

# Mission West School for Ministry

2017 Schedule

The following education events are offered for commissioned ministers to meet their educational requirements. These courses provide education within the 16 Areas of Ministerial Practice as required by the Disciples of Christ Policies and Criteria for the Ordering of Ministry. **Commissioned ministers must complete three (3) classes each year** as required by Christian Church in the Southwest Educational Policy.

Mission West does not require annual interviews for commissioned ministers, as do other Areas. We depend upon seeing and talking with our commissioned ministers at our Area sponsored classes to check in with them concerning their ministries and to offer support as needed. **Commissioned ministers are required to attend at least two (2) of Mission West sponsored classes.** These classes are marked with +. The additional classes listed are approved for Mission West requirements and do not need prior approval. If you wish to take a course not listed and want to count it as a requirement, please submit (six weeks in advance of event) an Education Event Approval Form, found at [missionwestccsw.org/clergy-support/commissioning-standing](http://missionwestccsw.org/clergy-support/commissioning-standing).

Some classes are offered multiple times in multiple geographic corners of Mission West. Some classes are one-time offerings. Some classes are online. Some classes are offered in other Areas of the Southwest Region. Participants are welcome to attend in any location, where and when convenient.

Registration for Mission West classes will be through a link to our website, [missionwestccsw.org](http://missionwestccsw.org), or by calling or emailing our office. Registration for additional classes will be noted separately.

Ordained clergy are also encouraged to attend for continuing education and community building with fellow clergy.

Congregation leaders are also welcome.

When we say all are welcome, we really mean all are welcome.

**Information listed is what is available as of 2/27/17. Complete class and registration information will be added when confirmed.**

## **Schedule**

- Jan 10–Feb 7      Financial Leadership Academy for Pastors - Online through Pension Fund
- Jan 25-26      A New Reformation: What Should Christianity Become?, Phillips Theological Seminary Remind and Renew Event - Tulsa
- Jan 28      Worship, North Texas Area Leader and Learner Event, Marcia McFee - Creekwood CC, Flower Mound
- Jan 30-Mar 24      History of Christianity: 11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries, John Imbler - *Online* through Phillips Seminary
- +Feb 4      Principles of Commissioned Ministry by a Commissioned Minister, Ray Clark – Los Altos CC, Albuquerque
- Feb 20-23      Re-envisioning Spirituality, Community, and Faithful Living, Brite Divinity School Ministers' Week – University CC, Fort Worth
- +Mar 4      Principles of Commissioned Ministry by a Commissioned Minister, Ray Clark – FCC, Midland
- Apr 1      Disciples' Theology, Carlos Cordoza-Orlandi – FCC, Irving
- Apr 8      Disciples' Theology, Carlos Cordoza-Orlandi – FCC, Tyler
- +Apr 24-27      Clergy Spiritual Retreat, Charlotte Hoppe – Norbertine Retreat Center, Albuquerque
- Apr 28-29      Worship and Wonder Training, DHM – FCC, Abilene
- Apr 29      God in the New Testament, Warren Carter – Chalice Abbey, Amarillo
- May 2-23      Financial Leadership Academy for Congregation - Online through Pension Fund
- +May 20      Evangelism – A Renewed Priority for Disciples, Katie Hays – Monte Vista CC, Albuquerque

- +Aug 12                    New Streams of Income for Ministry – Creating and Growing Endowment Funds, Bobby Hawley – FCC, Abilene
- +Aug 12                    Efficient and Effective Ministry Principles, Micah James – Monte Vista CC, Albuquerque
- +Aug 19                    New Streams of Income for Ministry – Creating and Growing Endowment Funds, Bobby Hawley – Amarillo
- +Aug 26                    The Bible’s Journey Into Our Hands, Joe Weaks – FCC, Odessa
- +Sep 16                    Principles of Commissioned Ministry by a Commissioned Minister, Ray Clark – Chalice Abbey, Amarillo
- +Sep 23                    New Streams of Income for Ministry – Creating and Growing Endowment Funds, Marilyn Fiddmont – Monte Vista CC, Albuquerque
- +Sep 23                    The Bible’s Journey Into Our Hands, Joe Weaks – Amarillo
- +Nov 11                    Efficient and Effective Ministry Principles, Micah James – FCC, Midland
- +Fall, date tba            Clergy Spiritual Retreat, Herb Lynsky – Norbertine Retreat Center, Albuquerque

