

CONTACT: Patrick Overton at
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RE: Dr. M. Eugene Boring Lectures
DATE: Saturday, October 14, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. M. Eugene Boring, one of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)'s most respected New Testament Scholars will be presenting three lectures at the Boonville First Christian Church on Saturday, October 14th. This one-day event explores the theme "Revealing A Future Vision from the Past" and is the inaugural event for the newly established Boonville First Christian Church *Izola Jones Annual Lectureship Fund*. Because of this fund, the event is open to the public free of charge.

Dr. Boring is the I. Wylie and Elizabeth M. Briscoe Professor of New Testament Emeritus at Brite Divinity School. He is author of numerous books including *Revelation, A Commentary*; and *The People's New Testament Commentary* which he co-authored with Dr. Fred Craddock.

The first lecture, entitled *Pluralistic World, Fragmented Church* will focus on Revelation and 1-3 John, helping us hear what these texts have to say to us in our own time, especially how the Church carries on its mission, doing so as a divided church. This will be followed by two lectures on the Gospel of John. The first is entitled "*Talking about Jesus is Talking about the Church*" and the second, "*Talking about the Church is Talking about Jesus*". Both lectures are designed to reveal the Gospel's fusion of Christology and ecclesiology (the ways we think about Jesus and the ways we think about the church), in contrast to the ways "following Jesus" and "being a faithful church member" are sometimes separated in the contemporary Church.

Finally, Dr. Boring will present an After-Session, focusing on John 10 and John 21. The purpose of this session is to listen to what John has to say to preachers, teachers, and leaders and those who listen to them). There will also be time for general discussion of the issues of the lectures with the participants.

While these biblical texts address a world very different from ours, there are many similarities to the challenges that are relevant to the Church in our time. This is especially true as church members and the clergy struggle with redefining the role of the 'institutional church' in our own changing world. Those attending will be engaged in a thoughtful exchange of thoughts and ideas with one of the most well-known New Testament scholars in our country. This event is designed for both clergy, lay people, and church leaders, promoting interaction among the leadership of the whole church.

The total number of Continuing Education Units granted to clergy attending all three lectures and the after-session is 5 hours if attending all four sessions. Fewer CEUs will be given, depending on the number of presentations attended.

While participation for this event is open to the public free of charge, is important for us to have an accurate count of participants for lunch. To register for this event, send an email to boonvillefcc@att.net and list your name, contact information, and how many people will be attending. Or, call the Church Office at 660 882 6239. If you get voice mail, give the same information listed above and we will email you a confirmation. For additional information, contact Patrick Overton at the phone number listed at the top of this press release.