This syllabus has been designed to provide for student planning. It is intended to help the student understand the flow of class work, but more detail will be included in the week to week on-line instructions. This syllabus includes information on the course instructor, books required, and meeting dates. The instructor reserves the right to modify the contents of this syllabus.

This course will begin online and conclude in-person on the UTS Campus

Instructor:
Rev. Dr. Rychie Breidenstein
United Theological Seminary
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Course Description:
This course examines the sacraments, rites, and liturgy of The United Methodist Church and the pastor’s role as worship leader.

Objectives:
1. Examination of the church year and its historical and theological grounding
2. Examination of the theology and practice of the sacraments
3. Review of the rites of Christian marriage, death and resurrection, and other occasional services, including appropriate counseling methods
4. Reflection on worship practices, including use of nontraditional liturgies, media, music, and lay leadership
5. Development, for reflection and evaluation, of a sample service of worship

Required Textbooks:
Students are responsible for obtaining their own books.

-By Water and the Spirit by Gayle Carlton Felton (Discipleship Resources, ISBN: 9780881772012)
-This Holy Mystery by Gayle Carlton Felton (Discipleship Resources, ISBN: 9780881774573)
Many of you will already have these two official United Methodist books available; there is no need to purchase additional copies. If you do not have copies of them they are available through Cokesbury.

- United Methodist Hymnal
- United Methodist Book of Worship

**Course Schedule:**

**Online Environment:**
This course begins with work online. All online engagement will have beginning and ending timeframes for submissions and responses.

**On Campus Weekend:**
The On-Campus Weekend will begin at 2:30 on Friday and end by 2:30pm on Saturday. Friday class is 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm, with a dinner break at 5:00 pm; Saturday resumes at 8:30 am, with chapel at 11:15 am, lunch at noon, and class concludes at 2:30.

**ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY**

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling academic requirements must be the original work of the student. Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the published or unpublished words or ideas of another [including online resources] as if it were one’s own work. A writer’s work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly (whether intentionally or unintentionally) uses a writer’s distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism. A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor policy, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions:

(1) warning
(2) probation
(3) suspension for the remainder of the course
(4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio
(5) failing grade for the course.

Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student’s District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry.
OVERVIEW OF COURSEWORK

Each week, except the last, your assignments will consist of a reading assignment, possibly viewing some media, and engaging one another in conversation as directed by questions or comments from me. You do not have to respond to everyone every week, but it is expected that you will try to interact with everyone at least once before arriving in Dayton for the face-to-face class.

Weekly assignments and questions for each week will be available to you on Friday. Please, your posts must be done in complete sentences, using proper grammar and punctuation. (I would suggest you write your posts in a word document, and then copy it into the on-line file. That way you can use spelling and grammar check tools.) Poorly done posts will lower your grade.

The final project, for which there is a more complete description below, will constitute 50% of your grade. You can see from the course description that the project will, in part, be a worship service, but there will be some additional elements and instructions.

It is important that you check the news forum area of the on-line course from time to time. This is where general information, which is relevant to your work, may be posted.

Week 1

-Self-introduction
-Reading assignment one—pdf online and posting
-Examining of GBOD website resources and pastoral rites in hymnal and Book of Worship and posting
-Posting response to at least one classmate

Week 2

-Reading assignment two—pdf online
-view short video clip
-Identifying or creating a worship element for the Great Fifty Days and discussing how it supports the idea of Christian time described in the readings
-Responding to at least one classmate

Week 3

-Reading Assignment—By Water and the Spirit
-Viewing two posted videos
-Offering responses or questions concerning any of this week’s assignments
Week 4

- Reading Assignment—This Holy Mystery
- Creating a lesson plan for new member class concerning the sacraments
- Responding to classmate

Week 5

- Reading Assignment—pdf on-line
- Viewing video clips
- Review of clip
- Response to classmate

Week 6

- Class or group project to create a tool to be used to evaluate the worship services led during the weekend meeting times
- Preparing and presenting a worship service for the class
- Writing an analysis of your presentation (due one week after on campus portion of class)

Final Project (50% of grade)

Your final project is a worship service which you will lead during our time together. It will depend upon the size of the class whether this will be an individual assignment or a group assignment. This service is to include a Baptism (acted) or renewal of Baptism, communion, sermon, music, and any other elements you would normally include, or might add now that you have done the reading and discussions for this class. Your service is to be based on the lectionary for the Sunday you are assigned.

After your presentation and the discussion of your worship service you will turn in an analysis of what you did, including: why you chose to do what you did, what went well, what did not go well, what you might change, and what you would do again. You will have one week to finish this self-review—minimum of three pages-maximum of seven.