



**ADVANCED LEVEL OF STUDY**

# The Prophetic Imagination - Speaking Hope

## Registration Form

*This class will fulfill one requirement for the School of Christian Studies Advanced Level of Study program.*

**DESCRIPTION:** We will explore the following issues:

- Old Testament relation to issues of contemporary society
- Pattern of prophetic ministry whose task is "to nurture, nourish and evoke a consciousness and perception alternative to that of the dominant culture"

- That culture is both spiritual and social
- Only the prophetic passion can penetrate the numbness of hopelessness
- Preaching hope into direst situations
- Defining spiritual vs. social pathos

**TEXT/ASSIGNMENT/COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Please see the back of this sheet.

# Saturday, February 20, 2010

Parchment Valley Conference Center  
in the Santrock Education Center

**Time: 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.**  
(Snacks will be provided upon arrival and lunch will be included.)

**Instructor: Jana Raines**

### Fees:

*Online Registration:*  
[www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)  
Click on the School of Christian Studies' link, then (under New Information) click on the "New - How to Register for Classes Online" link.

#### CREDIT:

**\$32.00 single/\$42.00 couple**  
**\$16.15 textbook**  
**\$2.38 shipping**

**Total Fee: \$50.53 single**  
**\$60.53 couple**

#### AUDIT:

**\$25.00 single/\$35.00 couple**  
**\$16.15 textbook**  
**\$2.38 shipping**

**Total Fee: \$ 43.53 single**  
**\$ 53.53 couple**



The Prophetic Imagination - Speaking Hope - February 20, 2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Those paying the couple fee may use one form.)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please list the amount enclosed, the initials (if registering more than one person) and preferences (credit/audit and single/couple) of the person(s) enrolled.*

TOTAL Amount enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ for : credit \_\_\_ audit and \_\_\_ single fee \_\_\_ couple fee  
*(Name 1 initials)*

\_\_\_\_\_ for : credit \_\_\_ audit and \_\_\_ single fee \_\_\_ couple fee  
*(Name 2 initials)*

Please make check payable and mail to: School of Christian Studies, P.O. Box 1019, Parkersburg, WV 26102. *If dropping off at our office and paying in cash, please bring exact change. We do not have change on hand at the office. Please have your registration and fee in to the office one week prior to the start of class.*

↑ Please clip registration form portion and mail with your fee. ↑

**TEXT:** The Prophetic Imagination by Walter Brueggemann, Augsburg Forttreee, 1978

**ASSIGNMENT:** Read the entire text of The Prophetic Imagination before attending class. During your reading, answer the questions below and be prepared to discuss the answers in class. The class is pass/fail, which will be determined by completion of assignments and participation in class discussions.

**CLASS REQUIREMENTS:** Pay "For Credit" fee; read the entire text before February 20, 2010; complete all assignments as given by the instructor; bring your text, Bible, pen/pencil and paper; and attend entire class.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:** CE units now available for SCS classes: [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) Click on the School of Christian Studies' link, then (under New Information) click on "New - Continuing Education Announcement."

**OUTLINE:**

- Moses and Exodus, prophetic as counterculture
- Jeremiah: Penetrating despair and pathos
- Isaiah: Emergence of energy and amazement
- Jesus: Criticism and pathos
- Jesus: Reemergence of energy and amazement
- Practice of ministry

**QUESTIONS:**

**Chapter 1**

1. Define criticizing and energizing.
2. What are the doxologies that your community sings?
3. Three points are listed on p.19. Are these in your faith community?
4. How is culture both spiritual and social?

**Chapter 2**

1. Define pathos.
2. What examples of pathos are present within your congregation? In society in America?
3. What are 3 elements that summarize the dominate culture against which prophets are a counterpoint?
4. What are the counterpoints to those three elements?

**Chapter 3**

1. What does the phrase "the language of grief" mean to you?
2. What is the task of the prophetic imagination and the steps Brueggemann gives to achieve it?
3. How is the grief in Jeremiah relevant?

**Chapter 4**

1. What does the phrase "the language of amazement" mean to you?
2. How is hope created?
3. What is the value in singing a new song?

**Chapter 5**

1. Why were the seven actions of Jesus' radical criticism each a threat?
2. Why must prophetic criticism be done by an insider?
3. Do you agree that embodied anguish is the route to newness? Explain.

**Chapter 6**

1. How can we deal with hardness of heart?
2. What culture/counterculture do you see in today's society?
3. What is the dominant (royal) consciousness in America today? In other words, what do people truly worship in America? In the world? In your community?
4. What examples of God at work can you site within your community? Within the country? Within your congregation?

**Chapter 7 and Postscript**

1. How can this change your practice of ministry?
2. What one point made by Brueggemann would you like to discuss further?