

# MISSION POSSIBLE

**Purpose:** To educate and prepare discerning leaders for ministries in congregations through prayerful scholarship, teaching, service, and mentoring. Courses are designed to convey information, inspire spiritual formation, and encourage practical application so the students are better equipped to respond to the needs of others and leadings of the Spirit.\*

**Instructors:** Courses are primarily taught by Community of Christ affiliated ministers and instructors with graduate training or advanced degrees in leadership development, theology, religious studies, or other related programs.

**Course requirements:** Courses are designed to prepare and empower participants for ministry. These courses will be taught in an atmosphere of spiritual formation and practical application. In addition to classroom hours, pre-class assignments and possible post class assignments will be made. These include reading texts, writing reflections or short essays, or completing observations. All assignments are made at the discretion of the instructor. As a result of this training, participants will be expected to lead congregational ministry at some level. Participants are expected to attend all sessions.

**Application information:** Interested persons should complete the enclosed application and return to their Mission Center President or designated Educational Coordinator

**Books & Materials:** Participants will receive required texts and syllabi in ample time to complete all assignments prior to the beginning of class. All students are expected to bring their own copy of the Bible (NRSV preferred) to all weekend classes.

**Cost:** Onsite classes will be held at designated locations. The cost for the weekend is \$25 per person.

**Logistics:** Housing, facilities, and meals will be coordinated by the Mission Center

**Transportation:** responsibility of participants.

\*adapted from: Community of Christ Seminary Ethos Statement,  
Community of Christ Seminary Handbook, MEADS and CPI statement.

## MISSION POSSIBLE

A North Central Field Educational Program  
Developing Disciples to Serve

## Purpose

- ▶ To educate and prepare discerning leaders for ministries in congregations through prayerful scholarship, teaching, service, and mentoring. Courses are designed to convey information, inspire spiritual formation, and encourage practical application so the students are better equipped to respond to the needs of others and leadings of the Spirit.

## Instructors

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## Course requirements

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## Logistics

- ▶ **Books & Materials:** Participants will receive required texts and syllabi in ample time to complete all assignments prior to the beginning of class. All students are expected to bring their own copy of the Bible (NRSV preferred) to all weekend classes.
- ▶ **Cost:** Weekend classes will be held at campgrounds and congregations. The cost for a campground weekend is \$25.
- ▶ **Onsite information:** Housing, facilities, and meals will be coordinated by the Mission Center

## YEAR ONE

- ▶ Hebrew Scriptures
  - March 9-11, 2012 *South*
  - March 16-18, 2012 *Central*
  - April 13-15, 2012 *North*
- ▶ New Testament
  - October 5-7, 2012 *North*
  - October 12-14, 2012 *Central*
  - October 26-28, 2012 *South*
- ▶ Worship
  - January 26, 2013 *On-line/Teleconference Session*

## YEAR TWO

- ▶ History of Christian Thought
  - March 8-10, 2013 *South*
  - March 15-17, 2013 *Central*
  - April 5-7, 2013 *North*
- ▶ Community of Christ History
  - October 4-6, 2013 *North*
  - October 11-13, 2013 *Central*
  - October 25-27, 2013 *South*
- ▶ Community of Christ Policies & Procedures
  - January 25, 2014 *On-Line/Teleconference session*

## YEAR THREE

- ▶ Community of Christ Scripture
  - March 14-16, 2014 *South*
  - March 21-23, 2014 *Central*
  - March 28-30, 2014 *North*
- ▶ Christian & Community of Christ Theology
  - October 3-5, 2014 *North*
  - October 10-12, 2014 *Central*
  - October 24-26, 2014 *South*
- ▶ Mission
  - January 24, 2015 *On-line/Teleconference session*

## YEAR FOUR

- ▶ Public Ministry
  - March 6-8, 2015 *South*
  - March 13-15, 2015 *Central*
  - March 20-22, 2015 *North*
- ▶ Spiritual Formation
  - October 2-4, 2015 *North*
  - October 9-11, 2015 *Central*
  - October 23-25, 2015 *South*
- ▶ Wrap up & Summarization of 4 years
  - January 23, 2016 *On-Line/Teleconference session*

## Application information:

- ▶ Interested persons should contact their Mission Center President or designated Educational Coordinator for application and further information.

# MISSION POSSIBLE

## YEAR ONE

### SPRING – Locations to be determined

#### Hebrew Scriptures

Text: An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination

Walter Brueggemann

Westminster John Knox Press

### FALL – Locations to be determined

#### New Testament

Texts: Introduction to the Gospels

Mark Allen Powell

Fortress press

Breaking the Code

Bruce M. Metzger

Abingdon Press

### WINTER – On-line/Teleconference Session

#### Worship

Text: Discover your Spiritual Type

Corinne Ware

The Alban Institute

Discussion on Applied Learning

#### Applied learning options

In coordination with your Mission Center Education Coordinator do one of the following on this year's topics:

Teach a Temple School class in the Mission Center

Teach a 4 month long Sunday School class

Plan and coordinate a retreat or weekend event

Write a 10 page paper – Topic to be approved by your Mission Center education coordinator

## **YEAR TWO**

### **SPRING – Locations to be determined**

#### **History of Christian Thought**

Texts: The Word Made Flesh: a History of Christian Thought

Margaret R. Miles

Wiley-Blackwell Publishing

### **FALL – Locations to be determined**

#### **Community of Christ History**

Texts: Articles from Community of Christ Publications

### **WINTER – On-Line/Teleconference session**

#### **Community of Christ Policies & Procedures**

Texts: Church Administrators Handbook

Herald House

Priesthood Manual

Herald House

Membership Manual

Herald House

Discussion on Applied Learning

#### **Applied Learning**

In coordination with your Mission Center Education Coordinator do one of the following on this year's topics:

Teach a Temple School class in the Mission Center

Teach a 4 month long Sunday School

Plan & Coordinate a retreat or weekend event

Write a 10 page paper – Topic to be approved by your Mission Center President

## **YEAR THREE**

### **SPRING – Locations to be determined**

#### **Community of Christ Scriptures**

Texts: Understanding the Book of Mormon

Grant Hardy

Oxford Press

Articles from Community of Christ Publications

### **FALL – Locations to be determined**

#### **Christian & Community of Christ Theology**

Texts: Faith Seeking Understanding

Daniel Migliore

William B Eerdmans Publishing

Sharing in Community of Christ: Exploring Identity, Mission, Message, and Beliefs  
(Herald Publishing House, second edition).

