MINISTRY AND THE SMALLER CHURCH

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE: This course is designed to explore challenges of ministering in a small church. The goal is to identify ministry characteristics which will be satisfactory to both church and pastor.

TEXT: Shepherding the small church, Glenn Daman. The introduction and first chapter should be read before the first class. A computer disk based on Dr. Kellar’s work, “The Church Attending God’s Business” will also be used as a text for the class. (The material is on the Seminary’s server).

The following resources are not required as text but are valuable resources in the study of small church ministry: DEVELOPING YOUR SMALL CHURCH’S POTENTIAL, Walrath; MAKING IT WORK, EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION IN THE SMALL CHURCH, Walrath; CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN THE SMALL CHURCH, Walrath and Griggs; MONEY, MOTIVATION, AND MISSION IN THE SMALL CHURCH, Pappas and Walrath; UNDERSTANDING THE SINGLE-STAFF CHURCH, PASTORING THE SINGLE-STAFF CHURCH, and GUIDING THE SINGLE-STAFF CHURCH, D. G. McCoury; THE FIRST TWO YEARS, Bruce Grubbs; LEADING THE SMALL CHURCH, Doran McCarty.

GRADING: Grades will be based on tests scores, reports, and class participation. Attendance will impact the final grade. Assigned work must be completed on time. When a presentation is late, the grade will drop by one letter grade for each week it is late. It is considered one week late if not presented at the assigned time.

ASSIGNMENTS:
1. Make notes. Texts will not cover all material given.
2. Graduate students are responsible for a book report dealing with an aspect of ministry in a small church.
3. Students are responsible for reading articles and other resources related to ministry in the small church. Some of the material will be shared in class.
4. Study I and II Timothy and Titus during the semester. Graduate students are responsible for writing a paper giving principles from the Pastor Epistles which are applicable to a Small Church ministry.
5. Other assignments may be made in the course of the study.

This syllabus is dated June 30, 2009 and may be changed to better meet the needs of the class.