

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Instructor: Prof. Nam Soon Song

Tel: 416-978-1884(O)

Email: ns.song@utoronto.ca

Office Hour: Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00 pm

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

(Jeremiah 18:1-4)

GENERAL PICTURE OF THE COURSE:

What is Educational Ministry? Where is it situated in the church today? Do we believe that Educational Ministry would make the church or society any different? If so, how can we reshape Educational Ministry in our congregations? What would be the best approach to Educational Ministry for our congregations today? Keeping these questions in mind, we will travel the world of Educational Ministry, engaging in dialogue with theorists in this discipline. We will explore educational theories and different ways of refashioning educational ministry for today’s church.

OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES: At the end of the course students will be able to.....

1. Demonstrate basic knowledge of theories of educational ministry
 - Identify major theories of educational ministry
 - Describe important legacies in the history of Educational Ministry
 - Define the role of teacher and of pastor as a teacher
2. Demonstrate ability to gather, select, and present information from readings appropriate to task assigned
3. Demonstrate ability and willingness to learn and understand one’s own educational context and the educational context of others different from his/her own
 - Describe one’s own context of Educational Ministry today
4. Demonstrate ability to think, problem solve and make decisions at a critical level of operation
 - Critically identify issues of educational ministry in the church and society today
 - Describe one's own educational vision for future educational ministry

- Identify ways of educational ministry to revitalize one's own educational context
 - Discuss two educational theories in relation to one's own cultural context
5. Demonstrate conscientiousness and willingness to take personal responsibility for learning, honesty and personal integrity in leadership
 - Show willingness and personal integrity in leadership
 - Show respect for others who are different from oneself
 - Show willingness to listen in class discussions and small group discussions
 6. Demonstrate ability and commitment for life-long learning

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Read, Think and Practice! There will be at least two chapters from the reader assigned each week as required reading before class.
2. Sharing your Vision for Educational Ministry
3. A short presentation: Each student will be asked to choose a topic and make a short group presentation in class. Topics to choose from include history, teachers and small church, curriculum, and intergenerational education.
4. A descriptive analysis and needs of your congregational social context
5. Active participation: Much of class time will be spent in discussion, critiques and experiential sharing in a supportive environment. Active participation is both expected and required.
6. Final project

BOOKS for REQUIRED READING:

Main Text:

Basic Readings for each class will be found on Blackboard.

Important books:

Tye, Karen B. *Basics of Christian Education*, St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2000
 Sargeant, Wendi. *Christian Education and the Emerging Church: Postmodern Faith Formation*, Eugene: Pickwick Publications, 2015
 Groome, Thomas H. *Will There Be Faith?: A New Vision for Educating and Growing Disciples*. Harper One, 2011
 Palmer, Parker J. *To Know as We are Known*, San Francisco: Harper & Row, Publisher, 1983
 Hansen, David T. *Exploring the Moral Heart of Teaching*, New York: Teachers College Press, 2001
 Melchert, Charles F. *Wise Teaching*, Harrisburg: Trinity Press, 1998,
 Moore, Mary Elizabeth M. *Teaching as a Sacramental Act*, Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2004

And others assigned in class.

Film: Babette's Feast (before Week 8, Feb. 27)

Video: For Week 12 (March 27)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFC-URW6wkU&feature=related> Storytelling Theory and Practice by Professor Brian Sturm

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jB3zaJ5Hw&feature=related> Teaching a Bible Story to Children by Joni and Silke Simplicity 725

Course Website

•Blackboard <https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/>

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the My Courses module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at <http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask [xxx] for further help.]

Grading System

A+ (90-100)

A (85-89)

A- (80-84)

B+ (77-79)

B (73-76)

B- (70-72)

Failure

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

Late work (BD).

Instructors are not obliged to accept late work, except where there are legitimate, documented reasons beyond a student's control. In such cases, a late penalty is normally not appropriate. Where an Instructor intends to accept and apply penalties to late assignments, this must be set out clearly here in the course syllabus. Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. For the course 4 points deducted per week late.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES:

Other Policies for courses are contained in the TST Advanced Degree Handbook.

Please refer at: <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca>

<http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks>

http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm.

