

Unification Theological Seminary

Fall 2013

SYLLABUS

MIN 5103: CHURCH GROWTH AND EVANGELISM

Dr. Demetrius S. Carolina, Sr.

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REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. One Church, Many Congregations: The Key Church Strategy Ahlen, J. Timothy and J. V. Thomas, (Nashville. TN: Abingdon Press, 1999) ISBN# 9780687085996 Cost: (New) 9.72 (Used) 3.00
2. The Purpose Driven Church ,Warren, Rick, (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995) ISBN#0-310-2016-3 Hardcover 15.83

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course consists of four week intensives, each with pre- and post work. Its purpose is to support the student's success in personal evangelism and church building by exposing them to some of the best practices in the field and giving them the opportunity to explore, wrestle with, and consider how they might apply these practices in their own ministry. We will focus on four themes: "win, consolidate, build, send." We will spend one week on each of these four objectives. We will deal indirectly with church organization, cultural context, leadership development, ministry skills and the small group, cell and house church models as they relate to the core themes. 3 credits.

METHOD: Students will work as teams using a "problem based learning" approach, with case studies and brief introductory presentations. The problem description, guiding questions and review of resources will be distributed in advance. Dealing with time constraints will be part of the problem. At the end of the course there will be the opportunity to "talk back" response to the teacher.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION: The fifteen weeks are August 30, to December 13, 2010. Class sessions will take place Monday 6:20 p.m.-9:2000 p.m. Classes will be held at 4 West 43rd Street, New York.

COURSE OUTCOMES: As a result of this course, the student will gain competencies to:

* WIN ...witness their personal faith to a non-believing person,

* CONSOLIDATE ...design an event to which to bring a new person, that will inspire them to join their church community,

* BUILD ...help new members build their faith, take personal ownership of their spiritual life, and become core members, and

* SEND ...help members develop their own personal ministry that will reach more new people.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

* Participation in team meetings (20%)

* Final products or performance (80%--20% for each weekend)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The Problem: I want to grow my church.

We will break this overall “problem” down into four objectives: win, consolidate, build and send. This has been derived from the “G-12” method of developing a cell church, but it is similar to a traditional Baptist “win-build-send” formula.

“Win” means to witness one’s personal faith to a non-believing person. We will discuss styles of personal evangelism, how to build relationships with non-believers, and the message of faith and how to share it personally.

“Consolidate” means to create commitment and to solidify the new believer’s personal relationship with God through appropriate home and church events.

“Build” means to help each new member find their calling in ministry and equip them to fulfill it. We will discuss methods of assimilation into the church and the method of gifts-based ministry.

“Send” means for a church to develop new ministries and plant new churches.

These four objectives include numerous related abilities with which the course will work to help students develop their awareness, knowledge and skills. The students will be organized as a team or teams, with a leader, facilitator, recorder and members. The team will spend several hours each weekend addressing that weekend’s problem, bringing to bear upon it the related abilities that are involved in solving the problem. They will consolidate their results in a written product that will be submitted at the start of the next weekend session. If there is time, each team will share the “breakthrough” points of their work with the entire class on Sunday afternoon.

WEEK ONE through FIVE OBJECTIVE: WIN Challenge: I want to witness my personal faith to a non-believing person. Related abilities 1. Having the ability to open one’s life to others. How to you develop the heart of outreach? 2. Ability to identify the person you want to reach. How do you know who is ready? 3. Ability to build a relationship. How do you surmount

barriers? 4. Ability to turn the relationship in a spiritual direction. How do you open to spiritual topics? 5. Ability to convey God's message of salvation. What is the message you want to give them? 6. Ability to affirm their response and guide them to God. How do you want them to respond, and then what? **PRODUCT:** A written set of guidelines for members of my church who want to do personal evangelism. Each team will share the "breakthrough" points of their guidelines with the entire class each week during class time.

Topics Primary Resources

* Church Growth Trends, Principles and

Misconceptions

* The six values necessary to create a growing church

* Is Evangelism My Mission? Evangelism Styles and Strategies

* Your Non-Believing Neighbor

* Your Personal Message of Evangelism

- Case Study: Witnessing on an airplane (Oates) * Warren: Ch 2 * Aldrich: Ch 3, 10, 11 * Mittelberg: Ch 2, 10-15 * Extra: Miller: 1, 2
- Case Study: What are the differences between Urban church and other church settings?
- Case Study: What is the notion of shared leadership and how is it important to church growth?

