

# SPRING 2012

## EDUCATIONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR

COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
CLERGY & LAY MEMBERS  
CONGREGATIONS

*YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MINISTER TO GO TO SEMINARY.*

TEACHER	PSYCHOLOGIST
YOUTH MINISTER	POET
LITURGICAL ARTIST	VOLUNTEER
MUSICIAN	SOCIAL WORKER
PLAYWRIGHT	HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN
CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR	LAWYER
COMMUNITY ORGANIZER	NURSE
WORSHIP LEADER	ARTIST
CAMPUS MINISTER	HISTORIAN
WRITER	DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
PHYSICIAN	LIBRARIAN
LEGISLATOR	THERAPIST
ACTIVIST	NONPROFIT ADMINISTRATOR
CHURCH EDUCATOR	SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR
NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR	PASTORAL COUNSELOR
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT	MILITARY CHAPLAIN

[WWW.UNITEDSEMINARY.EDU](http://WWW.UNITEDSEMINARY.EDU)



*“I am more myself having studied here than I was before I came.”*

*Chris Kliesen Wehrman '10*

## WE WELCOME PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS AND WALKS OF LIFE

United Theological Seminary is a small, intimate seminary nestled in a quiet, suburban neighborhood near the intersection of I-35W and I-694 in northwest St. Paul. An ecumenical seminary, we pioneer new ways to educate people for ministry in a changing world through our:

- carefully planned, integrated curriculum;
- rich mix of theological traditions;
- focus on the arts as a source of inspiration for worship;
- commitment to move people and communities to greater wholeness and justice.

## UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAITY AND CLERGY

Created to serve your needs, United's Academy for Vital Christianity and Institute for the Support of Pastoral Ministries are part of the seminary's commitment to academic excellence and a prophetic voice.

The Academy, in partnership with the Minnesota Conferences of the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church, offers seminary-quality education in locations and formats that make it possible for individuals and clergy to pursue a deeper understanding of the Christian tradition without the commitment needed to take a seminary class.

The Institute, directed and founded by Christie Cozad Neuger, a world-renowned leader in the field of pastoral care and counseling, provides religious leaders in parish and specialized ministries the opportunity to participate in yearlong consultation groups designed to support and enhance their ministries. The focus is deepening reflection on, and practice of, the arts of ministry.

## BIGELOW CHAPEL

The award-winning Bigelow Chapel serves as a beautiful and inspiring setting for public lectures and convocations, offers gallery space for art exhibits, and provides a venue for musical concerts, liturgical dance, and chancel drama. View the stunning Bigelow Chapel at:

[www.unitedseminary.edu/Bigelow/photos.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/Bigelow/photos.asp)

# UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE TWIN CITIES

## 50 YEARS: CHANGING LIVES TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Since 1962, United has led the way in social justice, religion and the arts, and developing leaders for the new church. Please join us in celebrating our landmark anniversary!

## 2012 SPRING EVENT OFFERINGS

For more details and registration, see our Web site at [www.unitedseminary.edu/events/index.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/events/index.asp) or call 651.255.6138. Events take place at United unless otherwise noted.

### 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPRING CELEBRATION

#### THEOLOGICAL BOOK CLUB

*THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION OF AMERICAN WOMEN*  
MARY FARRELL BEDNAROWSKI,  
AUTHOR & FACILITATOR  
Thursday, March 29, 7:30 PM  
\$10

*GOD IN PUBLIC: FOUR WAYS AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY AND PUBLIC LIFE RELATE*  
BY MARK G. TOULOUSE  
STEVE NEWCOM, FACILITATOR  
Thursday, May 10, 7:30 PM  
\$10

Discuss books treating themes that have been core to United over the past 50 years.

#### WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL FORUM

PARKER PALMER, WRITER, ACTIVIST,  
FOUNDER OF THE CENTER FOR  
COURAGE & RENEWAL  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Thursday, April 19  
Noon-1:00 PM  
No charge. Co-sponsored by United.

Based on his latest book, *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, Palmer will explore ways to undercut America's political tensions and restore a democracy of the common good.

#### SPRING CONVOCATION PREVIEW EVENT

Tuesday, April 24  
4:00-6:00 PM

Hosted by the Alum Council, this event includes conversation with retired and current faculty, new program updates, and chats with alum artists about their art.

#### SPRING CONVOCATION

"CELEBRATING THE UNIQUE MINISTRIES OF UNITED: A 50-YEAR REUNION"  
Wednesday, April 25  
& Thursday, April 26

Join your peers and other graduates for sessions led by current and retired faculty. See our Web site for updates.

### RELIGION AND THE ARTS

#### A THREE-PART EVENT

*J.S. BACH'S "THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN"*

Presented by the Bach Society of Minnesota and United.

Experience one of Bach's greatest works in a context that plumbs the depths of its emotion and meaning.

#### PART 1: PRE-PERFORMANCE EDUCATIONAL EVENT

WILSON YATES & PAUL BOEHNKE,  
BACH SOCIETY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR,  
EXPLORE BACH'S WORK.  
Bigelow Chapel, United  
Thursday, March 15, 7:30 PM  
\$10

#### PART 2: DINNER & COMMENTS CLYDE STECKEL

Binz Center, St. Thomas University  
Saturday, March 24, 5:30 PM  
\$30

#### PART 3: PERFORMANCE

WILLIAM HITE, EVANGELIST  
BRADLEY GREENWALD, JESUS  
St. Mary's Chapel, St. Paul Seminary  
Saturday, March 24, 7:30 PM  
\$25 for adults  
\$20 for seniors (65+)  
\$10 students

#### "THE AMEN CORNER"

##### DISCUSSION PANELS

(in conjunction with the Guthrie)  
Guthrie Theater

Tuesday, May 15,  
following 7:30 PM performance  
Saturday, June 9,  
following 1:00 PM performance

Discussion panels explore themes of life and salvation raised in Penumbra Theatre's production of James Baldwin's masterpiece.

