

FALL 2009 CLASS SCHEDULE—AUDITORS WELCOME!

Tuesday/Thursday:

Patristics 9-10 am

Old Testament Intro 10:15-11:45 am

Vos Readings 12:15-1:15 pm

Greek IA 1:15-2:45 pm

Pentateuch 1:15-2:45 pm

Intro to Systematic Theology 3-5 pm

Thursday Only:

Homiletics 2A 5-6 pm

Church Polity 6-7 pm

Free Lectures on the Life of David 7-9 pm*

Classes run from Sept. 10-Dec. 9.
Auditors are welcome for \$40/course.
Please call 425-787-5144 or see
www.nwts.edu for more information.

Wednesday/Friday:

Hebrew IA 3-4:30 pm (Wed) & 1-2:30 pm (Fri)

Gospels 4:45-6:15 pm (Wed) & 2:45-4:15 (Fri)

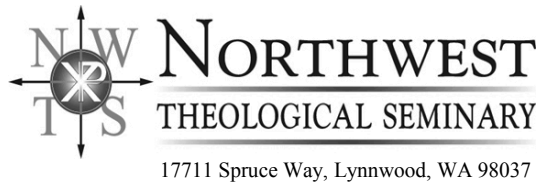
Wednesday Only:

Westminster Confession of Faith 10 am-12 pm

Homiletics IA 1-3 pm

Medieval Church History 1-3 pm

*See details on the free Thursday evening public lectures on the Life of David on page 1.



Volume 10, Issue 3
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NORTHWEST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY NEWSLETTER



His story is...

Our Story

DAVID THE FIRST AND DAVID THE LAST

David comes to us out of the pages of 1 and 2 Samuel in heroic aspect. He is the death of Goliath; defeater of the Philistines; defender of his bitter, paranoid enemy, King Saul; devoted friend of Jonathan ben Saul. He carries both the lyre and sword as he sings of bloody victories, while melting the soul into the heart and life of the Lord God who chose and anointed him. And yet his own life becomes a mirror of Saul's very downgrade—spiraling downward to adultery, murder, injustice, indulgence and self-pity. Does not David present us with an enigma? The enigma mirrored in every sinner's life: "in sin did my mother conceive me" (Ps. 51: 5); "the

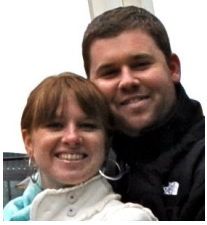


Lord is my Shepherd" (Ps. 23:1). And is that not why this protological David, himself longing for his eschatological counterpart (2 Sam. 7:14), flawed hero that he is, drives us to the unflawed Anointed of the Lord. That second David bears the downward spiral in his own innocent death throes—taking the Davidic and human iniquity unto himself, crucifying it and reversing the spiral of sin and death into an ascendant ladder of forgiveness, propitiation, life and resurrection. In truth, a better than David is here. Yeah, David's and, dear reader, your Lord and Savior! His story folds you into a better King—an eternal kingdom.
—James T. Dennison, Jr.

PUBLIC BIBLE STUDY ON THE LIFE OF DAVID

NWTS is presenting a free public Bible Study on the life of David (1 Samuel 16 through 1 Kings 2) on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the seminary beginning September 10. These studies will be led by Jim Dennison and will include a careful and detailed reading of the text using the tools of narrative theology, structural analysis, and Christocentric biblical theology. Everyone is welcome to join us at the Lynnwood OPC for this series.

STUDENT UPDATE



We have two M.Div. students for the Fall: second year student, Andrew Tucker, and first year student, Nick Feyma. We warmly welcome Nick and his wife, Krista, who have moved up from Camarillo, CA.

Please keep our students and faculty in prayer as they begin the new school year on September 10.

FACULTY NEWS

While teaching Apologetics and Introduction to Systematic Theology at NWTS from May 26 to June 11, Dr. Bill Dennison was a guest in the pulpit of the Lynnwood OPC on May 31 (Pete Vosteen and Benji Swinburnson, Pastors) and Trinity OPC, Bothell on June 7 (Adjunct NWTS Professor, Marc Renkema, Pastor).