## **Course Information**

### **Mission West Courses**

+Principles of Commissioned Ministry by a Commissioned Minister, Ray Clark – Los Altos CC Albuquerque, FCC Midland, Chalice Abbey Amarillo

**This course is for new and experienced Commissioned Ministers, as well as the laity they serve, who want to expand their knowledge and their role in being a pastor or laity in the Christian Church (DOC).** It is envisioned that the course will answer some of the questions that Commissioned Ministers may have, but are afraid to ask for fear of being looked down upon by their peers. The course will explore everything from the history of the Christian Church to modern day digital presentations. It is expected that round table discussions of “this is how I view it” from the participants will contribute and be invaluable to the attendees in their continuing ministries and enhance the content of the event. Among the subjects or topics expected (but are not limited) to be discussed are:

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC) BACKGROUND AND POLITY:    *History – Governance - Beliefs*  
 CHURCH YEAR AND LECTIONARY:                                *Description - Why the lectionary?*  
 RITUALS AND SPECIAL SERVICES:                                *Communion – Baptism – Weddings – Funerals- Lent - Advent - Others*

SERMON PLANNING AND PREACHING: *Topical – Lectionary - Exegesis or Expository (Pericope) - Favorite Story – Delivery – Timing – Illustrations - Homiletics*

SERVICE PREPARATION: *Environment – Bulletins*

THE DIGITAL AGE: *Digital Video or Movie Preparation – PowerPoint – Windows Movie Maker - Editing - Adding Music or Voice – Windows (WMV) or Apple QuickTime – TV or Digital Projector?*

CHURCH LEADERSHIP: *Who is in Charge (Really)?*

PERSONAL PRESENTATION AND DEMEANOR: *The church's expectations*

RESOURCES: *Written – Digital - Colleagues*

**Ray is the Senior Pastor of the United Church of Roy in Roy, NM.** He has been pastor at this church for nearly 12 years. Ray lives in Albuquerque, NM and is a retiree from one of the United States National Laboratories and has a degree in electrical engineering. He has written and published many publications in his career field. Before becoming a Commissioned Minister of the Christian Church (DOC), he was the Clovis (NM) District Director of Lay Speaking and Lay Ministries Schools in the New Mexico Conference of the United Methodist Church and was on call to fill the vacated pulpits for churches whose pastors were incapacitated by illness, vacations, retirement or other reasons. Ray has a passion for preparing and equipping those entrusted in spreading the Good News whether they are laity or clergy, especially those commissioned ministers who have entered the field in their post-career or bi-vocational time of life.

### +Clergy Spiritual Retreat, Herb Lynsky – Albuquerque

Folks for centuries have gathered in the midst of this high desert plain. They have felt both the gentle and the harsh winds of nature blow across this face of God's creation. They have watched the sun rise and set against skies that predict tomorrow's weather. This barren land gives opportunity. The opportunity to breathe in deeply of God, and Spirit, and Rest. We will gather here to allow God's Word stir our souls; and some modern day "gospel writers" to stir our minds.

Monday will be a time of silence, a time to rest, to breathe deeply of this desert air. Tuesday through Thursday we will begin each day with worship. During the day, we will let the Scripture; the words of theologians, poets, storytellers; and maybe even the colors and shapes of artists; inform our times of silence, prayer, and sharing. We will practice Centering Prayer, Walking Prayer, and Lectio Divina. Each evening, as we gather for vespers, we will practice The Washing Prayer to close our day and prepare ourselves for the night's rest. You are invited to join your brothers and sisters ministerial colleagues in this time of rest and renewal.

