

MISSIONARY CHURCH HISTORY AND POLITY

An Independent Study Course for New Pastors in the Missionary Church

Required Course Materials

Internet Downloads:

- ["The Missionary Church: From Radical Outcasts to the Wild Child of Anabaptism,"](#) Erdel, Dr. Timothy Paul, *Illinois Mennonite Heritage*, September 1997
- ["Marriage, Memory, and Mission: Reflections on the 25th Anniversary of the MCA/UMC Merger,"](#) Erdel, Dr. Timothy Paul and Engbrecht, Dr. Dennis
- ["Merging and Diverging Streams: The Colorful and Complex History of the Missionary Church,"](#) Engbrecht, Dennis, Ph.D.
- ["1883-1983, One Hundred Years of Historical Distinctives,"](#) Engbrecht, Dr. Dennis D.
- ["Eusebius Hershey: First Foreign Missionary,"](#) Beals, Dr. J. Duane.

Video: *The Word, Revival and Evangelism: Historical Origins of the Missionary Church*, 2005

Course Description

This course is designed to provide a brief overview of the historical development of the Missionary Church from the time of the Reformation to the present. The course deals with various themes, major religious movements in Europe and America, and key personalities who have influenced the development of the Missionary Church.

Course Objective

As a result of this course the student should:

- Have a general appreciation for the historical roots of the Missionary Church.
- Be knowledgeable of the primary elements in the development of the Missionary Church.
- Be able to identify the major leaders in the history of the Missionary Church.
- Understand the distinctives of the Missionary Church (what makes it unique as a denomination).
- Complete a significant step toward PLI certification (for PLI students) and Missionary Church licensing eligibility.

Course Procedure

Complete this course by taking the following steps:

- Read the required articles which can be downloaded using the links provided above. Printed versions are also available if requested (see contact information below).
- Download the exam by clicking [here](#) or request a printed version (see contact information below). *You may use the exam as a study guide for your reading and reviewing.*
- View the required video, *The Word, Revival and Evangelism: Historical Origins of the Missionary Church*, which can be obtained from your regional or district office, denominational

office (see contact information below), Bethel College Library, or your local Missionary Church library.

- Complete the exam. If possible, use your word processor to type the answers so that your completed exam can be submitted electronically.
- Submit completed exam electronically by email (preferred) or a printed version via US Postal Service (see instructions below). **Please note:** The grading fee is \$35, and your exam will not be processed until the grading fee payment is received.
 - *Electronic Method*
 - Send the completed exam as an email attachment to hpcourse@mcusa.org
 - Use your credit card to pay the \$35 grading fee online through [PayPal](#) OR mail a personal check to H&P Course, PO Box 9127, Fort Wayne, IN 46899-9127.
 - *Hardcopy (printed) Method*
 - Mail the completed exam to the designated contact (see information below).
 - Mail a \$35 (USD) check payable to Missionary Church, Inc., to H&P Course, PO Box 9127, Fort Wayne, IN 46899-9127.

Results of your exam will be sent to you, your regional district director and, for PLI students, the Pastoral Leadership Institute.

Optional Reading

For additional reading the following list has been compiled. This is *not* required reading. It is simply intended to assist in the search for information regarding the Missionary Church.

[Constitution of the Missionary Church](#)

[Who We Are](#)

Gerber, Dr. Wayne, ed., [Foundations: Teacher's Manual](#), 2002 (scroll down the Web page)

Lageer, Eileen, *Merging Streams*, Elkhart, Indiana: Bethel Publishing Company, 1979.

Lugibihl, Walter H. and Jared F. Gerig. *The Missionary Church Association*. Berne, Indiana: Economy Printing Center, 1950.

Storms, Everek R. *History of the United Missionary Church*. Elkhart, Indiana: Bethel Publishing Co., 1958.

Designated Contact Information

Diana Boyer (phone or TM: 281-361-6956; mail: 5006 Walnut Hills Dr, Kingwood, TX 77345)