Bill presented the following two lectures in the Grand Rapids area on August 8th at Trinity URC, Caledonia, MI: “Charles Darwin: Man of Prejudice”, and “Postmodernism: Is It Really Dangerous?” He preached at Byron Center URC and Dutton URC on August 9.

Rev. J. Peter Vosteen, Professor of Homiletics, has been preaching once each month during the summer at Burlington URC, Burlington, WA.

Scott F. Sanborn, Professor of Systematic Theology, is presently working on several book reviews for *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary*.

SUMMER TOUR

Our Academic Dean, Jim Dennison, has visited churches in Oregon, California and Idaho over the summer. The following groups and congregations invited him to speak and present illustrated lectures.

- The Reformation Society of Portland, Oregon (June 12-13) featured “The Reformation in Geneva: The French Connection (John Calvin) and the Italian Connection (Francis Turretin)”.
- Preached at Grace URC, West Linn, OR, June 14 (Dan McManigal, Pastor).
- Preached and presented the Life of Calvin at Covenant Reformed RCUS, Chula Vista, CA, July 12 (Gil Baloy, Pastor).
- Presented the Life of Calvin to a joint gathering of Arco OPC (Rich Miller, Pastor) and New Geneva OPC (David Bass, Pastor) in Idaho Falls, ID on July 25.

POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS

The seminary has several illustrated presentations suitable for Sunday School or evening use in local churches. They include: The Archaeology of the Destruction of Nineveh (Prophet Nahum); The Life of John Calvin; The Story of the Italian Church of Geneva during Calvin’s Time; The Career of Francis Turretin. Contact the seminary office (425-787-5144) to arrange a time when your church may benefit from these educational and edifying presentations.

WHY INCLUDE NWTs IN YOUR GIVING?

- **You support our students to preach well upon graduation from NWTS.** We don't just give them a set of principles and tell them they'll figure it out in an internship. They take 5-semester's-worth of homiletics classes, in which they preach sermons every two weeks after preliminary instruction. They learn to exegese the text, prepare Christ-centered sermons, read Scripture aloud, and deliver the Word with reverence and effectiveness (even without notes!). They practice from a pulpit before the professor and the class, with constructive critique for revision. Our students are always in great demand to exhort in the local churches because they preach the text and Christ from the text well.
- **You support our students to become thorough scholars of the Word and theology.** We teach a unified biblical-theological view of Scripture in accord with the Word, our Reformed confessions, and church history. Learning biblical interpretation, doctrine, and church practice from primary sources prepares students to rightly discern truth from error in the church today. One of our graduates has been accepted into a Th.M. program at Reformed Theological Seminary, FL. His NWTS degree and coursework was recognized, even though we are not accredited. His advisor was impressed with his seminary education and its preparation to meet the demands of research and writing at the Th.M. level and beyond.
- **You support our students by maintaining the lowest tuition among U.S. seminaries.** Our students and churches don't have to be burdened by large tuition debts after graduation. All donations go to education. Lynnwood OPC donates their building and utilities. Likewise, one of our professors takes no salary.

The summer has been very challenging for us financially. We have depleted most of our cash reserves to cover our current expenses. It would be very helpful if you would consider us in your immediate giving as we prepare for the Fall semester. Thank you very much for encouraging us in this tangible way; we remain persuaded that the Lord has sustained us these nine years for his glory.

OCT 16 REFORMATION CELEBRATION AT NWTs



NWTS will present a Calvin Quincentenary evening on Friday, October 16, at 7:30 pm at the Lynnwood OPC. We will examine “The Life of John Calvin (1509-1564) from his Sermons.” All are welcome to attend. A Power Point slide presentation will be part of the evening.

“The idea of going forth which [the writer of the epistle of Hebrews] has mentioned [is] to make us realize that we are strangers and pilgrims in this world and that we have no fixed abode except in heaven. Therefore whenever we are driven out of any place or any change happens to us we must think, as the apostle says here, that we have no sure place on earth because heaven is our inheritance; and when we are tried more and more we should prepare ourselves for our final end.” —John Calvin on Hebrews 13:14