



**SC5 School of Theology
South Carolina Presbyteries
Spring Session
March 8 & 9, 2024
Presbyterian College
Clinton, South Carolina**

Charleston Atlantic: Henry Meeuwse, Bo Hamilton, Irene Whaley
Foothills: Elizabeth Jones, Jeff Motes
New Harmony: Elijah Washington, Chuck Staggs, Delicia Harper-Baxter
Providence: Max Russell, Philip Wright
Trinity: Ray Bell, Virginia Peterkin

Debbie Foster (Foothills Presbytery), Dean
Robin Morris (Foothills Presbytery), Registrar
Michelle Jones (Charleston Atlantic), Treasurer

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Sponsored by the Five Presbyteries of South Carolina

What is the SC School of Theology? Theological training for elders and church leaders.

There are two tracks:

- **Enrichment Track** – for Ruling Elders who have received a diploma from the SC5 School of Theology *and* for those who want personal enrichment for teaching or leading in their congregations.
- **Commissioned Ruling Elder Track** – for Ruling Elders who want to become Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE).

For Whom? Classes are for:

- Church Leaders interested in learning more.
- Ruling Elders interested in learning more.
- Ruling Elders interested in being commissioned to serve and lead congregations.
- Faith Formation Leaders interested in better equipping themselves to teach.

Class Fees:

Enrichment Track is \$75 per class.

Commissioned Ruling Elder Track is \$95 per class.

The class fee includes dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday.

Hotel: Students may make arrangements as they choose. However, we negotiated with the Hampton Inn (located at Exit 54 off I-26) in Clinton for a discounted rate of \$109. The rate includes breakfast. When you make your hotel reservation, you may select one or two nights.

COURSES OFFERED

A. Old Testament Survey (Core Course) This course will provide an overview of the literature and history of the Old Testament and a survey of the theological themes woven through the history of the people of God. Class Limit: 20

Leader: The Rev. Loyd Melton, Ph.D. retired from teaching New Testament and Greek at Erskine Theological Seminary in December 2023 after 41 years. He continues to teach there as Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Greek. He is a graduate of Presbyterian College, Erskine Theological Seminary, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has done additional work at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and Union Theological Seminary in New York. He has been a pastor for over 50 years.

Textbook information:

Required Text:

- A Bible in any translation

You may choose **one** of the following:

- Michael D. Coogan, *A Brief Introduction to the Old Testament: The Hebrew Bible In Its Context*, 2nd edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Bill T. Arnold and Bryan E. Beyer, *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*, 3rd edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015.

B. Reformed Worship and Sacraments (Core Course) This course will explore the foundation of reformed worship. In class we will discuss the definition of worship; the elements of worship; the purpose of worship; and the styles of worship. We will plan and order a worship service. Class Limit: 12

Leader: The Rev. Dr. Ella F. Busby is a retired Presbyterian minister. She joyfully serves the Second Presbyterian Church, Sumter, and the Presbytery of New Harmony as the Associate for Pastoral Concerns and Fellowship. She graduated from Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, and Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur. She taught Preaching at Morris College, Sumter. She has pastored churches in Georgia and South Carolina and has preached locally, nationally, and internationally.

Textbook Information:

Required Texts:

- Bible
- Hymnal (your choice)
- *Book of Order 2023/2025*: “The Directory for Worship” (downloadable)
- David Gambrell *Presbyterian Worship* (Questions and Answers) (Amazon)

Helpful Resources:

- *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA)
- *Book of Occasional Services*

C. Church History (Core Course) This is a survey of the history of the Christian Church, from the early church and ecumenical councils through the Reformation and into the modern era.

Class Limit: 20

Leader: The Rev. Richard Burnett, Ph.D. is a graduate of King College, Yale University Divinity School, and Princeton Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Karl Barth’s Theological Exegesis* (Eerdmans 2004), *Machen’s Hope* (Eerdmans 2024) and editor of *The Westminster Handbook to Karl Barth* (2013). He served as Professor of Systematic Theology at Erskine Theological Seminary from 2002-2016 and has been the executive director and managing editor of *Theology Matters* since 2016. He became the E.J. Rice Professor of Reformed Theology for the Institute for Theological Education and the Co-Director of the Master of Arts in Reformed Theology Program at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary in 2023.

Textbook information:

Required Texts:

- Williston Walker, *A History of The Christian Church*, 4th edition (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1985). This 4th edition is best. But an earlier or later edition will do. ISBN 0-0684-18417-6 or ISBN 0-02-423870-8
- *Book of Confessions-The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) Part 1*; Office of the General Assembly Presbyterian Distribution Services, #OGA-16-017

D. Presbyterian Polity (Core Course) This course will provide the student with an overview of *The Book of Order*, an understanding of the nature and purpose of Presbyterian polity, and how the church uses polity in carrying out its work and mission in a decent and orderly manner.