WEEK SIX through TEN OBJECTIVE: CONSOLIDATE Challenge: I want an event to which to bring them, which will inspire them to join my church community. Related abilities 7. Ability to persuade one's own church to provide one or more guest-centered events. 8. Ability to design a home or neighborhood event, outside the church building. i. Ability to organize and motivate a team to produce the event. Who is going to create it? What is the target market? ii. Ability to publicize your event. How will your target audience know about it? iii. What will be its outcome; to what will it lead? 9. Ability to design an event inside the church building. i. Ability to organize and motivate a team to produce the event. Who is going to create it? What is the target market? ii. Ability to publicize your event. How will your target audience know about it? iii. What will be its outcome; to what will it lead? **PRODUCT:** A written set of guidelines for members of my church who want to do either a guest-centered worship event or an evangelical home event. It should include purpose, strategic design, schedule, format, personnel needs, equipment needs, location description, target market and target outcomes. Each team will share the "breakthrough" points of their guidelines with the entire class during the class share time.

TOPICS PRIMARY RESOURCES

- * How to Run an Evangelical Home Meeting
- * How to Start an Evangelical Home Group
- * The G-12 Cell Church System, the Edification-

Evangelism Cycle

- * Why Don't Members Bring Guests?
- * Designing an Effective Worship Service: Contemporary

Style

- * Designing an Effective Worship Service: Emergent

Style

- * Case Study: Members tastes in worship style

(Handpicker) * Aldrich: Introduction, Ch 4, 9 * Warren: Ch 13-16 * Extra: Morgenthaler, Martin, Comisky, Stockstill

WEEK ELEVEN through FIFTEEN

OBJECTIVE: BUILD

Challenge: I want them to build their faith, take personal ownership of their spiritual life, and become a core member. Related abilities 10. Ability to initiate new members. i. How do people become a member of your church? ii. What are the requirements? 11. How do you convince them that it's a good idea? 12. How do they move from nominal membership to sincere, devoted, active membership? i. What are the signs of active membership? ii. What are the benefits? iii. What are the costs? 13. Ability to educate and provide spiritual resources for continual growth, with benchmarks. PRODUCT: A written set of guidelines for new people who want to become part of my church. It should include what they should know and believe what steps they take to become a member, the requirements of membership, costs and benefits. It could include a membership form, a faith statement, a statement of commitments or life change points. It should also include an outline of the educational curricula / program the church would provide in order to support new members taking these steps. Due as a team product at the beginning of the next weekend. If there is time, each team will share the "breakthrough" points of their guidelines with the entire class on Sunday afternoon.

TOPICS PRIMARY RESOURCES

- * Why Belong to a Church? * The Saddleback concentric circles, baseball diamond * Willow Creek's Seven Steps of Outreach, Four Steps of Joining and "5 G's" of Participating Members *

Saddleback's Membership Class * Gifts-Based Ministry * Warren: Ch 7, 17, 18 * Willow Creek Participating Membership Manual * Extra: Bugbee

WEEK FOUR OBJECTIVE: SEND Challenge: I want them to develop their own personal ministry that will reach more new people. Related abilities 14. Ability to organize for growth. i. What is the “expanded church” going to look like? 1. A bigger core congregation 2. More sub-ministries inside the core congregation 3. New church plants or satellites ii. Who do you want to reach? What is your target market? iii. How do you communicate the message and heart across cultural divides? 15. Ability to raise up new leaders. Who is going to do it? 16. Ability to define your identity: how do you give up control / provide ownership while maintaining the tradition and teachings? 17. Ability to reach an expanded market. How do you reach new people and areas? **PRODUCT:** A written set of guidelines for members who want to minister to others. It should include how your church defines discipleship and leadership, how it empowers members to lead, how it organizes volunteers and how it multiplies, organizes, supports and expands new ministries. It would include the prevention of stagnation and the way your church will innovate and translate the message for new markets. It would include governance issues—how do you define a “ministry” in your church? How do you certify / ordain people to lead one? Each team will share the “breakthrough” points of their guidelines with the entire class at each class meeting except for the last few classes where there will be an overall presentation from each group.

