

SOUTH COASTAL DISTRICT EXTENSION CLASS
GENERAL CHURCH HISTORY, APRIL 15-16, 2010
CLASS MEETS IN TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

Leader: Rev. John Vaughan

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Course Purposes:

1. To give you greater familiarity with people and events in the history of the Christian Church.
2. To give you a chance to glorify the God who has been Lord of the Church for 2000 years.
3. To enable you to learn from the faithfulness (and mistakes) of past Church leaders.
4. To help you see how The Wesleyan Church fits into the broad scope of Church history.
5. To give you a vision for impacting the future history of the Christian Church.

Textbook: Bruce L. Shelley, *Church History in Plain Language*. (Third Edition) Can be purchased online at Wesleyan Publishing for approximately \$28. If you are unable to find the Third Edition, you may use the Second Edition. Publisher is Thomas Nelson, 2008, ISBN: 0849938619

Course Outline:

We will meet all day Thursday and Friday, as well as Saturday morning. After personal introductions on Thursday morning, we will spend the remainder of our time mining the riches of church history.

Assignments:

- A. Work to be completed prior to Thursday, April 15:
 1. Read the textbook. (At the beginning of the class sessions, I will ask you to give yourself a letter grade for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of your textbook reading.)
 2. After you have read Shelly, write a short paper (two or three double-spaced pages) that includes at least ten paragraphs. In each paragraph, summarize one principle that you learned from some specific person or event in **post-biblical church history**. In other words, the entire paper gives ten principles, devoting a paragraph to each principle. Briefly describe how the principle was relevant in one specific period of church history, as well as how you can fruitfully apply that same principle today.

Example: "Before Justin Martyr, others had translated the Gospel from Aramaic to Greek. Justin Martyr was a key pioneer in restating the Gospel in a form that people educated in Greek philosophy could easily grasp. Today, I need not only to speak God's message in English, but do my best to offer Jesus in a form others will recognize as "good news" for them."

B. Work to be completed during the class time:

1. Attend and participate in all class sessions. Please arrange your schedule so that you can attend all class sessions. Sometimes ministers ask to leave early in order to attend evening ministries. Please insure you have arranged for someone other than yourself to care for such ministries and do not ask to leave early.
2. Complete all written and small group projects as assigned during class.

C. Work to be completed after the class meetings:

(To insure you receive full credit all work must be postmarked by June 1.) Work received later than June 1 will be accepted but may be marked down for lateness. Send your work to me either by email (john.vaughan@firstwesleyan.com), or if absolutely necessary, by regular mail).

1. Using books other than the text, (you may use the web) undertake further research on a specific post-biblical person, group or event in church history. List at least three quality sources (other than class notes or the textbook) you consulted. Using this person, group, or event as the focus of a "lesson," put together a 4-8 page document in which you lay out what and how you would lead a group to learn about this person, group, or event.

As part of the assignment:

- a. List at least three quality sources (other than class notes or text) you consulted. Give enough information about each source so that I could locate it.
 - b. Clearly identify and briefly describe your target audience.
 - c. Give me detailed information which you will offer your audience about this person, group or event.
 - d. Highlight the facts, ideas, principles (no more than five) you want your audience to remember about this person, group, or event.
 - e. Show me what creative teaching methods you would use to make this information fascinating to your audience.
 - f. Show me how you would make this information relevant to your audience. In other words, go beyond merely giving them information. What changes might someone make in the way they live based on what you give them in this learning session?
2. Guide a group of participants through this "lesson." Give a one page report of what you learned about using church history as a teaching tool. If you are not certain you know of a group to lead in presently this material, please feel free to talk to me about leading my Sunday school class through the material.

D. Grading:

25% Your reading of the textbook and your pre-class written assignment.

25% Your active participation in the classroom setting.

35% The lesson plan

15% Report on implementation of the lesson plan.

Thoughts on plagiarism:

Any time you take words directly from another source and place them within your work, you **MUST** place these words in quotation marks (“like this”) **AND** give credit to your source. Please provide all of the following information you can find: author, title, date, website URL, etc. Accidental or purposeful failure to do so will result in your receiving a ZERO for that assignment.

When you take ideas from a specific source even when you do **NOT** quote the original source, you still **MUST** give credit to the source (author, title, date, website URL, etc.)

Please avoid all appearances of plagiarism and give credit where credit is due. Please call me with any questions or comments.

Pastor John Vaughan

February 8, 2010

RESUME

REV. JOHN M. VAUGHAN

John M. Vaughan

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Email: john.vaughan@firstwesleyan.com

Married with 3 children and 2 grandchildren

Age: 66 years

Ordained Minister in Wesleyan Church: July 28, 2000

Education:

Graduated Bessemer High School, 1961; Graduated University of Alabama-Birmingham, 1975 with BS degree in Electrical Engineering; Graduated Covington Theological Seminary, Georgia, 1994, Master of Ministry—Bible; Graduated Covington Theological Seminary, Georgia, 1998, Master of Ministry—Christian Counseling; Graduated Southern Wesleyan University, 2000, Master of Ministry.

Work Experience:

Electrical Engineer with Alabama Power for 35 years;

Assistant Pastor First Wesleyan Church, Missions, Senior Adults, and Singles (single again)—

1997 thru Present

Taught Adult Sunday school: 1989 thru Present