Led by: **Rev. Dr. Herb Lynskey**, Disciples of Christ Transitional Pastor and Spiritual Director

#### **The Norbertine Community of New Mexico Santa Maria de la Vid Priory**

5825 Coors Blvd. SW Albuquerque, NM 87121-6700 505.873.4399

<http://www.norbertinecommunity.org/>

**\$200 for silent day and guided retreat**

**\$150 for guided retreat alone**

Covers food, lodging and spiritual director honorarium.

### +Evangelism – A Renewed Priority for Disciples, Katie Hays – Monte Vista CC Albuquerque

+New Streams of Income for Ministry – Creating and Growing Endowment Funds,  
Bobby Hawley, Marilyn Fiddmont – Amarillo, FCC Abilene, Monte Vista CC  
Albuquerque

This workshop will address the importance of establishing and growing your congregations' endowment funds. Emphasis will be placed on developing a useful permanent fund policy, as well as creating a successful planned giving campaign. Finally, the workshop will focus on ways in which members can make effective use of estate planning and planned gifts.

Target audience = Sr. Ministers, Trustees, and any lay leaders committed to helping their congregation establish and/or grow an endowment fund.

**Bobby Hawley** has bachelor's degree in social work from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth; a master of divinity from TCU's Brite Divinity School and a doctor of ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, Texas. Bobby also obtained credentials as a Certified Specialist in Planned Giving (CSPG) and a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE).

He joined the staff of the Christian Church Foundation in November 1998 as assistant vice president in the South Central Zone and was named vice president in 2001. Before joining the Foundation, he served nine years as senior minister at Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in El Paso, Texas. He also served as an associate minister at Alamo Heights Christian Church, San Antonio and chaplain for Juliette Fowler Homes in Dallas while a student at Brite.

He is responsible for working with members, congregations, regions and other entities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Great River, Oklahoma and Southwest Regions to promote the establishment of permanent funds to benefit the whole church. Bobby has a pastor's heart and is wholly committed to his ministry to help individuals and families take full advantage of the planned giving instruments that are available in order to bring maximum benefit to themselves, their heirs and the church they love.

The Christian Church Foundation is a general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) devoted to helping individuals be good stewards of their accumulated assets through planned giving and permanent funds. The Foundation helps congregations to be good stewards of gifts received by creating sound permanent fund policies and through prudent, long-term investment.

**Marilyn Fiddmont** is vice president of the Southwest Zone of the Christian Church Foundation.

She joined the Foundation in January 2001, earning her master's of divinity degree from Houston Graduate School of Theology in May 2001 and was ordained that June. A native of Kansas City, MO, Fiddmont earned her bachelor's degree in sociology in 1979 from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Before joining the Foundation, she was the program assistant for the Coastal Plains Area of the Christian Church in the Southwest. She also was associate minister of The Good Shepherd Christian Church in Houston.

In her duties with the Foundation, she works with donors and congregations in New Mexico, Arizona and areas served by the Pacific Southwest Region.

+Efficient and Effective Ministry Principles, Micah James – Monte Vista CC Albuquerque, FCC Midland

Every ministry needs the basic building blocks of policy and procedure on which to build a transformative mission for Christ. In our time together, we will discuss the best practices in policy and procedure, as well as how to avoid the pitfalls and potholes along the way. From budget basics to volunteers and staff supervision, managing expectations to vision planning and goal setting and evaluation, we will touch on several of the basic building blocks of ministry. If your ministry has been serving for 1 year or 100, these principles are always a good way to start a conversation on purpose, planning, and process.

**Micah James** has been an ordained minister with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) since June of 2012. Micah became a CCA in 2014 and currently serves *The Church Network* by serving on the Development Committee.

In February 2015, she helped launch AdminIsMinistry.com – a free resource to churches on topics of ministry administration, stewardship, and basic best practices.

