TITLE: Re-Thinking Church

TERM: Fall 2019-2020

PROFESSOR: Edwin Chr. van Driel

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: UNLIMITED X

# AUDITORS: NO AUDITORS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is premised on the notion that American Protestantism is facing a perfect storm. Growing insecurity about the place of the church in a secularized, Western society, ongoing internal conflicts and debates, and a heritage of individualism and voluntarism are tearing the fabric of denominations and local congregations. In this course we read contemporary ecclesiological proposals that may help pastors and congregations imagine new possibilities for the life of the church in this context.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:
At the end of this course, students will be able to:
1. Theologically reflect on the church and the challenges the church faces in the secular West;
2. Imagine new possibilities for the life of the church and for their ministry;
3. To read and analyze theological texts on ecclesiology and to place these in wider theological conversations.

PREREQUISITES: None.

https://doodle.com/poll/ps45gpw2qthxyrrx

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:
- Carl E. Braaten and Robert W. Jenson, eds. In One Body Through the Cross: The Princeton Proposal for Christian Unity (pdf will be made available)
- Some other literature will be made available electronically.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING: TBD.

ATTENDANCE: Required.