

***Ministerial Training Institute
of the
Orthodox Presbyterian Church***

October 2, 2023

Dear Brother in Christ:

The Ministerial Training Institute of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (MTIOPC) announces three courses for the **Winter 2023-2024** semester:

- **Homiletics**, taught by the Revs. Dale A. Van Dyke and Douglas B. Clawson
- **Pastoral Theology**, taught by the Rev. Dr. A. Craig Troxel
- **Reformed Evangelism**, taught by the Rev. John S. Shaw and the Rev. Dr. Eric B. Watkins

The benefit to you becoming an MTIOPC student is that you will sit under some of the most distinguished ministers and elders of the OPC. Secondly, you will interact with students from across the country who are studying or serving as Orthodox Presbyterian pastors, licentiates, men under care of a presbytery, or ruling elders, and ministers from other denominations. Third, you will study content identified by the OPC as needing specific attention.

The benefit to MTIOPC is that you bring your gifts and talents to share with other students, making MTIOPC a denominational success.

The demands of MTIOPC courses will equal the demands of seminary courses. Depending on the class, students should expect to spend about two to four hours weekly on reading and writing assignments before attending Intensive Training.

The mandatory Intensive Training for all classes will be held **January 23-25, 2024**, at Redemption OPC in Gainesville, Florida. Non-commuting students should plan to arrive on Monday, January 22, flying into Gainesville Region Airport (GNV) (*preferred airport*) or Jacksonville International Airport (JAX). Classes will conclude by noon on Thursday, **January 25**. Return flights may be scheduled after 2 p.m. Thursday, January 25.

Pastoral Theology and Reformed Evangelism classes begin November 1, 2023, with online reading and writing assignments.

Two weeks later, the **Homiletics course begins on November 15, 2023**. Homiletics will continue with a post-Intensive Training assignment, due by **February 8, 2024**.

Students may only sign up for one course and will receive pass/fail grades at the completion of their coursework.

All students, with the exception of OPC church planters, must pay a \$50 registration fee that is fully refundable upon successful completion of the course.

Tuition is free for OPC church planters, ministers, licentiates, and men under care. Tuition is an additional \$50 for OPC elders and \$100 for non-OPC ministers.

OPC pastors, licentiates, and men under care of a presbytery qualify for a travel scholarship of up to \$400 to help defray the cost of travel to Intensive Training. An additional \$100 for travel expenses also is available if matched by your local session or presbytery. CHMCE reimburses travel costs for CHMCE church planters.

All students will be housed in double-occupancy hotel rooms. Any student who prefers a single-occupancy hotel room must pay an additional \$200 fee to offset the costs.

Please send in your registration form and fees by the **October 20, 2023** deadline. **Enrollment is limited.**

Registration is finalized when your registration form, refundable \$50 registration fee, and any applicable tuition and hotel fees are received. A registration form and course descriptions are attached as well as available with the MTIOPC catalog on the <http://www.opc.org/CCE>.

Please share this letter with OPC men under care, licentiates, and elders who may not be on our contact list.

For questions, contact Judy Alexander, the MTIOPC coordinator, at 407-761-8783 or e-mail: alexander.1@opc.org.

We look forward to serving you as a student of the Institute.

In Christ,

Danny E. Olinger
MTIOPC Director
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MTIOPC Winter 2023-2024

Course Descriptions

Homiletics (2 credits):

The purpose of the Homiletics course is to serve as a practicum that will supplement standard seminary homiletics programs. The practicum will provide instruction, discussion, models, and experience in preaching that is both pastoral and sensitive to the standards of preaching that have historically marked Presbyterian and Reformed churches. Special attention will be given to these standards as presented in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church's Form of Government and Directory for the Public Worship of God. The course will offer the equivalent of a two-semester seminary homiletics class in a combination of preparatory work, an intensive training program, and follow-up. Preference will be given to pastors and licentiates.

Pastoral Theology (2 credits):

This class seeks to introduce you to the history, theology, and practice of pastoral ministry. It will explain the biblical-theological foundations, which undergird each aspect of pastoral ministry and then build upon this foundation with the germane principles and practices. The goal of this course is to equip you as a prospective candidate for the ministry or better equip you as a gospel minister so that you will more fully understand and perform all that Christ requires of his under-shepherds who minister to and among his flock.

Reformed Evangelism (2 credits):

This course seeks to explore the principles and practices of doing evangelism from a Reformed theological perspective for the sake of building up the body of Christ both spiritually and numerically. Course lectures will provide biblical, theological, historical, and practical reflections on the subject of evangelism. Evangelistic exercises and assignments will encourage students to put that content into practice.

Students should learn to articulate a biblical theology of evangelism, emphasize the priority of preaching and the role of the Holy Spirit, describe the evangelistic thought and practices of Reformers, distinguish the roles of the ordained and laity in evangelism, and prayerfully consider ways to help their own churches in evangelism. The goal is to enable students to move from the theory to the practice of evangelism in ways which are consistently reformed and practically effective.