Micah serves in ministry at First Christian Church of Edmond, OK in the capacity of Associate Minister of Faith Development.

+The Bible's Journey Into Our Hands, Joe Weak's – Odessa

**Additional approved courses**

Financial Leadership Academy for Pastors  
and  
Financial Leadership Academy for Congregation - *Online* through Pension Fund and Lexington Theological Seminary

The first four sessions are intended for pastors and their spouses. The second four courses are for pastors and the financial lay leaders of their congregation.

All eight webinars are scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Eastern Time on a Tuesday evening.

Registration to enroll in the course must be submitted **by Jan. 3, 2017**.

**No fee**

**Register here - <http://www.pensionfund.org/eim-online-events>**

TOPICS FOR THE EVENT INCLUDE:

**Jan 10 – Feb 7, 2017**

**For Pastors and Spouses (Future Sessions):**

- Personal Financial Identity: Unpacking our Meanings of Money
- Budgeting, Borrowing, Saving and Giving: Practical Wisdom for Clergy Households
- Clergy Tax and Insurance Considerations
- Building Blocks of Future Planning and Retirement

**May 2-23, 2017**

**For Pastors, Board Chairs & Treasurers (Future Sessions):**

- Best Practices in Financial Management: Tips for Balancing the Budget and Practicing Accountability
- Resourcing Your Congregation's Mission: Strategies for Increasing Church Income
- Best Practices in Managing Church Money
- Congregational Budgeting and Spending

A New Reformation: What Should Christianity Become? Phillips Theological Seminary Remind and Renew Event – Tulsa

For Remind & Renew 2017, the faculty of Phillips Theological Seminary will help participants think about our times, in which Christianity is undergoing the most profound changes in inner and outer expressions since the 16th century.

They will address questions such as:

- What is Christianity?
- Does the term “Protestant” have a future?
- What does the world most need from Christianity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?
- What should be the relationship between Christianity and other faiths?

**January 25-26, 2017**

**Registration for entire event with meals - \$100. Other registration levels available**

**More information and Registration at:**

<http://ptstulsa.edu/RemindRenew>

Worship, North Texas Area Leader and Learner Event, Marcia McFee - Creekwood CC, Flower Mound

**January 28, 2017**

**For more information and Registration:**

[http://www.ntaccsw.org/2016-2017\\_CM\\_Training\\_Brochure\\_and\\_Reg\\_Form.pdf](http://www.ntaccsw.org/2016-2017_CM_Training_Brochure_and_Reg_Form.pdf)

History of Christianity: 11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries, John Imbler, *Online* through Phillips Seminary

**Professor:** Dr. John Imbler, Executive Vice President Emeritus and Adjunct Instructor of the History of Christianity and Disciples Studies

**Course description:** Beginning with the separation of two major Christian traditions in 1054, this course will take a millennial survey of the history of the church concluding with the modern ecumenical movement of the 1900s and beyond. Attention will focus on the people and events which impacted the expansion of the church in its many world-wide forms.

**Textbook:** Mark A. Noll, *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2012. ISBN 978-0-8010-3996-6 \$20.00pbk.

**Dates: January 30 (Monday) through March 24 (Friday).**

Grading: Pass/No Credit

**Cost: \$100 for the course plus textbook**

**Deadline for Application : January 13, 2017**

**For More Information : 918-270-6464**

**Registration: [ptstulsa.edu/MinistersTrainingCourse](http://ptstulsa.edu/MinistersTrainingCourse)**

**Re-envisioning Spirituality, Community, and Faithful Living, Brite Divinity School  
Ministers' Week – University CC, Fort Worth**

Four days of inspiring worship, thought-provoking lectures, enriching workshops and an uplifting organ recital and hymn sing. This year's theme re-examines the doctrine of creation in response to a rapidly changing world. How do we as religious leaders address humanity's connection with and impact on the earth in our teaching, preaching, practice, and pursuit of social justice?

