que lleva a trabajos originales, de acuerdo con los requisitos académicos de nivel universitario.

This course is designed to provide online study experience and aims to give students essential skills in the development of writings that show reflective and analytical thinking (which leads to original works), according to the requirements of university-level academia.

❖ **Espiritualidad y Discipulado Cristiano**

Este curso busca capacitar al liderazgo pastoral en la nutrición y transformación de su autoconocimiento y desarrollo espiritual. Con este fin, el curso describe las características del seguimiento de Cristo y proporciona ejercicios o prácticas espirituales que fomentarán el crecimiento espiritual del liderazgo pastoral y la iglesia.

This course seeks to train pastoral leadership in the nurture and transformation of their self-knowledge and spiritual development. To this end, the course describes the characteristics of Christ following and provides spiritual exercises or practices that will foster spiritual growth of pastoral leadership and the church.

La información para los cursos de Junio a Octubre se incluirá en The Scroll de primavera.

Information for the June–October courses will be included in the spring 2019 Scroll.

LOOKING FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS?

Church of the Brethren agencies and partners offer classes and events throughout the year that qualify for continuing education units (CEUs) for clergy. Most of these events are also open to laypersons for personal enrichment. Some are offered online, while others are held onsite. Continuing education credits are available for ministers at the cost of \$10 through the Brethren Academy.



A page has been created on Bethany Theological Seminary's website to provide easy access to opportunities offered by the different agencies and partnerships. To see what is available, please go to bethanyseminary.edu/events-resources/continuing-education-opportunities/.

Bethany Seminary Unveils a New Offer for Alumni!

It has long been understood that Academy graduates are considered Bethany Theological Seminary alumni in significant ways. This new offer from Bethany Seminary is one of them.

Because Bethany seeks to support its alumni in the pursuit of lifelong education, the Seminary is now offering the following option for graduate-level courses, beginning with the 2018-19 academic year:

Alumni who have graduated within the last five years may audit two courses at no cost.

Alumni who graduated more than five years ago may audit one course at no cost.

Academy graduates who wish to participate in this offer may apply by completing the [Auditor Application Form](#). Alumni may waive the \$50 application fee.

Academy graduates who have questions about this process may contact the Brethren Academy office or Bethany Seminary: admissions@bethanyseminary.edu or 800-287-8822.

Note that if CEUs are desired for any course, a student must contact the Brethren Academy Office for a continuing education certificate.



Continuing education units (CEUs) are available for all of the following events.

Clergy Tax Seminar Saturday, January 19, 2019

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is once again offering the annual Clergy Tax Seminar. Students, pastors, and other church leaders are invited to attend either in person at Bethany Theological Seminary or online. Credit for 0.4 CEUs will be available for attending the morning and early afternoon sessions either in person or online.

In a new format this year, the seminar will be broken into three sessions: clergy tax law; the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, covering significant changes for 2018 tax returns; and how to use TurboTax to prepare a clergy tax return. As always, the workshop will describe the rules regarding clergy tax returns, updates on important court cases, and practice preparing a clergy tax return. In addition, the many changes affecting individuals under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will be covered in depth in a separate session. This seminar is highly recommended for all pastors and other church leaders who wish to understand clergy taxes, including treasurers, steward commission chairs, and church board chairs.

Form 1040 Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service (99)
U.S. Individual Income Tax Return
For the year Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2013, or other tax year beginning

Your first name and initial Last name

If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial Last name

Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions.

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, also complete

Foreign country name Foreign zip

Filing Status 1 Single
2 Married filing jointly (even if only one had income)
3 Married filing separately. Enter spouse's SSN and full name here. ▶

Check only one

Exemptions 6a Yourself, if someone can claim you as a dependent
b Spouse

Seminar Schedule

- 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. EST: Morning session – 0.4 CEUs available in combination with first afternoon session
- 12:00-12:30 p.m. EST: Lunch on your own
- 12:30-2:30 p.m. EST: First afternoon session - 0.4 CEUs available in combination with morning session
- 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. EST: Second afternoon session (no CEUs)

Registration and Cost

Registration is \$30 per person (generally nonrefundable to keep fees and overhead low). Current Bethany Seminary, Brethren Academy, and Earlham School of Religion students may attend the seminar at no cost, although registration is still required to reserve space and so sufficient materials for your attendance may be prepared. If you will be attending online, your registration will allow us to provide you with web access to the seminar. Instructions and handouts will be sent a few days prior to the event.

Registrations are not complete until payment is received. For space and quality reasons, registrations may be capped at twenty persons locally and eighty-five persons online. Prompt registration is advised—**registration deadline is January 10, 2019**. Register at bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/clergy-tax-seminar/.



Deb Oskin has been doing clergy tax returns since 1989, when her husband left seminary to pastor a small rural Church of the Brethren congregation. As a pastor's wife, and later as a tax professional, she learned the tax problems and pitfalls associated with the IRS's identification of clergy as "hybrid employees." In 2011, after twelve years with H&R Block, Deb left to start her own tax practice, specializing in clergy taxes. Clergy clients now make up 75 percent of her client base.



Ventures in Christian Discipleship

McPherson College offers Ventures in Christian Discipleship sessions, live and online, throughout the year. The programs are designed to empower laypeople, especially in smaller congregations, but are equally meaningful to clergy.

The 2018-19 sessions begin with the following:

Biblical Hospitality

January 26, 2019 – Fred Bernhard, instructor

This course on biblical hospitality will explore the scriptural meanings of hospitality and look at practical ways it can be used in the home, church, and community.

Growing More of an Inclusive, Multicultural Church

March 2, 2019 – Barbara Avent, instructor

As the world becomes more diverse, church leaders and lay people will need an understanding of the nature of inclusivity/multiculturalism.

Healthy and Safe Congregations

April 13, 2018 – Kathy Reid, instructor

This course will look specifically at how congregations can be a safe place for those who are vulnerable. Based on our Brethren values, what can we do to make sure that all—especially survivors of child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault—feel safe and supported?

To see more information about the sessions and CEU credits, visit [Ventures in Christian Discipleship](#). To register, [click here](#).

A ministry-training partnership of the Church of the Brethren
and Bethany Theological Seminary

www.bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/



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