Obligation to check email: At times, the course instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students in conjoint programs are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up their utoronto email address which is entered in the ACORN system. Information is available at www.utorid.utoronto.ca. The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions you may have about your UTORid and password. Students should check utoronto email regularly for messages about the course. Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Email communication with the course instructor: The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner. All email communications from students should be sent from an utoronto email address. Email communications from other email addresses are not secure, and also the instructor cannot readily identify them as being legitimate emails from students. The instructor is not obliged to respond to email from non-utoronto addresses

Email assignments: Papers and assignments are not accepted by email in principle.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Week 1: January 9

To Know Who We Are: Sharing Ourselves

Where are We Going with this Course? – Sharing about this course
Sharing the time you remember as your best Christian education experience.
What is your current vision for educational ministry in the church today?

Readings:

Sargeant, *Christian Education and the Emerging Church: Postmodern Faith Formation*, Ch 5. The Current Crisis of Christian Education

Week 2: January 16

What is education?

What is Educational Ministry?

Christian Education? Religious Education? Christian Religious Education?
Religiously Christian Education? Educational Ministry? Sunday School?
Church School?

Readings:

Melchert, "What is the Educational Ministry of the Church?" in *Religious Education*, 73. pp. 429-439

Moore, Ch. 2, Sacred Teaching: Education as Sacrament, in *Teaching as a Sacramental Act*. pp 15-39

Miller (ed), Ch 5, Emancipatory Hope: Transformative Learning and the "Strange Attractors" in *Holistic Learning and Spirituality in Education*

Pazimino, Christian Education in More than Formation, *Christian Education Journal*, 7.2 (fall 2010) p356- Gale/ A 239092343

Video:

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPqRSbp-VLo>

A Conversation with Dr. Thomas Groome

Week 3: January 23

A Short History of Christian Education Students' short presentation

Readings:

Miller, *Story and Context*, Ch. II. The Community of Faith in History, pp. 41-72.

Pazmino, *Foundational Issues in Christian Education*, Ch. 4. Historical Foundations, pp. 123-160.

For presenters:

Taylor(ed), *An Introduction to Christian Education*. Ch.2. "Christian Education Through History," William Bean Kennedy, pp.21-30

Lynn & Wright, *The Big Little School*, Ch. 4, 6 and 7.

Taylor(ed), *Changing Patterns of Religious Education*, Ch. 10. Protestant Religious Education in Canada, pp. 155-168.

Boys, *Educating in Faith*, Ch. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. pp.13-145.

Sherrill, *The Rise of Christian Education*,

Week 4: January 30

Current Approaches to Christian Education Sharing your Vision

Readings:

- Seymour, *Mapping Christian Education*, Ch. 1. Approaches to Christian Education, pp. 9-22.
- Palmer, *To Know as We are Known*, Ch. 2. Education as Spiritual Formation, pp. 17-32
- Melchert, *Wise Teaching*, Ch. 7. What Counts as Education in a Wisdom Approach? pp. 272-309.
- Ospino, Foundations for an Intercultural Philosophy of Christian Education, *Religious Education*, Vol. 104, No 3, pp 303-314

Week 5: February 6

**Context of Educational Ministry
Educational Ministry for the Public
Family Ministry**

Readings:

- Tye, *Basics of Christian Education*, Ch. 3 Where Do We Educate?
- Palmer, *The Courage to Teach*, II. A Culture of Fear, pp.35-60
- Seymour, Jack L., Robert T. O’Gorman & Charles R. Foster, *The Church in the Education of the Public*, Ch 1. The church in the Education of the Public, pp. 13-26.

Further Readings:

- Schuller, *Rethinking Christian Education*, Ch. 2. Education in Congregational Context, pp.31-46. Ch. 5. Rethinking Family Ministry, pp.57-72.
- e- journal: Price, “Christian Nurture and the New Cosmology” in [Religious Education](#), Volume <http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=103 - v103103>, Issue 1 January 2008 , pages 84 - 101
- e- journal: Parmach, “Christian Families, Educative Lenses, and Incarnational Roots” in [Religious Education](#), Volume <http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=103 - v103103>, Issue 1 January 2008 , pages 62 - 83
- e-journal: Copley, “Non-Indoctrinatory Religious Education in Secular Cultures” in [Religious Education](#), Volume <http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=103 - v103103>, Issue 1 January 2008 , pages 22 - 31
- e- journal: Revell, “Spiritual Development in Public and Religious Schools: A Case Study” in [Religious Education](#), Volume <http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=103 - v103103>, Issue 1 January 2008 , pages 102 - 118

Week 6: February 13:

**Understanding of “Learners”
Theological Understanding of Human Being**

Readings:

Tye, *Basics of Christian Education*, Ch. 5. Whom Do We Educate?

