YOU’RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE CLASS OF 2014!

The entire Western Seminary community is invited to come celebrate with the Class of 2014 at this year’s Commencement! The ceremony will be held at Christ Community Church in Milpitas on Saturday, July 12th from 11:00am-12:30pm. Cheer on your friends and classmates as they celebrate this tremendous accomplishment. We hope to see you there!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: COMMENCEMENT
Commencement for the San Jose campus will be held on Saturday, July 12th from 11:00am-12:30pm at Christ Community Church in Milpitas. The Class of 2014 is big, which will draw quite a crowd, so we’d love your help putting on this event! We need help with set-up, greeting/ushering, reception, and clean-up. If you can help for any amount of time, we’d greatly appreciate it! Please contact Carrie Priest at carriepriest@westernseminary.edu if you are interested.

PREPARING FOR FALL 2014 REGISTRATION
The summer semester is well under way, and it’s time to begin planning for Fall 2014. Registration for the fall semester will begin July 1st. One reminder you need to be aware of for fall registration is the requirement to meet with your advisor to discuss your plans for the coming semester. This is particularly important if you have plans to graduate by the end of Summer 2015. A hold will be placed on your SIS registration that will prevent you from adding classes for the fall semester if you are interested.

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until that meeting has taken place and confirmation has been sent from your advisor to Student Services. This mandatory requirement is for the purpose of helping you plan well for the coming semester and academic year. It’s highly recommended that you plan to meet with your advisor in June or July.

FREE COACHING FOR 2014 GRADS!
The Transitional Care Coaching Network (TCCN) is made up of a team of Western-trained coaches. Their mission is to provide Western Seminary San Jose graduates with free coaching to launch them from school into their next season. Coaching can help you: 1.) discover, grow and reach your God-given potential, 2.) maximize your God-given strengths for your ministry/career and kingdom impact, 3.) establish personal goals and lasting, transformational change, and 4.) brainstorm next steps and plan with accountability. Questions: contact Charmaine Williams.

MINISTRY AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
We receive regular contact from churches and para-church organizations. Please see the Ministry and Employment Opportunities and Counseling binders in the front lobby for more information about the recent (and previous) postings below.

Part-time Consultant
Kids Club Consultants, Inc. in San Jose
5-20 hours a week employment. This individual will work with local churches to provide free after school, faith-based clubs on elementary and middle public school campuses. A detailed job description is available upon request. If interested, please contact Bev Daily at (408) 363-0600 or bev@kidsclubconsultants.org.

Worship Director
Journey Church in San Jose
20 hours per week (10 hrs office, prep/2-3 hours rehearsal and 5 hours Sundays). $20,000-$23,000 annual with the potential to grow to full-time as church and ministry grows. Contact Pastor Jason Miller at jason@wearethejourney.com.

Youth Ministry Intern
Youth Lighthouse through New Vision Church in Milpitas
15 hours/week (mostly weekends) $1000/month stipend
Contact Pastor Jason Kim at pastorjason@newvisionchurch.org. Visit www.youthlighthouse.org for more info and application.

Worship Leader
New Life Community Church in San Jose
$20,000/year stipend. Contact Pastor Amos Yang at ayang@newlifesj.org.

“CAMPUS NEWS” CONT. FROM PG. 2

DISCOVER COACHING
Learn how to partner with others to help them discover and achieve their God-given potential.

June 4, 2014 • 7pm-9pm

Discover how coaching can:
- Help people grow and achieve their goals
- Empower you to listen well and ask good questions
- Increase your leadership know-how
- Maximize your ministry and kingdom impact

At Discover Coaching:
Learn more about coaching and coach training options available at Western Seminary.

RSVP at www.westerncoaching.com/coaching/discover or contact Lisa Mueller at lmueller@westernseminary.edu.

