

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Healthy churches need leaders who are equipped for ministry. The Theological Education Institute exists to "equip the saints," especially the laity for a variety of ministries in God's Mission and for the upbuilding of the Body of Christ. TEI is a cooperative program of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ in the Rocky Mountain Region.

The core courses are designed to meet the licensing procedures of both the Christian church and the United Church of Christ. All licensing procedures and issues are handled by the Region/Conference Orders of Ministry. The Theological Education Institute is designed for education and does not deal in licensing issues.

Each course is open to the laity for their own educational enrichment, which may broaden their leadership in their congregation's ministry. The program may be useful for those who desire a deeper understanding of faith, ministry and the Christian experience.

The current program is designed as a two-year program. Additional learning opportunities are under consideration in preparation for ministry or for lay leadership. These may be in the form of classes, 1-day workshops, retreats, or practica in specialized fields. Content may focus on specialized ministry and skills such as youth ministry, Christian education, ethical analysis and advocacy, preaching, and clinical pastoral education.

Year One

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE FOR CHURCH LEADERS I AND II

Six sessions, two semesters
8 a.m. - 12 noon, 2nd Saturdays - January, March,
May and July, September, November

Church leaders need skills to read, interpret and assist others in the study of the Bible as a guide for the church engaged in God's ongoing mission in the world. Students should move beyond the popular tendency to reduce the Bible to personal devotional literature toward an ability to read it as leaders building God's people, enlivened by God's vision for us and our world.

We will engage the texts of the Bible in their original historical contexts to understand how to read the Bible in the context of history, in past historical contexts of the texts, and in present historical context in which God is making the future with us.

Students will gain a basic working knowledge of the sweep of Biblical history, various types of writings found in the Bible and some major issues in Biblical interpretation. Assignments offer students opportunity to engage Biblical texts in preparation for their own ministerial contexts.

BEGINNING HOMILETICS: THE ART OF PREACHING AND BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

1 p.m. - 5 p.m., 2nd Saturdays
January, March, May

In the 21st Century, the oral proclamation of the message of Jesus Christ is still the primary means of communicating the good news of the Christian faith. To many who feel called to assume the role of prophet (preacher) or to publicly share this good news, there is a hesitation due to lack of knowledge on what to say and how to speak it.

This course will offer encouragement through the discovery of the simple rudiments of public speaking and how to develop the sermon for presentation.

CHURCH HISTORY

1 p.m. – 5 p.m. 2nd Saturdays
July, September, November

A study of the broad history of 2000 years of Christian experience, focusing on both specific turning points and repeated patterns in the life of the church to understand how we can learn from, modify, adapt, adjust and expand those gifts from the past.

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Year Two, First Semester

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

8 a.m. - 12 noon, 2nd Saturdays
January, March, May

Study of resources of the Christian theological tradition in order to see the importance and nature of systematic theological thinking, to see its relationship to the practical life of faith in the church and to articulate the faith theologically.

PASTORAL CARE

1 p.m. - 5 p.m., 2nd Saturdays
January, March, May

Pastoral care is weaving together the experiences of the caregiver and care-receiver; the context in which care occurs; and the sacraments, rituals, traditions, scriptural foundations and theological frameworks through which care is offered. Students will have opportunities to participate in pastoral care case studies.

www.teinstitute.net

Year Two, Second Semester

WORSHIP AS THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

8 a.m. – 12 noon, 2nd Saturdays
July, September, November

This course will review theological and practical tools to be used in designing and leading worship, and focus on skills useful for engaging in creative dialogue about worship.

CHURCH IN THE WORLD

1p.m. - 5 p.m., 2nd Saturdays
July, September, November

Analyzing the cultural, sociological, psychological, demographic and theological aspects of the church's mission in the world. This course will explore the need for ministry and transformation in light of the gospel mission and will develop a mission practicum for each student related to the local, regional / conference and global mission of the church.

STUDENT RETREAT COURSES

Retreats meet 1 Friday evening and Saturday.

HISTORY AND POLITY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC) AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

This course will focus on the history, organization and polity of our two denominations and our partnership. The various orders of ministry will be examined.

LEADERSHIP FOR HEALTHY CHURCHES

An exploration of growing healthy and vital churches and the nature and boundaries of the leadership required for such churches. Essential qualities of a healthy congregation as identified by Natural Church Development will be examined. (Pub. ChurchSmart Resources, Carol Stream, IL).

SPIRITUAL LIFE AND FORMATION

This course looks not only at our own concept of spirituality, but the current culture's conceptions and 'myth'-conceptions of it. From the deep wells of Christian tradition, we find tools and resources for a lifetime of spiritual growth.

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Dean of the Theological Education Institute:

Rev. Phil Campbell
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APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION AND INFORMATION

Marcia Meier, Registrar
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CRMR (DOC)
Christian Church
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INQUIRIES FOR GRAND JUNCTION PROGRAM

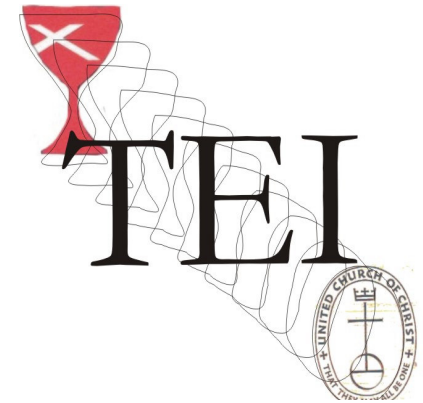
Associate Dean:
Joy Wills
P.O. Box 1701, Gunnison, CO 81230
970-641-3103
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CLASS MEETING LOCATIONS

DENVER
Colorado Christian Home
2950 Tennyson

GRAND JUNCTION
First Congregational Church, UCC
1425 North Fifth Street

Theological Education Institute



A Program for Ministry and Lay Leadership

Offered at Denver and Grand Junction

A Partnership Program of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Central Rocky Mountain Region and The United Church of Christ (Rocky Mountain Conference)