Plenary Descriptions

Media Madness – A Womanist Critique of Images of African American Females in the Media

This energetic plenary session explores stereotypes such as Jezebel, Sapphire, Welfare Queen, Mammy, Madea, and the Angry Black Woman as portrayed in the media. Black women are being dehumanized with negative images in the media – What is a Womanist approach in responding to the continued exploitation of Black Women?

My Mama’s Shoes Don’t Fit My Feet – The Generational Divide

Standing on the shoulders of tradition in the reality of a pop culture society, young black women are impassioned with the same desires for survival as our ancestral foremothers. What is our shared responsibility to one another in the church and in the greater society? How is Womanist praxis intergenerational? Are we forcing the younger generation to discard their lens of culture and experience? What is the womanist alternative approach?

Program Director
James A. Noel, PhD
Black Church/Africana Religious Studies, GTU/SFTS

Symposium Convener
Martha C. Taylor, DMin,

Committee Members
Donna Allen, PhD
Richetta Amen, MDiv
Tracy Freeman, MDiv student
Brenda Guess, EdD
A. Vanessa Hawkins, MDiv
Natalya Josey, MDiv
Valerie Miles-Tribble, DMin
Sheila Robinson, MDiv
Rochelle Rawls Shaw, MDiv Student
Vivian M. Wells, MA, MDiv Student
Rev. Rhonda White-Warner, MDiv

Womenist Symposium

Saturday, January 12, 2013
8:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
McGee Avenue Baptist Church
1640 Stuart Street
Berkeley, CA 94703

Partner and Host
Mission/Objective of Black Church Africana Religious Studies Certificate Program

The Black Church is but one expression of the broader phenomenon of African American Religion. Spatially the phenomenon of African American Religion encompasses West Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and North America. Some graduate programs acknowledge this in their degree programs in African Diaspora Studies. Temporally the phenomenon emerges in the sixteenth century and continues into the present. The nature of African Americans’ religious experience can be better understood when the Black Church is situated within this broader spatial/temporal framework.

James A. Noel, PhD
Professor of American Religion
and H. Eugene Farlough, Jr. Chair
San Francisco Theological Seminary

Mission Statement
To be a prophetic voice, concerned about the entire African American community. To equip and energize Black women to become knowledgeable and confident in expressing their lived experiences, and Christian faith tradition by challenging all oppressive forces that impede the freedom of Black women to live positively and productively.

Symposium Schedule:
8:00-8:45 Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:55 Call to Order and Invocation Welcome, Martha C. Taylor, DMin.
James Noel, PhD, Director
Womanist Prose – Rhonda White-Warner, MDiv
Opening Womanist Thought – Donna Allen, PhD
10:00-11:45 Plenary One—“Media Madness”
Facilitator—Martha Taylor, DMin
Presenters:
Joi Carr, PhD,
Margaret Wilkerson, PhD
Q&A—Audience Participation
11:45-1:00 Break/Lunch
1:15-2:45 – Plenary Two—“My Mama’s Shoes Don’t Fit My Feet”
Facilitator—Tracy Freeman, MDiv Student
Presenters: Jacqueline Thompson, DMin
Angelina Graham, PhD Candidate
Vivian Wells, MA, MDiv Student
Q&A—Audience Participation
2:45-3:15 – Closing Sending Forth

Herman’s Shoes Don’t Fit My Feet
examines the generational divide. In the reality of a pop culture society, youth also stand on the shoulders of their ancestral foremothers. Young Black women are impasioned with the same desires for survival as our ancestral foremothers. What are the shared responsibilities to the greater society? How is the praxis of womanist intergenerational? Are we forcing the younger generation to discard their lens of culture and experiences?

Martha C. Taylor, DMin,
Symposium Convener
Adjunct Professor,
Doctor of Ministry and Master of Divinity Programs
San Francisco Theological Seminary

WOMANIST SYMPOSIUM: “But Who Do They Say I Am?”

When women enter the public realm they continue to be governed by gender stereotypes in diverse ways. You will not want to miss this one day symposium that brings together seminarians, scholars, and all persons interested in two critical issues that affect the African American community using two dynamic plenary sessions.

Media Madness will bring to light how negative images portraying Black women as domestics, Jezebel, Welfare Queen and hypersexual young women being objectified through video, and rap music. Among many other things, this plenary will be examined by two distinguished scholars who will critically reflect using a womanist approach to respond on how we claim our room through the praxis of responsibility and action.

My Mama’s Shoes Don’t Fit My Feet examines the generational divide. In the reality of a pop culture society, youth also stand on the shoulders of their ancestral foremothers. Young Black women are impasioned with the same desires for survival as our ancestral foremothers. What are the shared responsibilities to the greater society? How is the praxis of womanist intergenerational? Are we forcing the younger generation to discard their lens of culture and experiences?

Martha C. Taylor, DMin,
Symposium Convener
Adjunct Professor,
Doctor of Ministry and Master of Divinity Programs
San Francisco Theological Seminary

How to Register
Online registration is available at: www.eventbrite.com
Register by mail sending completed form and payment to:
Black Church/Africana Religious Studies
c/o Rev. Martha C. Taylor
1608 Sequoyah Road
Oakland, CA 94605

Early Bird Registration Postmarked by December 15, 2012
[ ] Registration $35.00
[ ] Seminary Students $20.00

Make checks payable to Eugene Farlough Program Studies

Early Bird Registration Postmarked by December 15, 2012
[ ] Registrants $40.00
[ ] Seminary Students $25.00

Make checks payable to Eugene Farlough Program Studies

Registration includes continental breakfast & lunch

Check if registering for Continental Breakfast & Lunch

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