



One Week  
2011 Summer UCC Polity Course  
“The History, Theology, and Polity of the UCC”

Geneva Point, New Hampshire

(84 miles from Portland; 86 miles northwest of Portsmouth;  
71 miles almost due north of Manchester, NH. on beautiful Lake Winnepesaukee)

Offered through Bangor Theological Seminary  
June 2-8, 2011

**Overview:**

The Summer Polity Course is offered annually for seminarians, Members-in-Discernment, and laity. Normally, M.Div. students take UCC History, Theology and Polity as part of their seminary curriculum. However, regularly enrolled seminarians may take the Summer Course for credit if their seminary is willing to allow them to transfer the credits. Bangor Theological Seminary is a fully accredited institution and the course is worth three semester credits. This course also meets the requirements for clergy seeking Privilege of Call into the UCC.

**Schedule:**

Class will begin at 2:00 pm Thursday, June 2, and end at noon Wednesday, June 8. The course will include evening and weekend activities. Students are encouraged to do readings and have access to an email account before and after the course. Internet access will be available onsite.

**Instructor:**

The Reverend David R Gaewski is the UCC Conference Minister of the Maine Conference. He has taught “The History and Theology of the United Church of Christ” and “The Practice of Ministry in the United Church of Christ” at Bangor Theological Seminary for over ten years. Gaewski has regularly attended the Polity Teacher’s annual gathering and has been on the Board of Directors of Local Church Ministries, Wider Church Ministries and the Executive Council.

**Course materials:**

The course will cover the history of the United Church of Christ beginning with its reformation roots to present day. Theological topics that have developed through its history such as soteriology, ecclesiology, and sacraments will be covered. In addition the topics of piety and enlightenment, unity and diversity, autonomy and covenant, and Christian education and nurture will be discussed. The course will cover all the materials in the Manual on Ministry, Manual on Church, and Ministry Issues Implementation document. There are two required books: The Shaping of the United Church of Christ by Louis Gunneman, and The Evolution of a UCC Style by Randi Walker. All other materials will either be handed out in class or available online.

**Course Requirements:**

Students will be required to write a 25 page final paper which may serve as the basis for an ordination paper for those seeking ordination. The details of this paper will be described in the course syllabus and discussed in class. The paper will be due to the professor by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

**Room and Meals:**

All housing arrangements need to be made directly with Geneva Point Center ([www.genevapoint.org](http://www.genevapoint.org)). Housing costs will range from \$45-\$60/night (\$270-360) for a shared room or \$90-\$120/night (\$540-\$720) for a single room. You must call Geneva Point Center 603-253-4366 ext. 203 and ask for Natalie to make reservations. Students should work with Natalie if a shared room is preferable. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Payments for Rooms and Meals need to be made directly with Geneva Point. PLEASE NOTE: Meals will begin with dinner on Thursday June 2, and end with lunch on June 8. The total cost for meals will be \$174. Please speak directly with Geneva Point Center regarding any dietary restrictions.

**Seminary Credit:**

Bangor Theological Seminary will offer 3 credits for this course for those who desire credit. The cost will be \$445/credit for a total of \$1,335. Current BTS students please register with Danielle Lavine at [dlavine@bts.edu](mailto:dlavine@bts.edu) or call 1800-287-6781, X-126. Individuals not currently enrolled at BTS, please contact Adrea Jaehnig at [ajaehnig@bts.edu](mailto:ajaehnig@bts.edu) X-205. Please note that non-BTS students must ask BTS to transfer their credits to their home seminary. Seminararians: Make payment arrangement directly with Bangor Theological Seminary.

**Taking the class as an auditor:**

The cost for those who do not wish to receive seminary credit will be \$400. To audit this class you must contact the instructor: [davidgaewski@maineucc.org](mailto:davidgaewski@maineucc.org) or call 207-756-3335.

**Registration:**

Registration is now open for the summer course. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible: [davidgaewski@maineucc.org](mailto:davidgaewski@maineucc.org) or call 207-756-3335. All students must be registered by May 25<sup>th</sup>. If this course does not obtain a minimum of 6 students, it may be cancelled. Auditors: Make Checks payable to: Maine Conference UCC, 28 Yarmouth Crossing Drive, Yarmouth, ME 04096. Note "Summer Polity" in memo line please.