#### IN THE GALLERIES AT UNITED

MARGARET CARROLL  
(a.k.a. PEGGY THOMPSON)  
February-March  
"Water in the Soul"

#### UNITED ALUMS

April-May  
"Thresholds of Transformation"

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### MULTICULTURAL LECTURES

YVETTE FLUNDER, PRESIDING BISHOP  
OF THE FELLOWSHIP

"Church as Usual or Church Unusual?  
Answering the Prophetic Call"

Monday, February 13, 7:30 PM  
Tuesday, February 14, 11:00 AM  
No charge.

A preacher, educator, singer, and author, Flunder will bring her perspective of "radical inclusion" to United.

#### SUSAN DRAPER WHITE LECTURES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

BEVERLY ROBERTS GAVENTA,  
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY NEW  
TESTAMENT PROFESSOR

"Listening to Phoebe Read Romans"  
Monday, March 12, 7:30 PM

"Listening to Romans with Junia  
and Her Sisters"

Tuesday, March 13, 11:00 AM  
No charge, but registration encouraged.

A specialist in the interpretation of the Pauline epistles and Luke-Acts, Gaventa will bring her feminist theological scholarship to the reading of Romans.

#### ACROSS THE LINES: ARTISTS EXPLORING RECONCILIATION

AAMERA SIDDIQUI & LORI DOKKEN  
Friday, March 30, 7:30 PM  
\$10 (payable at the door)

Through music, dance, visual art, and spoken word, Twin Cities artists from a variety of cultures and disciplines will explore the meaning of reconciliation on a personal and global level.

### DEVELOPING LEADERS FOR THE NEW CHURCH

#### END-OF-LIFE CARE CHOICES: ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Brown Bag Lunch Discussion  
Tuesday, February 28

12:15-1:15 PM

No charge.

Medical representatives from "Honoring Choices Minnesota" will present resources and lead a discussion that is open to anyone. (Co-sponsored by Honoring Choices Minnesota.\*\*)

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

Thursday, March 1, 11:30 AM-8:00 PM  
or 3:00-8:00 PM or

Saturday, March 10, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
No charge. Meals included.

A sampling of United's offerings for people considering seminary.

### EMERGING AND EMERGENT CHURCH COMMUNITIES: CONVERSATIONS AND PRACTICES THAT ARE TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH

KATHY SMITH

Tuesday, March 6

9:00 AM-Noon

\$30 or \$15 (seminary student rate)

Participants will learn what led to this movement, what is shaping these new communities, and discuss what this means for traditional congregations.

#### ISSUES IN END-OF-LIFE CARE\*

CHRISTIE COZAD NEUGER

Tuesday, March 27

9:00 AM-3:30 PM

\$65 or \$35 (seminary student rate)

We will look at how to help people in the congregation have appropriate conversations about end-of-life issues.

#### GUSTAFSON LECTURES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

WILLIAM P. BROWN, COLUMBIA  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OLD  
TESTAMENT PROFESSOR

"The Ecology of Wonder in the Bible"

Monday, April 16, 7:30 PM

Tuesday, April 17, 11:00 AM

No charge.

Brown has abiding interests in the use of scripture in the life of the church and contemporary theological discourse.

#### REFLECTIONS ON END-OF-LIFE CHOICES

JAMES B. NELSON

Monday, April 23

7:30 PM

\$10 or \$15 at the door.

No charge for students.

Theological reflections by emeritus professor James B. Nelson followed by a panel response. (Co-sponsored by Honoring Choices Minnesota.\*\*)

#### THE CENTER HOLDS: PERSONAL, THEOLOGICAL, AND BIBLICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE MARRIAGE AMENDMENT

CAROLYN PRESSLER & SUE EBBERS

Tuesday, May 1

1:00-4:00 PM

\$30 or \$15 (seminary student rate)

Carolyn Pressler, United professor, and her partner of 15 years, Sue Ebbers, dean of the seminary, provide personal stories and biblical and theological tools for helping your congregation respond to the marriage amendment.

#### ASSESSING AND DEALING WITH ISSUES OF SUICIDE\*

CHRISTIE COZAD NEUGER

Tuesday, May 8

\$65 or \$35 (seminary student rate)

We will explore the crisis of suicide, one of the areas in which clergy seem to experience the most difficulty when providing pastoral care and counseling.

## ACADEMY FOR VITAL CHRISTIANITY

Please check out our spring 2012 offerings, including Dying Well: Honoring Choices, starting March 6, The Bible and Life Today, starting March 24, Great Theologians of the Church Speak to Today: Reinhold Niebuhr, starting April 10, and Finding God in Everyday Life, starting April 14.

Go to [www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp](http://www.unitedseminary.edu/CommunityPrograms/academy.asp) to see a list of the spring classes.

\*These courses are part of the Institute for the Support of Pastoral Ministries.

\*\*For more information about Honoring Choices Minnesota go to [www.honoringchoices.org](http://www.honoringchoices.org).