

CE514 Educational Ministry of the Church

Spring 2010

John R. Muether, Instructor

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Course Description:

From the RTS catalog: A study of the pastor's role as teacher and administrator within the educational ministry of the church. Careful attention is given to philosophy, history, organization, curriculum, recruiting and training teachers, and the special needs of each age group.

Muether's description: A survey of Christian education, broadly considered, in the life of the church. Emphasis on the history of catechesis and the importance of Reformed confessions in the nurture of the people of God . Other topics to be addressed: the question of paedocommunion in the Reformed tradition, Christian schooling (institutional and home), Sunday school, VBS, youth work, retreats, and the value of a church library. In sum, this course will deal the ways in which the church seeks to "teach them to observe whatsoever [Christ has] commanded."

Class Meetings

- Thursdays, 10 am to noon
- No class: March 25, April 8

Reading

Dunahoo, Charles H. *Making Kingdom Disciples: A New Framework*. Phillipsburg, N.J.: P & R Publishing, 2005.

Hunt, Susan. *Heirs of the Covenant: Leaving a Legacy of Faith for the Next Generation*. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 1998.

Nevin, John Williamson. *The Anxious Bench*. 1843. [electronic copy to be provided to the class]

Wilson, Douglas. *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning: An Approach to Distinctively Christian Education*. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 1991.

Assignments

- Two 5-10 page papers
- Final exam (take-home)