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CL 510 Formation for United Methodist Ordained Ministry

Howlett W. Coleman

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Spring 2004
CL510 FORMATION FOR UNITED METHODIST ORDAINED MINISTRY
Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m. Room: M304

The Rev. Coleman W. Howlett

Please call or email Claire Williams at 858-2224 for an appointment.

Teacher: The Reverend Coleman W. Howlett has pastored in Georgia and Kentucky for twenty-four years, served as District Superintendent for five years, and Director of Spiritual Formation and Board of Ordained Ministry Registrar for the Kentucky Conference. He has been married to his wife Linda for thirty-nine years and have four children and eight grandchildren. The Reverend Howlett trains candidacy mentors for the Kentucky Annual Conference and District Committees on Ordained Ministries.

Purpose of the Course: To help the candidate seeking licensed or ordained ministry explore the “many decisions” that must be made about a future in licensed or ordained ministry; to help the candidate discern God’s call to ministry.

Course Description: This course offers candidates for ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church an opportunity to be mentored in the candidacy process, which is required for United Methodist ordination. Along with other candidates and under the leadership of a trained candidacy mentor, “exploring candidates” will share their spiritual lives and calls into ministry, practice spiritual disciplines and identify areas for service as they work through the *Candidacy Guidebook*. Candidates will explore together the many decisions required of those progressing toward licensed, ordained ministry. Satisfactory completion of the course fulfills basic United Methodist requirements necessary for application for “certification” with a District Committee on Ministry. Please consult your DCOM for any additional requirements. The course will include consideration of pertinent issues and may include input from relevant, visiting United Methodist leaders. Prerequisite: Current status as an exploring candidate in the United Methodist Church with two years’ membership in a local United Methodist church. One year of leadership service in a local United Methodist church is also required. This is a two-hour, Credit/No Credit course. Certain fees will apply depending on a student’s annual conference.

Learning Objectives

- Candidates will explore the nature of licensed, ordained ministry
- Candidates will recount their experiences of saving grace, discern and share their calls, and examine themselves, their gifts, and fruit with a view to clarifying God’s leading and their promise for effectiveness in ordained ministry
- Candidates will grow in self understanding -- psychologically, spiritually, and vocationally in light of ordained ministry-- as they complete the first two sections of the Candidacy Guidebook applicable to application for certification

Required Textbooks:

- Hunt, Richard, *Christian As Minister: Ministry Inquiry Process: The United Methodist Church* (Nashville: General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1997).
- Hunt, Richard A., *Candidacy Guidebook: For Deacons, Elders, and Local Pastors: The United Methodist Church*, 2001 edition (Nashville: General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 2001).

Recommended Reading:

- Malone, H. Newton and Richard A. Hunt, *The Psychology of Clergy* (Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse Publishing, 1991).
- Nouwen, Henri J. M., *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership* (New York: The Crossroad Publishing Co., 1991).
- Peterson, Eugene H., *Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work* (Grand Rapids, WM B Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1992).
- Wesley, John, *The Works of John Wesley*. Edited by T. Jackson, Vol. 10: Letters, Essays, Dialogs, Addresses (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979), pages 480-500.

Method: Home study with guidebooks, directed class sharing, dialogue and lectures, psychological inventories and mock interviews.

Course Evaluation:

- Full, weekly attendance: Only one unexcused absence permitted
- Completion of all assignments by due dates
- Class participation expected
- Grading is Credit/No Credit

Martin Luther's Prayer for God's Counsel and Guidance for the Holy Ministry - "You know how unworthy I am to fill so great and important an office. Were it not for your counsel, I would have utterly failed long ago. Therefore I call upon you for guidance. Gladly will I give my heart and voice to this work. I want to teach the people. I want always to seek and study in your word, and eagerly to meditate upon it. Use me as your instrument. Lord, do not forsake me. If I were alone, I would ruin everything. Amen."

Wesley's Word to Preachers - "You have nothing to do but save souls."

Mother Teresa's Exhortation - "We are not here for the work, we are here for Jesus. All we do is for Him."