Hansen, *Exploring the Moral Heart of Teaching*, 8. The Place of Ideals in Teaching. pp.157-191

Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness*, II. Across the Great Divide & III. Explorations in True Self. pp.13-49

Week 7: February 20: Reading Week

Week 8: February 27

**Understanding of ‘Teachers’ in Educational Ministry
Pastor as a ‘Teacher’
Discussion of Film *Babette’s Feast***

Readings:

Schuller(ed), *Rethinking Christian Education*, Ch. 1. The Local Church as Teacher: A Portrait, pp. 3-16, and Ch.4 Pastors as Teachers, pp.47-56.

Pazimino, Robert W., *God Our Teacher: Theological Basics in Christian Education*, Ch. 2. God with Us: Jesus, the master teacher, pp.59-86

Palmer, *To Know as We Are Known: A Spirituality of Education*, Ch. 7. The Spiritual Formation of Teachers, pp.106-125

Palmer, *Courage to Teach*, Ch. I. The Heart of a Teacher, pp.9-34.

Week 9: March 6

**Recruitments of teachers and learners
Small Church Education**

Readings:

Anthony (ed), *Introducing Christian Education: Foundations for the Twenty-first Century*, Ch.17. Christian education in the Small Church, and Ch. 18. Recruiting, Training, and Motivating Volunteers

Roehlkepartain, *The Teaching Church*, Ch.7. Leaders Who Make a Difference. pp. 99-118

Ratcliff and Neff, *The Complete Guide to Religious Education Volunteers*, III. Recruiting Religious Education Volunteers, pp. 79-109

Week 10: March 13

Curriculum for Educational Ministry

Current Curriculum Survey (Students' short presentation)

Readings:

Tye, *Basics of Christian Education*, Ch. 4 What do We Need to Know?
Wilkerson (ed), *Multicultural Religious Education*, Ch. 10. Curriculum and
Multicultural Religious Education, pp. 323-391.

Pazmino, *Foundational Issues in Christian Education*, Ch. 7. Curricular
Foundations, pp. 223-242

Miller, *Story and Context*, Ch. XI. Curriculum, pp. 293-318.

Schuller(ed), *Rethinking Christian Education*, Ch. 2. Christian Education in a
Pluralistic Culture, pp.17-30.

Week 11: March 20

Intergenerational Education Students presentation

Readings:

Kang and Pazimino, Generational Fragmentations and Christian Education,
Christian Education Journal, 8.2 (Fall 2011): p379- Gale/ 269028183

Vanderwell, *The Church of All Ages*, Ch. 4 and 5, pp. 55-93

White, *Intergenerational Religious Education*, Ch. 2 and 3, pp. 18-58

Foster, *Educating Congregations*, Ch.2, pp. 37-50

Week 12: March 27

Children's Ministry Storytelling Watch Messy Church DVD

Readings:

Simmons, *The Story Factor: Inspiration, Influence, and Persuasion*. Ch.4 How to
Tell a Good Story pp.83-104

Video tape:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFC-URW6wkU&feature=related>

Storytelling Theory and Practice by Professor Brian Sturm

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jB3zaJ5Hw&feature=related> Teaching a
Bible Story to Children by Joni and Silke Simplicity 725

Week 13: April 3

Visioning an Educational Ministry of the Church Sharing Our Educational project

Readings:

Melchert, "Does the Church Really Want Religious Education?" in *Religious Education*, 69. pp.250-63

Harold D. Horell "Fostering Hope: Christian Religious Education in a Postmodern Age," *Religious Education* 99, no. 1 (January 1, 2004): 5–22

Sargeant, *Christian Education and the Emerging Church: Postmodern Faith Formation*, Ch 8 Transformed Action in Christian Education

Class Requirements

1. Class Participation: 10%

Evaluation criteria: attendance, active participation, stimulating and informed discussion, taking initiatives, listening, and encouraging others. At the end you will be asked to evaluate yourself as an active participant. In your evaluation you will be asked to include your reading component. The professor will also evaluate your participation and combine the two scores. Your final class participation grade will be the average of the two scores.

