COS 122: Theological Heritage I: Introduction
October 2-3 and November 6-7, 2020

Instructor: Rev. Allen Miller  e-mail: revallenmiller@gmail.com
cell: 618 520-3860

This course introduces the student to theological reflection in the Wesleyan tradition. Basic terms, tasks, and methods of Christian theology will be introduced. Representative classical themes will be defined and illustrated. The course provides a foundation for further historical and theological study.

Students will be able to:
1. Examine their understanding of faith, sin, salvation, grace, and the place of doctrine in the life of the Church.
2. Use and understand classical theological terms and themes.
3. Critically consider the sources of theological reflection, including scripture, tradition, experience and reason.
4. Reflect theologically as a resource for pastoral ministry.

Required Texts: Both must be read in order to complete assignments
2. The Book Of Discipline of the United Methodist Church--2016
   [Read only "Part III: Doctrinal Standards & Our Theological Task" (pp. 47-91)]

Due date: All 4 assignments are due on Friday, October 2, 2020

Assignments:
1. Choose 2 of the following "Key Passages" from Dr. Jones' book, do any additional exegetical study needed in order to write each sermon addressing the text's corresponding doctrine: Each sermon should be 7-8 double-spaced pages
   Chapter 2: I John 1: 1 - 7   Knowing God (Revelation & Scripture)
   Chapter 3: John 14: 6 - 21   The God We Worship (Trinity)
   Chapter 4: Psalm 148   A Delightful World (Creation & Providence)
   Chapter 5: Psalm 8   Reflecting God's Image (Theological Anthropology)
   Chapter 6: Isaiah 53   Doctrine of Christ's Person (Christology)
   Chapter 7: John 3: 1-5, 16-21   The Work Of Jesus Christ (Soteriology)
   Chapter 8: I Cor. 2: 10-16   The Holy Spirit & Christian Life (Pneumatology)
   Chapter 9: I Cor. 12: 12-31   Church in a Diverse World (Ecclesiology)
   Chapter 10: I Cor. 15: 12-26   Resurrection Hope (Eschatology)

[Note: I encourage the students to actually preach both of these sermons. 1) It will add to our class discussion & 2) it will save you valuable time by meeting both needs!]
2. As you read Practicing Christian Doctrine, keep a list of the bold words and include a brief definition for each. Double-space between each entry. [Pages necessary to complete assignment]

3. Write a case report on an incident concerning a situation you have faced or might face as the pastor of the church where you are appointed. As you write the case report include a section (about a page each) for the following:
   • Examination of the incident.
   • Biblical/theological reflections concerning the incident.
   • Pastoral implications (How does this impact the person/congr. & their needs?)
   • What is your response?
   [5 page maximum]
   [Note: this is something often asked for as part of your Annual Report to your dCOM. I encourage students to utilize this piece for that purpose as well!]

4. Write a short reflection paper addressing the contact you read from the B.O.D. Share any insights or surprises you gained, and points of agreement/disagreement you may have. [2-3 pages]

In the most basic sense, you are required to:
   1) Read the required text & specified section in the 2016 B.O.D.
   2) Write 2 Sermons
   3) Compile a vocabulary list
   4) Write a Case Study
   5) Write a short reflection paper
   6) Be praying for your classmates and the instructor as we prepare...
   7) Come prepared to ask questions & actively participate with the classes on October 2-3 & November 6-7, 2020

Additionally, I require that each assignment have what the specific assignment is centered at the top of the first page; and the student's name & page # is to be in the upper right-hand corner of each page. Please also list your Personal Identification Number (PID) obtained from Pamela Frost at GBHEM pfrost@gbhem.org on your first page of work.