COURSE SYLLABUS
COS 124 Transformative Leadership
Fall 2020

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course forms the student’s identity as pastoral leader and change agent in congregations, The United Methodist Church, and the world.

Dates (meeting via ZOOM from 9:00a-4:00p <est>): September 12, 2020; October 17, 2020; November 21, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Aleze M. Fulbright (email: draleze@gmail.com or mobile phone: 765.372.8541)

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
After taking this course students will be able to:

1. Identify and understand the attributes of good leaders, biblically and theologically.
2. Evaluate and strengthen their own identities and skills as pastoral leaders.
3. Explain and reflect on the nature of change in the local congregation and wider society.
4. Implement visioning, strategizing, and planning processes in their local congregations.

III. TEXTBOOKS:

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
1. Class participation & attendance (25% of total course grade)
2. Completion of all reading and written assignments (75% of total course grade)
   a. Session One: September 12, 2020
      Read the entirety of Strategically Small Church
      1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by September 11, 2020.
      2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by September 11, 2020.

   b. Session Two: October 17, 2020
      Read the entirety of Canoeing the Mountains
      1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by October 16, 2020.
2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by October 16, 2020.

c. Session Three: November 21, 2020
Read the entirety of Leadership Lessons from Moses
   1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by November 20, 2020.
   2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. Student will upload assignment to Moodle by November 20, 2020.

d. Final Assignment: DUE November 30, 2020
Prepare a six (6) to eight (8) page paper incorporating the answers to the following:
   • From the readings, course instruction, and course discussions, how has your understanding of leadership been expanded?
   • From the readings, course instruction, and course discussions, why do you believe that leadership is important in the life of ministry?
   • From the readings, course instruction, and course discussions, what did you learn about yourself as a leader, and a congregational leader?
   Student will upload assignment to Moodle by November 30, 2020.

V. COURSE PREPARATION:
1. Be sure to read the materials in its entirety.
2. Write clearly and will proper grammar and punctuation. Be sure to properly cite any and all sources or materials.
3. Papers will be turned in via Moodle at the above-mentioned due dates.
4. Come to class prepared to lead in the discussion of each book and related topics.
Key Learning:

This chapter has taught me that man understood the issue as a generational problem, but then realized it was about something much bigger. Some experts could not understand why people were obsessing about a subgroup when an enormous epistemological shift was occurring.

Chapter 3 - Identifying with Jesus

Key Concepts:

a. By emphasizing church as relationships, emerging church thinkers are advocating not inwardly focused huddles but rather multiple circles of relationships lived out in the wider community.

b. The Missio Dei precedes the church, and so the issue is not where to bring or take God but to find God where he is working and to participate in redemption according to God-given skills and abilities.

Key Individuals Discussed:

a. N. T. Wright
b. Dallas Willard
c. Brian McLaren
d. David Bosch
e. Lesslie Newbigin

Key Learning:
Expanded Outline Sample:
EMERGING CHURCHES, CREATING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN POST MODERN CULTURE

Chapter 1 - A Brief Look at a Culture Between

Key Concepts (not limited to only three concepts):

a. Churches in the United Kingdom and the United States seriously underestimate the need for cross-cultural training for those in their respective congregations. (Kindle Locations 115-116).

b. The church must recognize that we are in the midst of a cultural revolution and that nineteenth-century (or older) forms of church do not communicate clearly to twenty-first-century cultures. (Kindle Locations 133-136).

c. Important culture shifts that occurred are the transition from Christendom to post-Christendom and the transition from modernity to post-modernity.

Key Individuals Discussed (Tell me why they are key):

a. H. Richard Niebuhr

b. The Roman emperor Constantine

Key Learning (Tell me what you learned from this chapter or section. Be very thorough with the key learning component):’

The church must seriously study culture. This raises the missional question as to whether the church exists simply as a subculture or a counterculture or whether it can become truly cross-cultural in the sense of crossing into the broader culture through proclaiming the good news within that cultural context.

Chapter 2 - What is the Emerging Church

Key Concepts:

a. Emerging churches are missional communities arising from within postmodern culture and consisting of followers of Jesus who are seeking to be faithful in their place and time.

b. The three core practices that combine to create the other practices are (1) identifying with the life of Jesus, (2) transforming secular space, and (3) living as community.

c. Emerging churches are communities that practice the way of Jesus within postmodern cultures. This definition encompasses the nine practices. Emerging churches (1) identify with the life of Jesus, (2) transform the secular realm, and (3) live highly communal lives. Because of these three activities, they (4) welcome the stranger, (5) serve with generosity, (6) participate as producers, (7) create as created beings, (8) lead as a body, and (9) take part in spiritual activities.

Key Individuals Discussed:

a. Eddie Gibbs

b. Dan Kimball

c. George Barna