**Immediate Action: “Invite the Community” Fall Plans Update – 6.20.2023**

The focus of this immediate action is **inviting members of the Dubuque and tri-state area into the classes and events that are part of our Dubuque learning community, and onto campus, in order to strengthen our connections and become an important hub for the regional church.** An ad-hoc task force met to discuss and plan, including Christopher James, Mary Emily Duba, Susan Forshey and Stephanie Ells.

Below I have listed our related plans for the fall.  Please consider how you might participate to strengthen our ties with the churches and leaders in the region, and take a look at the four attached flyers.

**Classes**

1. Three CLP classes are being offered on campus during the August residency and will draw in a number of students from the region. See attached flyer.
2. We are inviting regional church folks to participate in Dr. Forshey’s Disciple Formation 1: Making Space for God class, with two retreats and optional monthly gatherings on campus. See the attached flyer that Dr. Forshey created and Stephanie Ells will be circulating to area churches.
3. We are making targeted invitations to area pastors to join Gospel in Context class (as a CLP section). See attached flyer. There is some interest, but we do not expect much, if any, enrollment given the tardiness of this invitation. We view it as planting seeds for the future.

**Events**

1. We are hosting the Dubuque Ministerium on campus for their social event with lunch and yard games during our August residency and Warren lecture, August 8. They will be invited and encouraged to attend the Warren workshop and lecture.
2. We will be promoting the events around the Warren lecture on 8/8 with Dr. Allen Hilton to the community. See attached flyer.
3. Stephanie Ells is planning and will lead a fall Pause for Pastors on campus for tri-state area pastors on October 10, 2023 from 9a - noon.
4. We are hosting the Dubuque Ministerium on campus for their regular lunch and meeting on October 10, 2023, noon – 1pm. This follows the Pause for Pastors event.
5. UDTS is co-sponsoring a Dubuque Preaching Summit at St. John’s Episcopal on Saturday October 14, 2023.
6. We are hosting the John Knox Presbytery meeting on November 14th from 9am-3pm.

**Connections**

1. We are leveraging the Gospel in Context course in Dubuque County to make and solidify numerous connections with area churches and leaders, especially in Cascade and in the Jackson Park neighborhood including:
   1. Community Presbyterian Church in Cascade
   2. Cornerstone Church in Cascade
   3. St. Matthais Catholic Church in Cascade
   4. Seth Normington, the new Revisioning EP for East Iowa Presbytery
   5. *Cascade Pioneer* Reporter Daniel Charland will write a story about our visit
   6. Promised Land Church in Dubuque
   7. First Presbyterian Church in Dubuque
   8. St. John’s Episcopal Church in Dubuque
   9. St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dubuque
   10. Dani Postma, who is seeking to establish “Sanctuary” ministry in Dubuque
   11. Dubuque Meals Ministry Panel with diverse representation

**April 4, 2024 Update**

**Classes**:

A Continuing Education course paralleling MN630 Starting Missional Communities was offered in spring 2024. Four students are taking the course, including three local pastors and one additional church leader who works with one of these pastors.

A Continuing education/CEP course paralleling IN782 Gospel in Context is planned for August 2024.

**Campus Event:**

We advertised our Spring Woods Lecture day/events and had decent participation in person on campus (as well as good participation online). I don’t have numbers on these (Jill may have some).