2. A Short Presentation: 10%

Each student will be asked to make a short group or individual presentation in class on one of these topics: history (**week 3**) or contexts of educational ministry (**week 5**), or small church educational ministry and recruiting teachers (**week 8**) or curriculum (**week 10**) or intergenerational education (**week 11**).

Evaluation Criteria: team work, leadership, content, method, time.

3. A Descriptive Analysis of your Community Context (8 Pages): 30%

Purposefully observe the community context in which your congregation is situated socially, economically, ethnically and culturally. Research some demographics of the community, such as age groups, racial ethnic groups, languages spoken, etc. Based on your research and observation of your context, synthesize a critical analysis of the social and educational needs of the community. Bring it to the class of Week 8. **Due: Week 8, Feb. 27**

Evaluation Criteria: inclusive, relevant, concise, clear, critical and insightful

4. Vision Sharing(2-3 minutes): 10%

What is your vision for Educational Ministry? What would you like to see happening in Educational Ministry?

Each of you will be asked to share your vision for educational ministry.

Due: Week 4, Jan. 30

Evaluation Criteria: Visionary, clarity of content, concise and clear presentation

5. Final Take Home Exam: 40 %

The final take home exam will be given out on **March 20** and will be brought back to the class of Week 13, **April 3, 2018**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books:

Berryman, Jerome W. *Godly Play: an imaginative approach to religious education*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1995.

Chronister, Michele E. *Faith Beginnings: Family Nurturing From Birth Through Preschool*. Kindle Edition. Jul 18 2013

Conde-Frazier, Elizabeth, S. Steve Kang, and Gary A. Parrett. *A Many Colored Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004.

Elias, John L. *A History of Christian Education: Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Perspectives*. Malabar, Fla.: Krieger Pub. Co., 2002.

Foster, Charles R. *From Generation to Generation: The Adaptive Challenge of Mainline Protestant Education in Forming Faith*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2012.

Foster, Charles R. *Educating congregations: the future of Christian education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.

Galindo, Israel, and Marty C Canaday. *Planning for Christian Education Formation: A Community of Faith Approach*. St. Louis, Mo.: Chalice Press, 2010.

Garland, Diana R. *Inside Out Families*. Kindle Edition. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2010

Groome, Thomas H. *Christian Religious Education: Sharing Our Story and Vision*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1981.

Groome, Thomas H. *Educating for Life: A Spiritual Vision for Every Teacher and Parent*. Allen, Tex: T. More, 1998.

Groome, Thomas H. *Will There Be Faith?* 1st ed. New York, NY: HarperOne, an imprint of HarperCollins, 2011.

Hansen, David T. *Exploring the Moral Heart of Teaching: Toward a Teacher's Creed*. New York: Teachers College Press, 2001.

Harris, Maria. *Fashion Me a People: Curriculum in the Church*. 1st ed. Louisville, Ky: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.

Hull, John Martin. *New Directions in Religious Education*. Barcombe, Lewes, Sussex: Falmer Press, 1982.

Kehrwald, Leif and John Roberto. *Families at the Center of Faith Formation*, Aug 19 2016. Kindle Edition

Matter, Children. *Faithfull Generation: 10 foundations for lifelong faith formation with children in families, churches and communities*, Feb 2 2017

McReavy, Don. *Entrusting the Treasure: A Contemporary Catechism of the Christian Faith*. Kindle Edition. Sep 11 2016

Melchert, Charles F. *Wise Teaching: Biblical Wisdom and Educational Ministry*. Harrisburg, Pa: Trinity Press International, 1998.

Miedema, Siebren and Cok Bakker(ed). *Religious Education as Encounter: A Tribute to John M. Hull*. Waxmann Publishers, 2009.

Miller, Donald E. *Story and Context: An Introduction to Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1987.

Moore, Mary Elizabeth. *Teaching as a Sacramental Act*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2004.