**February 20-23, 2017**

**There is no general registration fee; however, pre-registration is encouraged**

**Information and Registration –**

**<https://www.brite.edu/calendar-events/ministers-week/>**

**Disciples' Theology, NTA/NEA/TBA Commissioned Minister Course, Carlos Cordoza-Orlandi – Irving/Tyler**

**April 1 or 8, 2017**

**For more Information and Registration:**

**[http://www.ntaccsw.org/2016-2017\\_CM\\_Training\\_Brochure\\_and\\_Reg\\_Form.pdf](http://www.ntaccsw.org/2016-2017_CM_Training_Brochure_and_Reg_Form.pdf)**

**Worship and Wonder Training, DHM – Firs CC, Abilene**

More information and registration will be posted soon.

**God in the New Testament, Amarillo Institute for Biblical Studies, Warren Carter –  
Chalice Abbey, Amarillo**

This seminar looks at constructions of God in New Testament writings. While much contemporary reading of the New Testament focuses on Jesus and on the church, not much attention has been given to ways in which various NT writings present God. By attending to various passages across the New Testament, this seminar suggests that NT writings are primarily interested in what God does, on God-at-work in the world. They construct God-at-work in pursuing life-giving, loving and liberative actions. Yet in doing so, they also construct God in fearful and terrible ways that suggest God to be, for example, powerless, uncaring, absent, violent, merciless, an emperor-lookalike, and a bully. The seminar thus raises questions about how we read the Bible, how we negotiate these New Testament “texts of terror,” and what sorts of God we construct.

**Warren Carter is Professor of New Testament at Brite Divinity School at TCU in Fort Worth. He is a native of Aotearoa/New Zealand and did his theological study at Melbourne**

College of Divinity (BD; ThM) and Princeton Theological Seminary (PhD). His scholarly work has focused on the gospels of Matthew and John, and he is especially interested in the ways in which early Christians negotiated the Roman Empire. In addition to numerous scholarly articles, he is the author of fourteen books

**Saturday, April 29, 2017 at  
Chalice Abbey Center for Spirituality and the Arts  
2717 Stanley Amarillo, Texas 79109**

**9:30-Noon and 1:30-4:00pm**

**Registration \$40 Pay Day of Seminar**

**Please let us know you are coming at snailmail above address  
Or email: [AiBiS2013@aol.com](mailto:AiBiS2013@aol.com)**

Scholarships available from Amarillo Institute for Biblical Studies, email request –  
[AiBiS2013@aol.com](mailto:AiBiS2013@aol.com)

## **Mission West class sites**

### **Abilene –**

First Christian Church  
1420 N 3<sup>rd</sup> St  
Abilene, TX 79601  
325-677-2186

### **Albuquerque –**

Monte Vista Christian Church  
3501 Campus Blvd NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106  
505-268-3365

Los Altos Christian Church  
11900 Haines NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
505-299-5526

Norbertine Retreat Center  
5825 Coors Blvd SW  
Albuquerque, NM 87121  
505-873-4399

### **Amarillo –**

Chalice Abbey  
2717 Stanley St.  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
806-576-2480

### **Midland –**

First Christian Church  
1301 W Louisiana Ave  
Midland, TX 79701  
432-682-2541

## **Registration Information**

Mission West events cost \$50 per participant. A spouse may register for \$15. This includes cost for the program and a light lunch. See course information listing for costs for Clergy Spiritual Retreat.

Please register no later than one week prior to each event.

Contact the Mission West office to register.

Call - 806-358-9590

Email - [missionwest@ccsw.org](mailto:missionwest@ccsw.org)

Register - **online**

Mail payments/checks payable to:

Mission West

2717 Stanley St. Ste A

Amarillo, TX 79109

Those attending events at Chalice Abbey who want to arrive the day before can receive a discounted rate at the nearby Holiday Inn Express. Call the Mission West office (806-358-9590) and ask for Angeline.

For further course questions, please contact Charlotte Hoppe at [choppe@ccsw.org](mailto:choppe@ccsw.org)