Class Limit: 20

Leader: The Rev. Dr. Frank D. Colclough is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, and McCormick Theological Seminary where he earned a D. Min. degree with a concentration in Stewardship Education. He recently retired from New Harmony Presbytery where he served in various staff positions including Head of Staff and Stated Clerk. He currently serves as moderator of session and preacher for three small churches.

Textbook information:

Required Texts:

- *The Book of Order*

Suggested Resource:

- *Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers* by Joan S. Gray

E. First Corinthians (Elective Course)

1 and 2 Corinthians are the most typical of Paul's letters, and also some of the most valuable. They were written in response to specific problems and concerns within the Corinthian church, a church founded by Paul himself. Paul's chief concerns in 1 Corinthians, our focus in this course, are with problems of division within the church and with immorality in the church, specifically focusing on how Christians are called to live their lives differently from the pagans around them. The apostle addresses questions about sex and marriage, matters of conscience, church order, gifts of the Holy Spirit and the resurrection. With deep insight, Paul shows how the Good News speaks to these questions.

Leader: The Rev. Tom Malone retired after 42 years as a pastor and educator in the PCUSA, having served at all levels of the church. Tom has taught workshops all over the USA and in Puerto Rico and Canada. He is the author of numerous curriculum pieces for both elementary children and adults and for church camping. In retirement, he continues to serve the church as a preacher, teacher, educational consultant, and retreat leader.

Textbook information:

Required Text: No required textbooks.

Helpful resources:

- Best commentary is *First Corinthians* by Richard C. Hays (WJKP, from Interpretation series)
- *The Letters of Paul--Conversations In Context* by Calvin Roetzel (WJKP)
- *Paul and the Corinthians* by Robert W. Wingard (Abingdon, from "The Life and Letters of Paul" series)
- *First Corinthians -- One in Christ* by Robert A. Bryant (Kerygma Program)
- *First Corinthians* by Bruce N. Fisk (WJKP, from Interpretation Bible Study series)

F. Creative Writing And/As/About Faith: Enhancing Your Sermons & Blogs (Elective)

Ask people about "creative writing" and they'll probably talk about poetry, novels, short stories, or memoirs. We might not be writing those particular genres (*nobody* wants to listen to a novel-length sermon!), but the practices and genres of creative writing can help us write more engaging sermons, blog posts, newsletter articles, devotionals, study guides, or whatever we may be writing. In this class we will be writing, sharing our writing, and revising our writing. We will write through a series of exercises together. Please bring with you the manuscript of a sermon that you have written. There is no advance reading or required textbook, but you will receive a bibliography of resources about writing AND about reading, because good writers are good readers. Emphasis is placed on helping participants as they find their own writing voice.

Leader: Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller holds the MFA in Creative Writing from Mississippi University for Women. Her thesis was a collection of poetry (and some hybrid writing) titled *Here is the Church*. She is pastor of the Limestone Presbyterian Church in Gaffney, SC, and is a member of the Advisory Council of the Center for Excellence in Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary/Charlotte. She is an adjunct faculty member at UPSem, teaching classes in creative writing and visual art. She presented the workshop "A Whole New World: Paracosms in Christian Education" at the Synod of South Atlantic's Association of Smaller Congregations Conference in February 2024.

Textbook information:

- Please bring with you the manuscript of a sermon that you have written.



SC5 School of Theology Spring 2024 Schedule March 8 and 9, 2024

Friday, March 8

- 2:30 – 3:00 Registration (check-in) in Neville Hall
- 3:00 – 5:00 1st Class Session (2 hours)
- 5:15 – 6:00 Dinner at Presbyterian College Dining Hall
- 6:15 – 8:15 2nd Class Session (2 hours)
- 8:20 – 8:45 Welcome, Announcements, Evening Vespers in Neville Hall

Saturday, March 9

- 8:30 – 8:45 Morning Worship in Neville Hall
- 9:00 – 12:00 3rd Class Session (3 hours)
- 12:15 – 1:15 Lunch & Panel Discussion in Dining Hall
- 1:15 – 1:45 Break/ Fellowship
- 1:45 – 2:45 Closing Worship with Presentation and Communion
- 3:00 – 6:00 4th Class Session (3 hours)
- 6:00 Depart (Optional 2nd night at hotel. Dinner on your own.)