



August 2-8, Ghost Ranch Abiquiu

### The Parables Of Jesus

The Rev. Dr. Herman C. Waetjen

“With many such parables Jesus was speaking the word to them, even as they were able to hear, and without parables he was not speaking to them, but privately he was explaining all things to his own disciples.”

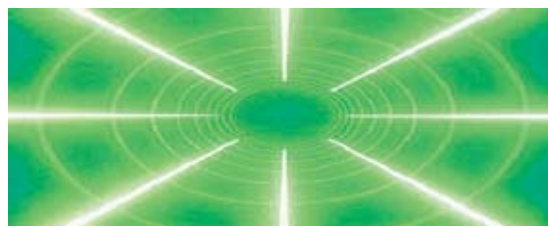
As Mark 4:33-34 stipulates, Jesus was a parabler. He used stories to teach, but as parables they are a distinctive type of story: not illustrations, but parables. Parables are metaphors, and as such they offer comparisons (A=B), utilizing figurative language. As John Dominic Crossan states on page 16 in his book, *In Parables*, “Figurative language has two quite different functions.



One is to illustrate information so that information precedes participation. The other is to create participation so that participation precedes information.” And that is precisely what Jesus’ parables do!

The seminar will examine the stories that Jesus tells in the gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke, but in two contexts: (1) their present literary context in these three gospels and (2) the historical context of Jesus’ ministry.

We will have evening discussions of texts from the Gospel according to Matthew with a focus on the pericopes that will be the featured Gospel readings for the next lectionary year that begins with Advent on Nov 28. Just for the joy of it! The informal sessions would accentuate a relaxed give-and-take dialogue between all participants



**K**aleidoscope Preaching Seminars for pastors in the Synod of the Southwest are being offered in this the third year.

By popular demand, Dr. Herman Waetjen and Dr. Sam Hamilton-Poore return to lead this year’s seminars. Noted in their fields, they provide insightful continuing education experiences for pastors.

Through a special grant from the General Assembly Mission Council, these outstanding opportunities are offered pastors in the Synod at a fraction of what they might cost otherwise.

Both sites – Ghost Ranch Abiquiu and Ghost Ranch Santa Fe – offer great facilities and good food as well as ample opportunities for fellowship. There will be time for exploration of each area.



in order to imitate the Apostle Paul’s proposal to his Roman addressees to be inspired together through a mutual sharing of insights.

The Rev. Dr. Herman C. Waetjen is Emeritus Professor of the New Testament at San Francisco Seminary,



October 4-7, 2010, Ghost Ranch Santa Fe

### Living the Word We Preach: The Spiritual Life of Preachers

The Rev. Dr. Sam Hamilton-Poore

The authenticity of the preacher’s own life with God is vitally important to his/her ability to interpret and convey the Gospel to his/her congregation. This Kaleidoscope event will explore various spiritual practices that Christian preachers may use to remain open and responsive to the presence of the Living Word in their own lives so that they may more effectively “open the scriptures” through preaching/teaching for their congregations.



**Required reading:** John Westerhoff, *Spiritual Life: The Foundation for Preaching and Teaching* (Westminster/John Knox, 1994). (As of April 3, 29 copies available through Amazon.com.)

Recommended reading: Renita Weems, *Listening for God: A Minister’s Journey Through Silence and Doubt* (Touchstone, 1999); Gordon W. Lathrop, *The Pastor: A Spirituality* (Fortress Press, 2006); Ted Bayles and David Orland, *Art and Fear: Observations On the Perils (and Rewards) of Artmaking* (Image Continuum Press, 2001).

Dr. Sam Hamilton-Poore is Assistant Professor of Christian Spirituality and Director of the Program in Christian Spirituality at San Francisco Theological Seminary. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and has served congregations in North Carolina, Missouri, and Iowa.



## Registration Information

Registration is through the Synod of the Southwest at [www.synodsw.org](http://www.synodsw.org)

Web registration will be available for **August 2010** seminar after **April 19, 2010**

Web registration will be available for **October 2010** seminar after **July 19, 2010**

**T**otal cost is \$100 per seminar which includes room (double occupancy), board, transportation\* and seminar registration.

**R**egistration will be limited to 60 participants and is open to all pastors serving within the bounds of the Synod of the Southwest with preference given to those actively serving congregations.

For questions, contact Synod of the Southwest (520-791-9600) or at [www.synodsw.org](http://www.synodsw.org). Ghost Ranch information is available on their website, [www.ghost ranch.org](http://www.ghost ranch.org)

\*Transportation to be arranged by the Synod. Synod will book flights or mileage will be reimbursed at 35-cents per mile with reimbursement not to exceed lowest airfare available 21 days in advance.



2010

SYNOD OF THE  
SOUTHWEST

presents

**Kaleidoscopes**

A series of seminars on  
Biblical Preaching  
at  
Ghost Ranch  
Santa Fe and Abiquiu  
for  
pastors in the  
Synod of the Southwest