

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

History, Theology, and Polity at Synod



JUNE 24-JULY 1, 2015 ♦ RADISSON GATEWAY HOTEL, CLEVELAND

Sponsored by Andover Newton Theological School and instructed by

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth (Beth) Nordbeck, Moses Brown Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Andover Newton Theological School; and **Rev. Dr. Jonathan New**, chair, Council for Theological Education in New England; Associate Conference Minister for Stewardship and Financial Development (temporary), Massachusetts Conference UCC; adjunct faculty, Andover Newton Theological School.

Course description

This is your chance to explore UCC polity as it is being experienced and worked out!

With General Synod 2015 as both an occasion for and subject of our study, we will examine the history, theology, structures, and practice of ministry in today's United Church of Christ. What makes this denomination distinctive and innovative, as well as rooted in tradition?

You are encouraged to enroll if you are

- ◆ A seminarian or seminary graduate seeking ordination
- ◆ A clergyperson seeking (or considering) ministerial standing in the UCC through privilege of call
- ◆ A clergyperson seeking dual standing while serving in a federated or union setting, or a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) pastor anticipating ministry in a UCC congregation
- ◆ A person who has been encouraged to take a polity course by your Church and Ministry Committee as part of an alternative route to ordination, or for other reasons, such as commissioning
- ◆ A pastor or layperson who wants to refresh your knowledge about today's UCC

How can leaders "make the case" for the UCC as a vital voice within contemporary progressive Christianity? We will deal with these questions and many more in our week of intensive study and shared experience.

Students may register either as non-credit certificate students or as seminary credit-earning graduate students. Non-credit participants seeking simply to refresh their knowledge of the UCC without completing assignments must receive prior permission from the instructors.

Location and accommodations The course will take place at the heart of the UCC at the Radisson Gateway Hotel connected to the UCC headquarters at 700 Prospect Avenue in Cleveland. A block of double rooms at the same hotel will be held for course registrants until May 22. To reserve a room at the Radisson, call 216-377-9000 and indicate you are part of the UCC/ANTS Theological School group. Looking for a roommate? Visit the UCC Members-in-Discernment Network on Facebook.

Registration As a non-credit certificate student: Registration fee \$700. Upon satisfactory completion of work, non-credit certificate students will receive a "Certificate of Completion" by mail.

As a seminary credit-earning graduate student: \$150 registration fee, in addition to Andover Newton student/exchange student tuition. Upon completion of work, graduate students will receive a grade.

Follow this link to register:

<https://ants.thankyou4caring.org/2015-ucc-polity-synod>

Please note participants must also register for Synod at www.ucc.org.

Questions

About general information: Jennifer Shaw, Academic Program Assistant, jshaw2@ants.edu or 617-831-2434; **About registration:** Nayda Aguila, Registrar, naguila@ants.edu or 617-831-2435; **About the course:** Please contact one or both of the instructors. Beth Nordbeck, enordbeck@ants.edu or 603-569-1280; Jonathan New, newj@macucc.org or 508-875-5233.

Course schedule:

Wednesday, June 24: 2:00-5:00 p.m.,
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 25: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.,
2:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday, June 26: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.,
2:00-4:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 27 through Tuesday, June 30: approximately four hours daily, depending on General Synod schedule and planned special events for Members in Discernment, with specific times to be negotiated with participants after class begins.

Wednesday, July 1: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