TOPICS * Church Structure that Supports the Development of New Ministries * The Indigenous Principle: Cracking the Culture Code * Raising Leadership and Giving Ownership * Planting Satellite Congregations: The Multi-Housing Ministry Strategy * Church Planting: The Vineyard Model * Case Study: Resistance to evangelism in the church (Pyle) **PRIMARY RESOURCES** * Warren: Ch 19 * Ahlen & Thomas (entire) * Extra: Malphurs, Miller: Ch 6, 7, 8

MIN 5103: Church Growth and Evangelism

Bibliography and Resource List

Demetrius S. Carolina, Sr. / Fall 2013

(• Assigned selections available on reserve and on CD)

Research Resources on the Web:

Group Publishing: <http://www.group.com/>

Hartford Institute for Religion Research: http://hrr.hartsem.edu/sociology/research_centers.html

Emerging church: <http://www.emergingchurch.info/>

Multnomah Publishers: <http://www.randomhouse.com/waterbrook/>

National Council on Youth and Religion:
<http://www.youthandreligion.org/publications/articles.html>

Pew Charitable Trust: <http://people-press.org/reports/> (enter “Religion” in the search field)

“Pulpit and Pew: Research on Pastoral Leadership”: <http://www.pulpitandpew.duke.edu/>

Saddleback Community Church: <http://www.saddleback.com/index.html>

Willow Creek Association: <http://www.willowcreek.com/>

Youth Specialties: <http://www.youthspecialties.com/>

If you’re going to buy something, these are recommended:

- Ahlen, J. Timothy and J. V. Thomas, *One Church, Many Congregations: The Key Church Strategy* (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1999)
- Aldrich, Joe, *Lifestyle Evangelism: How to Open Your Life to Others* (Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 1993)
- Mittelberg, Mark, *Building a Contagious Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000)
- Warren, Rick, *The Purpose Driven Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995)

Willow Creek Community Church, Participating Membership Manual (Willow Creek Community Church, 1995)

MIN 5103: Church Growth and Evangelism

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Important Reference Texts

Barna, George, *The Second Coming of the Church: A Blueprint for Survival* (Nashville, TN: Word Publishing, 1998)

Bugbee, Bruce, *What You Do Best in the Body of Christ* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995)

Comiskey, Joel, *From 12 to 3: How to Apply G-12 Principles In Your Church* (Houston, TX: Touch Publications, 2002)

- Galloway, Dale, with Kathi Mills, *The Small Group Book: The Practical Guide for Nurturing Christians and Building Churches* (Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1995)

Hadaway, C. Kirk, *Church Growth Principles: Separating Fact from Fiction* (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1991)

- Hybels, Lynne and Bill Hybels, *Rediscovering Church: The Story and Vision of Willow Creek Community Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995)

Miller, Donald, *Reinventing American Protestantism: Christianity in the New Millennium* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1998)

Morganthaler, Sally, *Worship Evangelism: Inviting Unbelievers into the Presence of God* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999)

- Stockstill, Larry, *The Cell Church: Preparing Your Church for the Coming Harvest* (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1998)

Other Valuable Resources

Arnold, Jeffrey, *Small Group Outreach: Turning Groups Inside Out* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998)

Brink, Emily R., *Authentic Worship in a Changing Culture* (Grand Rapids, MI: CRC Publications, 1997)

- Cordeiro, Wayne, *Doing Church as a Team* (Ventura, CA: Regal, 2001)

Dawn, Marva J., Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1995)

MIN 5103: Church Growth and Evangelism

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Dobson, Ed, Starting a Seeker Sensitive Service: How Traditional Churches Can Reach the Unchurched (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1993)

Donahue, Bill, Leading Life-Changing Small Groups (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996)

- Hendricks, Tyler, Family, Church, Community, Kingdom: Building a Witnessing Church for Working Families (New York, NY: HSA-UWC, 2000)

Hybels, Bill and Mark Mittelberg, Becoming a Contagious Christian (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994)

Malphurs, Aubrey, Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century, 2nd Edition (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1998)

McIntosh, Gary L., Three Generations: Riding the Waves of Change in Your Church (Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1995)

McIntosh, Gary and Glen Martin, Finding Them, Keeping Them: Effective Strategies for Evangelism and Assimilation in the Local Church (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1992)

Mellado, James, Willow Creek Community Church (Boston, MA: Harvard Business School Publishing, 1991)

Miller, William and Tetsunao Yamamori, Global Pentecostalism: The New Face of Christian Social Engagement (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2007)

- Moon, Sun Myung, Home Church: The Words of Reverend Sun Myung Moon (New York: HSA-UWC, 1983)

- -----, The Way of the Spiritual Leader, Parts 1 & 2 (New York: FFWPUI, 1998)

- -----, Tribal Messiah (New York: FFWPUI, 1998)

Stark, Rodney, The Rise of Christianity: A Sociologist Reconsiders History (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996)

- Wright, Timothy, A Community of Joy: How to Create Contemporary Worship (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1994)