CE3519: Christian Education and the Young Child: Nurturing Faith from Birth to Age Six in the Family

Luther Seminary – January 2003

Syllabus

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Office Hours: one hour before and after class on Thursdays
Need help at other times? Email or call.

Goals and Objectives

- To reflect on the people, experiences, ideas and programs that nurtured faith in class participants as young children
- To learn about how the child has been regarded in Christian thought
- To understand the child as a spiritual being
- To examine the normal growth and development of children and the implications for their spiritual development and faith nurture
- To explore the four keys for nurturing faith in the home
- To consider a variety of ways to tend the baptismal journey
- To learn to support and partner with families in faith nurture
- To explore various ways to link generations
- To examine numerous strategies for supporting parents in faith nurture
- To assess the congregational experience from a child’s perspective

TOPICS:

1-9-03 The young child in Christian thought, as a spiritual being and in our experience
1-10-03 Four Keys for nurturing faith
1-16-03 Congregations supporting and partnering with families. Expecting the child. Baptism and tending the baptismal journey. Milestones ministry.
1-17-03 Congregations as extended family. Faith parents. Parent education.
1-23-03  Doorknobs and worship.

1-24-03  Programming for children.

1-30-03  Congregations from the child’s point of view.

1-31-03  Putting it all together. Presentation of final projects.

**READING ASSIGNMENTS**

1-16-03  *Right From the Start* by Shirley Morgenthaler  
Entire book

1-17-03  *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott  
Entire book

1-23-03  *Parenting With Purpose* by Evenshaug, Hallen and Martinson  
Chapters 1-9, 13, 14, 16, 20 and 21

1-30-03  *Passing On the Faith* by Stommen and Hardel  
Pages 9-102

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS**

1-16-03  Book response paper (see form) on *Right From the Start*

1-17-03  Book response paper on *Traveling Mercies*

1-23-03  Book response paper on *Parenting With Purpose*  
Resource evaluation (see form)

1-24-03  Congregational interviews (see form)

1-30-03  Book response paper on *Passing On the Faith*

1-31-03  Final project (see form)