

West Virginia Extension Course of Study
COS #423
Missions
Summer Term 2019
August 16 - 18 and October 18 - 20, 2019
Rev. Dr. Michael Linger
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Course Objectives:

- **To develop a solid biblical and theological foundation for missions**
- **To review the history of the church in mission**
- **To understand a community (religious and secular) approach to missions**
- **To gain understand of community needs**
- **To incorporate missions as an integral part of ministry**
- **To motivate congregational participation in missions**

Required Texts:

1. Robert, Dana, *Christian Mission: How Christianity Became a World Religion*, Blackwell Publishing, West Sussex, 2009; 9780631236207.
2. Volf, Miroslav, *A Public Faith: How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good*, Brazos Press, Grand Rapids, 2011; 9781587433436
3. Jennings, Theodore W., *Good News to the Poor: John Wesley's Evangelical Economics*, Abingdon Press, 1990; 9780687155286.
4. Outler, Albert C. and Heitzenrater, Richard, *John Wesley's Sermons: An Anthology*, Abingdon Press, Nashville, 1991; Print 068720495: E-book 9780687204953
5. Francis, Leah Gunning, *Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community*, Chalice Press, St. Louis, 2015; 9780827211056

For Weekend of August 16 - 18

- Read *A Public Faith: How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good*
- Write a 4-6 page paper developing a biblical/theological understanding of missions incorporating the ministry of ascent, the ministry of prophecy and the importance of community as integral parts of the understanding. **This paper should be mailed or emailed to Mike no later than August 2, 2019.**
- Read *Christian Missions: How Christianity Became a World Religion*
- From the text select three ideas/events/aspects of missions that changed the church's concept or practice of missions and how these relate to current mission work. Be prepared to present one of your three in class. The paper should be 4-5 pages in length.
- **Bring this paper to class with you.**

For Weekend of October 18 - 20 (Bring these papers to class with you)

- Read *Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community*
- Read *Good News to the Poor: John Wesley's Evangelical Economics*
- Read *John Wesley's Sermons* specifically
 - Upon our Lord's Sermon on the Mount, VIII (1748)
 - The Use of Money (1760)

- The Good Steward (1768)
- The Dangers of Riches (1781)
- The New Creation (1787)
- Write a 4-5 page paper describing Wesley's economic theology and application of stewardship (recognize stewardship is more than money but never less than money) and how this relates to the work of missions within the church
- Utilizing Census data, Mission Insite or other appropriate source, bring a demographic report on your community. If using Mission Insite (WV Conference can obtain this easily: bring information on the top three Mosaics as well) The goal is to have a clear picture of the community your congregation serves.
- Visit one of the faith based programs (not affiliated with your congregation) and one of the secular programs that offer similar services. Write a 2 - 3 page paper comparing/contrasting the services.