

Worship and Preaching: Year “A”

Rev. J. Stephen Fair, O.C.C., Instructor
415 Ash Street
Ridgway, Pennsylvania 15385
(814) 335-2933
pastor_stephen_2@yahoo.com

Syllabus

Goals:

In this course, students will gain understanding as to the nature of worship, and will develop the knowledge and skills needed to effectively plan and lead worship. Students will also develop more fully their unique preaching style; gaining useful skills in sermon planning, preparation and delivery.

Required text: Book of Worship (United Church of Christ)

In the Fall sessions, students will concentrate on worship and liturgy

A Basics of Worship

- 1 What is worship/liturgy (liturgia)
- 2 What Worship Communicates
 - a The life and ministry of Jesus
 - b The Story of Salvation
- 3 The Anatomy of Worship (Parts of Worship)
 - a Opening (entrance) rite
 - b Word
 - c Sacrament
 - e Dismissal/Departure
 - f How to “stage” worship

In the Spring sessions, students will concentrate on Preaching.

B Basics of Preaching

1 Anatomy of a Sermon

a Opening/Introduction (hook)

b Body of Sermon

c Conclusion

2 Content of Sermon

a Biblical text

b expounding/explaining text

c “take away” (What does this say for us today?)

3 Children’s Sermons

a Pros and Cons

b Content

1 Brief

2 For Children not adults

4 Overcoming “writer’s block” with exegesis

Students will be given assignments from time to time. These assignments are due by the next session **WITH NO EXCEPTIONS**. If you are planning to enter parish ministry, you will have a deadline each week that must be met. Congregations do not extend the deadline on the sermon.

This is a pass/fail course, based on class attendance, class participation, and completed assignments.

It is my hope that this course will be helpful to you both now and in your future ministry. You will be encouraged to discuss current worship and preaching experiences. You will also be encouraged to consider me as a resource in planning worship in your current worship/preaching responsibilities. Please feel free to contact me **any time** about **anything**.