### **WINTER – On-line/Teleconference session**

#### **Mission**

Texts: The Continuing Conversion of the Church

Darrell L. Guder

Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

#### Missionary Toolkit

Discussion on Applied Learning

#### **Applied Learning**

In coordination with your Mission Center Educational Coordinator do one of the following on this year's topics:

Teach a Temple School class in the Mission Center

Teach a 4 month long Sunday School class

Plan & Coordinate a retreat or weekend event

Write a 10 page paper – Topic to be approved by your Mission Center President

# **YEAR FOUR**

## **SPRING – Locations to be determined**

### **Public Ministry**

Texts: To Be Determined

## **FALL – Locations to be determined**

### **Spiritual Formation**

1. Texts: Worship Words: Discipling Language for Faithful Ministry (Engaging Worship) by Ron Rienstra (Author), Debra Rienstra
2. Section I and II of the Worship Resource book

## **WINTER – On-Line/Teleconference session**

### **Wrap up**

Summarization of 4 years

Discussion on Applied Learning

### **Applied Learning**

In coordination with your Mission Center Missionary Coordinator do one of the following on this year's topics:

Teach a Temple School class in the Mission Center

Teach a 4 month long Sunday School class on

Coordinate a retreat or weekend event

Write a 10 page paper – Topic to be approved by your Mission Center President

Brochure

PowerPoint

Application

# MISSION POSSIBLE

## YEAR ONE

### Hebrew Scriptures

<i>March 9-11, 2012</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>March 16-18, 2012</i>	<i>Central</i>
<i>April 13-15, 2012</i>	<i>North</i>

### New Testament

<i>October 5-7, 2012</i>	<i>North</i>
<i>October 12-14, 2012</i>	<i>Central</i>
<i>October 26-28, 2012</i>	<i>South</i>

### Worship

<i>January 26, 2013</i>	<i>On-line/Teleconference Session</i>	<i>Jane Gardner</i>
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## YEAR TWO

### History of Christian Thought

<i>March 8-10, 2013</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>March 15-17, 2013</i>	<i>Central</i>
<i>April 5-7, 2013</i>	<i>North</i>

### Community of Christ History

<i>October 4-6, 2013</i>	<i>North</i>
<i>October 11-13, 2013</i>	<i>Central</i>
<i>October 25-27, 2013</i>	<i>South</i>

### Community of Christ Policies & Procedures

<i>January 25, 2014</i>	<i>On-Line/Teleconference session</i>
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## YEAR THREE

### Community of Christ Scriptures

<i>March 14-16, 2014</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Stassi</i>
<i>March 21-23, 2014</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>Stassi</i>
<i>March 28-30, 2014</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>Stassi</i>

### Christian & Community of Christ Theology

<i>October 3-5, 2014</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>Stephen</i>
<i>October 10-12, 2014</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>Stephen</i>
<i>October 24-26, 2014</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Stephen</i>

### Mission

<i>January 24, 2015</i>	<i>On-line/Teleconference session</i>	<i>John</i>
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## YEAR FOUR

### Public Ministry

<i>March 6-8, 2015</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Stassi</i>
<i>March 13-15, 2015</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>Stassi</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2015</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>Stassi</i>

### Spiritual Formation

<i>October 2-4, 2015</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>John</i>
<i>October 9-11, 2015</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>John</i>
<i>October 23-25, 2015</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>John</i>

### Wrap up & Summarization of 4 years

<i>January 23, 2016</i>	<i>On-Line/Teleconference session</i>	
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**I understand participation in Mission Possible will:**

- Provide me with useful perspectives for leadership, and help me move into or enhance current leadership roles in the congregation or Mission Center
- Make the Community of Christ and its mission relevant to me and to society
- Expose me to diverse perspectives about Christianity and its relationship to otherworld religions
- Develop a support network among fellow disciples
- Contemplate and deepen my relationship with God
- Broaden exposure to varied opinions and methods for examining theology and scripture
- Allow me the space and freedom to struggle with personal theologies and belief systems, without a requirement to accept or reject other (prescribed) positions

**I understand participation requires a four-year commitment whereby I will:**

- Participate in three sessions per year
- Read the required course material in advance of each session
- Complete any assignments before or after each session as directed by the instructor
- Explore new ideas passionately
- Pray with anticipation of meeting the above stated program objectives
- Stretch beyond my comfort zone
- Share my insights openly, honestly, and lovingly in group dialogue
- Listen attentively without judgment or predisposition to facilitators and my fellow participants
- Maintain confidentiality where invoked during the sessions

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Educational level (Check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ H. S. Graduate \_\_\_\_\_ GED \_\_\_\_\_ 2 year college \_\_\_\_\_ 4 year college \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate degree

Home congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Priesthood office (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership role/s in congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide short answers to the following questions:

What interests you about participating in this program?

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What do you hope to gain from your participation in the program?

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How will your ministry grow from your participation in the program?

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