Muldoon, Tim and Sue Muldoon. *The Discerning Parent: An Ignatian Guide to Raising Your Teen*, Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2017

Palmer, Parker J. *Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit*. 1st ed. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2011.

Palmer, Parker J. *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life*. 1st ed. San Francisco, Calif: Jossey-Bass, 1998.

Palmer, Parker J. *To Know as We Are Known: Education as a Spiritual Journey*. 1st HarperCollins pbk, Ed. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1993.

Parrett, Gary A., and S. Steve Kang. *Teaching the Faith, Forming the Faithful: A Biblical Vision for Education in the Church*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Academic, 2009.

Pazmiño, Robert W. *Foundational Issues in Christian Education: An Introduction in Evangelical Perspective*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, Mich: Baker Books, 1997.

Pazmiño, Robert W. *God Our Teacher: Theological Basics in Christian Education*. Grand Rapids, Mich: Baker Academic, 2001.

Pazmiño, Robert W. *Principles and Practices of Christian Education: An Evangelical Perspective*. Grand Rapids, Mich: Baker Book House, 1992.

Ratcliff, Donald and Blake J. Neff. *The complete guide to religious education volunteers*. Birmingham, Ala.: Religious Education Press, 1993.

Roehlkepartain, Eugene C. *The Teaching Church: Moving Christian Education to Center Stage*. Nashville, Tenn: Abingdon Press, 1993.

Russell, Letty M. *Christian Education in Mission*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1967.

Sargeant, Wendi. *Christian Education and the Emerging Church: Postmodern Faith Formation*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2015.

Seymour, Jack L. *Teaching the Way of Jesus: Educating Christians for Faithful Living, 2014*.

<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&scope=site&db=nlebk&db=nlabk&AN=857233>.

Seymour, Jack L., ed. *Mapping Christian Education: Approaches to Congregational Learning*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.

Seymour, Jack L., Robert T. O’Gorman, and Charles R. Foster. *The Church in the Education of the Public: Refocusing the Task of Religious Education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1984.

Seymour, Jack L., and Donald E. Miller. *Contemporary Approaches to Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1982.

Schuller, David S., ed. *Rethinking Christian Education: Explorations in Theory and Practice*. St. Louis, Mo: Chalice Press, 1993.

Simmons, Annette. *The Story Factor: Inspiration, Influence, and Persuasion*. New York: Basic Books, 2006.

Spooner, Bernard M. & Marcia McQuitty, *Children's Christian Education: 12 Essentials for Effective Church Ministry to Children and Their Families*. Jan 16

Taylor, Marvin J., ed. *Changing Patterns of Religious Education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1984.

Tye, Karen B. *Basics of Christian Education*. St. Louis, Mo: Chalice Press, 2000.
Vanderwell, Howard. *The church of all ages: generations worshipping together*, Herndon, Va.: Alban Institute, c2008.

White, James W. *Intergenerational religious education : models, theory, and prescription for interage life and learning in the faith community*. Birmingham, Ala.: Religious Education Press, 1988.

Wilkerson, Barbara, ed. *Multicultural Religious Education*. Birmingham, Ala: Religious Education Press, 1997.

Articles:

Herell, Harold D. "Fostering Hope: Christian Religious Education in a Postmodern Age," *Religious Education*, 99, no. 1 (January 1, 2004): 5–22

Mercer, Joyce Ann. "Teaching The Bible in Congregations: A Congregational Studies Pedagogy for Contextual Education." *Religious Education* 100, no. 3 (July 1, 2005): 280–95. doi:10.1080/00344080591001979

Kang, Steve and Robert M. Pazimino. Generational Fragmentations and Christian Education, *Christian Education Journal*, 8.2 (Fall 2011): p379- Gale/ 269028183

Ospino, Hosffman. "Foundations for an Intercultural Philosophy of Christian Education," *Religious Education*, ISSN 0034-4087 Vol. 104, No 3, pp 303-314

Vanderwell, The Church of All Ages, Ch. 4 and 5, pp. 55-93

White, Intergenerational Religious Education, Ch. 2 and 3, pp. 18-58

Foster, Educating Congregations,

Audio:

Messy Church [videorecording] the DVD presented by Lucy Moore ; produced for BRF by Treehouse Media. Abingdon, Oxon : BRF, 2011.