

Pre-Class Assignments:

Each of the assigned questions should be answered in the body of the paper. These two papers together will count for 20% of your grade and will be graded according to: 1) content well thought out and complete answers to all questions, and 2) fulfilling instructions for the assignment including length and deadline.

Pre-Class Assignment #1

Answer all of the following questions after reading the book Formation in Faith.

Length of assignment: 4-6 pages

This is not a research assignment where you are to write about what the author has to say on each of these topics. Rather, it is expected that your answers will include personal reflection that will be informed by your reading of the book.

1. How do you think the church should address the need for authentic relationships, a culture of hospitality and the search for deeper meaning in life?
2. What does it mean to make disciples? How do persons grow in faith? How does the church grow as a communion of grace?
3. What type of leadership is needed for a pilgrim people traveling and learning together in ministry?
4. What must be included in an intentional process of faith formation and the cultivation of Christian discipleship?
5. With the challenges that lie ahead for the church, what do you think would be the best way for the church to move forward in love?

Pre-Class Assignment #2

Answer all of the following questions, after reading the book Soul Feast.

Length of Assignment: 4-6 pages

The questions are not asked in such a way that you have to state what the author says about each question. Rather, it is expected that your answers will be informed by your reading of the book.

1. What indications of spiritual hunger and thirst do you perceive in our time? What do you see as the reason for this hunger?
2. What is your typical way of reading Scripture? What is your understanding of the nature of Scripture?
3. How would you define prayer? What different prayer forms have you practiced? What new prayer forms would you like to practice?
5. How does the concept of fasting or abstinence work in relation to our North American consumer culture?
6. What are some practical ideas for the practice of hospitality at home and at church?
7. What is the difference between natural growth and spiritual transformation?