



Learning Program in Worship Leadership 2007-2008

Expectations

Worship Leader:

The Worship Leader will be prepared to design and lead worship services in the congregation or diocese, such as officiating at Morning or Evening Prayer, funeral services or other non-sacramental worship. The Worship Leader will be able to design sacramental worship services under the guidance of the officiating priest. The Worship Leader will complete the one-year ETS learning program in order to be recommended for licensure.

Knowledge

1. A basic familiarity with Bible, Theology, and Church History
2. Familiarity with the history, structure and use of the Book of Common Prayer; familiarity with the Book of Occasional Services, the supplemental liturgical texts and others services authorized for use in the Episcopal Church or Diocese of West Virginia
3. Familiarity with the hymnal and other resources in hymnody
4. A basic understanding of the history, theology, and practice of the daily offices, Eucharist, Baptism, healing, marriage and funeral offices.

Skills

1. Ability to lead the prayer book offices (daily offices, funerals)
2. Ability to design worship services for the different sacraments and seasons
3. Ability to serve as Master of ceremony at liturgical functions.

Assignments

The student in Worship Leadership shall complete the assignments as described below. The development of each assignment, including the scope, topic and goals for each, shall be discussed, supervised and evaluated by a supervising priest and documented on the form provided, including a timeline for accomplishing the exercises by June, 2008:

Read the three texts listed as Required Reading AND read one additional book from the Required Resources or others as approved by your supervising priest.

AND

Complete the following three projects (or equivalent as approved by your supervising priest and mentor), present three incidents to your mentor group which emerge from this ministry and then theologically reflect in appropriate praxis/reflection papers.

1. The participant shall plan and officiate at three or more services of the Prayer Book offices (Morning or Evening Prayer, Compline, Noonday Prayers) in the context of the local congregation, Mentor Group, ETS Weekend or other group meeting. The participant shall ask

for feedback from two or more people attending the service, discuss the feedback with the supervising priest and mentor group and write a reflection paper on one of these occasions.

2. Prepare and lead a 3-4 class on the evolution of Baptism or Eucharist service
3. Design a service for Easter vigil and bulletin, including music and lessons. Present your choices in a 5-7 page paper, giving a brief discussion of the origin and theology of the service (2 pages) and discuss the choices you have made for readings (1-2 pages). Discuss the role of the various ministers (deacon, priest, lay person, Bishop) 1-2 pages.

In each of the exercises above, the student presents the written plan to the mentor group and supervising priest discussing the choices made. A theological reflection paper should be submitted for each assignment. The ministry plan shall be presented to the mentor by October 2007. Incidents arising from your ministry shall be presented at least three times over the course of the year in your mentor group. Consideration of the incidents and the feedback your group gives you shall be used in praxis and theological reflection papers.

In the final paper of the year consider these issues: Did you accomplish your goals? What roadblocks did you encounter? How did you respond to these challenges? Where did you seek support? What faith issues arise? What did you learn?

Book List: Worship Leader 2007-2008

Required Reading:

1. Mitchell, Leonel Praying Shapes Believing
2. Michno, Dennis. A Priest's Handbook.
3. Weil, Louis. A Theology of Worship. Cowley Pub.: Cambridge, MA, 2002

Required Resources:

1. Book of Occasional Services (BOS), Church Publishing
2. Lesser Feasts and Fasts (LFF), Church Publishing
3. Marion Hatchett, A Commentary on the American Prayer Book.
4. Stuhlman, Byron. Prayerbook Rubrics Revisited.
5. LeCroy, Anne and Hatchett, Marion. The Altar Guild Handbook.

Additional resources and suggested further readings include:

1. Hatchett, Marion. A Guide to the Practice of Church Music
2. Hymnal 1982 Vol. 1 & 2 (Accompaniment versions)
3. Lift Every Voice and Sing hymnal
4. Wonder, Love, and Praise hymnal
5. Enriching our Worship Vol. 1 & 2
6. Costain, Melva Wilson. African American Worship. Abingdon Press: Nashville, TN, 1993
7. Michno, Dennis. A Manual for Acolytes. Morehouse Publishing: Harrisburg, PA.
8. Taylor, B. Don. The Complete Training Course for Altar Guild. Morehouse Pub: Harrisburg, PA, 1993.
9. Micks, Marianne H. The Joy of Worship. Seabury Classics, 2004.