

The aim of the Lay School of Religion Program has been to maintain quality instruction, to create an atmosphere for Christian fellowship and dialogue, and to encourage growth in faith and understanding to enhance the local church's efforts to develop deeper and stronger faith communities for nurture, witness, mission, and leadership.

Individuals may take a single class or pursue Lay School of Religion graduation. For more information about the Northwest Ohio Association Lay School of Religion, please contact: <a href="mailto:joan@nwoa.org">joan@nwoa.org</a> or by calling the Association office 419-447-8323

#### MEET THE INSTRUCTOR

THE REV. FRED COULTER was ordained as a UCC minister in 1980. He was called as minister of Christian Education and Youth Programming. In 1985 and for nearly 10 years, he planned and lead Sunday worship services and special liturgy holidays.

In 2002, Defiance College offered Dr. Coulter a tenured track faculty position in the Teacher Education Program. He served nine years as McMaster Scholar working with students and community partners in Cambodia. This work included training for human service and teaching professionals along with Buddhist Nuns in their monasteries. The training ranged from psychological screenings for mental disorders to basic first aid and CPR.

In 2008 Dr. Coulter was appointed the Director for Defiance College's Center for Effective Teaching which included effective educational theory, teaching practices, using technology in the classroom, and online. In his final three years at Defiance College, he had a dual appointment including the Religion Department as the Schauffler Chair of Christian Education. He represented the college at UCC Association, Conference, and Synod annual meetings.

Currently he is a member of St. John UCC in Defiance, sang in the choir, served on the Spiritual Council, and President of Consistory in 2021.

Northwest Ohio
Association
Lay School of Religion



Worship & Liturgy Spring 2024

Class begins
January 2, 2024
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Followed by
5 more classes:
(1st and 3rd Tuesdays)
January 16th
February 6th
February 20th
March 5th
March 19th

Classes will be via Zoom

### LITURGY/WORSHIP THOUGHTS

Christian *LITURGY* is a pattern for *WORSHIP* used (whether recommended or prescribed) by a Christian congregation or denomination on a regular basis.

The word *LITURGY* comes from a Greek term meaning "public work or work done on behalf of the people." *LITURGY* always referred to an organized community. A work, then, done by an individual or a group was a *LITURGY* on behalf of the larger community.



There are three aspects to Christian *LITURGY*: the celebration of divine *WORSHIP*, the proclamation of the Gospel, and active charity. These three aspects also summarize the mission of Christ.

## GOALS OF THE CLASS

\*\*\*Gain a basic understanding of the biblical foundations and history of Christian worship.

\*\*\*Explore the meaning purpose of worship and liturgy in various church contexts in our contemporary moment.

\*\*\*Experiment with the many elements of Christian worship by designing services for congregational and family use.

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# **RESOURCES**

--UCC Book of Worship (link below is to the Introduction)
<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pimX">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pimX</a>
<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pimX">ogRLlKjOsay8</a>
<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pimX">OtwBqIVOX78tLmr/</a>
<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pimX">view?usp=sharing</a>

- -- Materials provided by Instructor
- --Local Church Resources United Church of Christ (ucc.org)

#### FOCUS OF CLASS

---empowering people to learn more about themselves, their faith, and apply what they have learned to their lives.

# **CLASS SCHEDULE**

**January** 2<sup>nd</sup> – Introductions and developing our understanding of worship and liturgy.

**January 16**<sup>th</sup> – How are the sense incorporated into meaningful worship and liturgy?

**February 6**<sup>th</sup> – How are the sacraments of baptism and communion incorporated into meaningful worship and liturgy?

**February 20**<sup>th</sup> – How are other special services incorporated into meaningful worship and liturgy?

*March* 5<sup>th</sup> – Collaborative worship on developing meaningful worship and liturgies in our local churches.

*March* 19<sup>th</sup> – Sharing resources for worship and liturgy.