April 15-16

Preaching is an art that depends on the rhythm of words. Cadence, melody and imagery are all marks of good preaching. Good preaching has the sound that comes from people’s hearts. It has movement and rhythm. It engages the body, soul, spirit and mind in a way that enables people to carry the experience into their lives. This workshop will help preachers with the poetic nature of preaching, helping them create sermons that linger like a poem... twice read.
Workshop Leader

Rev. Dr. Valerie Bridgeman is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible and Homiletics at Memphis Theological Seminary... and an award-winning poet. She grew up in central Alabama, nourished by the piney woods and story telling tradition of her family. She moved to Texas in 1981. She earned her Bachelor of Arts at Trinity University, a Master of Divinity at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, where she won the Charles L. King Preaching Award, and a Doctor of Philosophy at Baylor University. She has served as a church pastor, is a mother of two sons and is a community activist. As a distinguished scholar, preacher and poet, she is often a featured speaker and workshop leader at national meetings. She won the Austin Book Award for her collection, “In Search of Warriors, Dark and Strong, and Other Poems.” Her poetry is featured in “Everywhere is Somewhere Else” a collection of poetry by 11 nationally recognized writers about justice, environment, spirit, creativity and community.

The Poetic Nature of Good Preaching

Workshop Schedule

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
8:30-9:15 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:30 Welcome and Opening Worship
9:40-10:40 Session 1
10:40-11:00 Break
11:00-12:00 Session 2
12:00-1:15 Lunch (provided)
1:15-2:15 Session 3
2:15-2:30 Break
2:30-3:30 Session 4
3:30-5:00 Reception and Informal Time with Workshop Leader

Thursday, April 16, 2009
8:30 Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:30 Opening Worship
9:30-10:30 Session 5
11:00-12:00 Worship Service – Dr. Bridgeman Preaching
12:00-1:15 Lunch (provided)
1:15-2:15 Session 6
2:15-2:30 Break
2:30-3:30 Session 7
3:30 Wrap Up and Closing Prayer

Registration Form - The Poetic Nature of Good Preaching

MAIL OR FAX YOUR REGISTRATION TO:
Dr. Gennifer Benjamin Brooks, Styberg Preaching Institute
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201
847.866.3957 (fax number) Use one registration form per participant. Copy the form for additional attendees.

First Name: __________________________ Last Name: __________________________ Alum Year: __________________________
Street Address: __________________________ City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________
Day Phone: __________________________ Cell: __________________________ E-mail: __________________________

Church Address (if applicable): __________________________ UMC Annual Conference: __________________________

Registration: □ Registration Fee $ __________ Total Amount Enclosed $ __________

Method of Payment: □ Check (payable to Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary) □ MasterCard □ Visa □ Discover □ American Express

Card Number: __________________________ Expiration Date: __________________________ Cardholder Signature: __________________________

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