



SAVANNAH PRESBYTERY'S
J. RICHARD BASS

School of the Laity

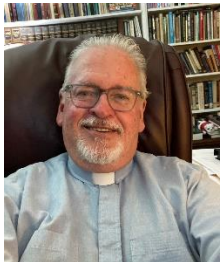


March 8-9th, 2025 (*Register by February 7th*)

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY: This course will survey the New Testament scriptures and explore the inspiration, authorship, context, and criteria used to determine which books became part of our canon. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of NT themes and early Christian theology and examine how contemporary Christians interpret Old Testament (*Hebrew*) scriptures through a Christian lens.



Pre-course assignment: Participants are required to acquire *The New Testament, A Student's Introduction* by Stephen L. Harris and read the text alongside the *New Testament* in their Bibles. **Led by Rev. Cathy Belles, pastor of Henry Memorial Presbyterian Church, Dublin, GA.**



ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF WORSHIP: This course focuses on what constitutes faithful Christian worship and explores the theological underpinnings of the key elements of worship including scripture, confession, prayer, music, sacraments, and sermon. Participants will learn to think critically about each element of worship and will dive into some tenets within Reformed theology.

Pre-course assignment: Participants are required to read *A More Profound Alleluia; Theology and Worship in Harmony* by Leanne Van Dyk. The course is led by **Rev. Rick Douylliez, Savannah Presbytery's Director of Pastoral and Ecclesial Care and longtime pastor of First Presbyterian, St. Marys, GA.**

ELECTIVE COURSE: We welcome back much beloved **Dr. Christine Yoder, Senior Vice President and Dean of Faculty and J. McDowell Richards Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Columbia Theological Seminary.**



THE TREE OF LIFE; An Introduction to the Wisdom Literature of Ancient Israel. This course is an introduction to the wisdom literature of ancient Israel, especially the books of Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes. Our goals are to consider the definition and key characteristics of wisdom; to develop a familiarity with the background, forms, content, theologies, and interpretive issues of the wisdom texts; and to reflect on the place of wisdom in the Christian Scriptures. Furthermore, we will explore the relevance of wisdom's perspectives for contemporary preaching, teaching, and theological reflection in Christian communities.

Pre-course assignment: To read *Proverbs, Job & Ecclesiastes* and make note of what stands out to you, what surprises you, how you would describe each book to someone who had never read it, how the books are similar and how they are different. **Additional recommended reading:** Samuel E. Balentine, *Wisdom Literature*. Core Biblical Studies, Abingdon, 2018; William P. Brown, *Wisdom's Wonder: Character, Creation, and Crisis in the Bible's Wisdom Literature*. Eerdmans, 2014.

All courses are open to anyone who would like to participate.

SOL Registration Form: March 8-9th, 2025

NAME: _____ CHURCH: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

COURSE TITLE: _____ TODAY'S DATE: _____

You can choose to participate online via Zoom or in-person. In-person accommodations (*which include meals*) will be held at Epworth-By-the-Sea, St. Simons, GA. According to our contract with Epworth, commuters must pay the “commuter fee” which pays for meals *even if they do not intend to eat meals.*

Tuition plus accommodation are required fees for in-person attendees.

Please read the registration form carefully, there are sections for both “in-person” and “online” participants. Every participant is required to complete this two-page registration.

Register online here: www.savannahpresbytery.org EVENTS, School of the Laity

Pay fees online here: www.savannahpresbytery.org [Donations Or Payments \(eservicepayments.com\)](http://www.eservicepayments.com) Enter the total fee amount from the registration in the ***“School of the Laity Fees” box and follow the prompts.*** (*Please consider adding an additional 2% to your total registration cost to pay online convenience fee. Thank you!*)

OR

Make **checks payable to the SAVANNAH PRESBYTERY** indicating “SOL” in the memo section. **Mail this form and your fee to:**

School of the Laity C/O Marty Susie
Wilmington Island Presbyterian Church
450 N Cromwell Rd
Savannah, Ga 31410

PLEASE REGISTER by Friday, February 7th, 2025

for one:

New Testament Survey

Essential Elements of Worship

ELECTIVE: The Tree of Life Wisdom Literature

****Complete the Fee Worksheet on the next page**

FEE WORKSHEET

COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN-PERSON

Fee Enclosed

1. COURSE FEE (*Tuition*)- **ADD TO** accommodation fee: **\$110.00/person**

2. Choose ACCOMODATION FEE:

COMMUTER (*includes all meals*) **\$85.00** \$ _____

SINGLE @ Booth/Pitts **\$190.00** \$ _____

OR WITH A ROOMMATE (DBL) **\$140.00** \$ _____

SINGLE @ Robertson Inn **\$210.00** \$ _____

OR WITH A ROOMMATE (DBL) **\$160.00** \$ _____

Total Fee Enclosed (1+2=): \$ _____

***Roommate Name (if DOUBLE):** _____

THIS SECTION FOR ONLINE PARTICIPATION:

☐ **I will participate ONLINE via ZOOM at a Course Fee of \$110.00 per person**

***We never want tuition costs to be prohibitive to someone participating.
Partial scholarships are available through the Education & Training
Team.***

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

***Marty Susie, SOL Registrar, at 800-616-3671 ext. 703 or
MSusie1@savannahpresbytery.org***