Then, experience:
Introduction to Coaching (MCS 510S)
September 18 & 19, 2014
Non-credit (audit) application deadline is Sept. 11, 2014. Master’s level fall application (credit) deadline is July 14, 2014.
Preaching the Gospel in a Multi-Cultural Context

Written by Dr. Jeff Louie

APPLYING THIS TO THE BAY AREA
The Bay Area is known for cultural diversity. Culture is often understood as related to ethnicity. Ethnic culture is still present, but there are other cultural distinctives that exist outside the ethnic boundary. There are now cultural differences in the generations: depression era, baby boomers, gen Xers and millennials. There are even regional differences between urban, ghetto urban, hipster urban, and the varieties of suburbanism. And finally, there are conservative versus liberal values cultures.

Besides the vast cultural diversity here, there is also a general feeling that one cannot be critical of other cultural groups. Teaching of absolute truth, teaching where I am right and you are wrong is often seen as narrow-minded, bigoted, and unloving. This makes any bold proclamation of the Gospel, and “repentance from sin” talk uneasy for the Bay Area listener.

As a result, ministries tend to minister to one specific culture. We have hipster churches, ethnic churches, young adult churches, family suburban churches, because they are easier to develop as they focus on one cultural type.

Then we also have a tendency to avoid speaking on sensitive sin. We would speak of sin, but they would be the second or third tier ones that are mostly acknowledged by all people. The sins of the culture are left barely touched lest they offend the congregation.

What are we to do?

A LOOK AT THE APOSTLE PAUL
The best way to answer this question is to look at how Paul ministered to the Gentiles. A few key passages are Acts 17, 1 Corinthians 8, and Galatians 2.

Paul preached to the philosophers in Athens in Acts 17:16-34. These observations can be gathered from this text: (1) Paul is very disturbed by their polytheism (17:16); (2) he was very respectful (17:22); (3) he made ties and used illustrations from Greek culture (17:23-28); and (4) Paul did not shy from firm truths of the Gospel, such as repentance, the judgment to come, and the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

In 1 Corinthians 8, Paul tells us not to cause weaker believers to stumble by

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living our freedom in Christ in front of one who does not yet understand the same spiritual and theological reality. Sensitivity is the theme here.

In Galatians 2, Paul warns us not to allow our ministries to be religiously legalist so that it counters the grace that is found in the Gospel. He relates his rebuke of the Apostle Peter who withdrew from Gentiles in the presence of Judaizers. Finally, he reaffirms his ministry to the poor.

The lessons from Paul are important for us today in ministry. First, Paul was inclusive in his ministry, both ethnically and socio-economically. Second, Paul was respectful to the cultures around him, while affirming the truth of the Gospel. Third, Paul could refrain from the freedoms in Christ, in order to cause the weaker not to stumble. And finally, Christ and maturity in Christ was also his goal, so that cultural sensitivity and ethnic inclusion were not the goals of ministry. Christ was the goal, and to understand the grace and freedom in Christ over and above culture was his goal.

THE CHALLENGE
We give thanks for all the churches in the Bay Area. The ministry is hard enough and we want to avoid another layer of unwarranted guilt, but the church which Christ died for was to be marked by diversity, both ethnic and socio-economic. And the church was to be a place of deep transformation. We minister at first through the cultures of the people we minister to. We must understand them, and incorporate this into how we do ministry. But this is just the beginning. We must lead them to see that Christ will take us beyond our starting cultures and into the culture of Christ.

Global Leadership Summit Discount
Western students, alumni, and faculty can register for the annual Global Leadership Summit which will be held on August 14-15, 2014 at a special rate of $79 (Reg. $249). GLS is telecast live from Willow Creek Community Church and features world class speakers, music and drama to help equip Christian leaders around the world.

Here are the Bay Area Global Leadership Summit host sites:
- San Jose – Church on the Hill
- Foster City – Central Peninsula Church
- San Francisco - Cornerstone Church
- Pleasanton – Valley Community Church
- Richmond/Oakland – Hilltop Community Church

Interested in connecting with other Western people at one of the sites? If so, please contact Charmaine Williams at cwilliams@westernseminary.edu.

No longer live in the Bay Area? There are national or international host sites. Western will have a booth at most of these sites. Stop by and send people our way!