

Summer Intensive at Union

with **Dr. Larry Rasmussen**

June 2-13, 2014



Communities We Can Count On: A Response to Climate Change and a New Epoch

Geologists have given a name -- the Anthropocene (the Age of Man)¹ -- to a new epoch in which the activity of human beings is significantly altering the earth's eco-system and planetary processes. These core changes, signaled by climate change, pose huge adaptive challenges to all life. Where are the communities that are responding to these challenges? What are they doing?

In this two-week intensive course, we will lift up those "anticipatory" communities that are addressing these challenges realistically and hopefully. We will assess their ethos, practices, and rationale. Through readings, facilitated discussion, ritual experiences, and site-visits, participants will explore spiritual-moral frameworks appropriate for responses to planetary changes that threaten the community of life and present major adaptive challenges to human communities.

For matriculated Union students, this is a three-credit course in the field of Christian Ethics (CE 227). For clergy, lay leaders, and others whose study is aimed at supporting sustainability initiatives within their own communities, this course is non-credit bearing.

WHERE: Union Theological Seminary

WHEN: M-F, June 2nd - 6th and 9th -13th. Class meets on campus from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00; 2-4 afternoon site visits and/or evening activities are required for those taking the course for academic credit.

COST: Free for matriculated Union students taking the course for credit; \$200.00 for Union alums; \$500.00 for all others (scholarships available on a limited basis; contact tdelisio@uts.columbia.edu)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Contact Rafael Ortiz rortiz@uts.columbia.edu.
Registration is open until May 26th. (20 participants maximum)

¹ Learn about the anthropocene at <http://www.anthropocene.info/en/home>