Introducing the 2016-17 Seminar Series
Reframing the Gospel for Mission:
Recovering the Prophetic Dimension of Jesus’ Way of Being Human

Now Offered in 8- or 3-Session Options

This 8- or 3-session series introduces and applies the work of René Girard to gain a better understanding of and engage in central issues of our survival, e.g., racism, economics, and militarism. As Disciples of Jesus, participants will gain a vision for living into the movement of God’s Spirit to bring the day when, instead of laying waste to our cities one more time, we beat swords into plowshares and learn to no longer make war (Isa 6:11; 2:4).

What: Seminar series in two options: (1) Eight one-day-per-month sessions October-May; or (2) Three 1.5-2.5 days session Fall, Winter, Spring -- Varying days and dates per each location

Where: In process -- the first step is to recruit 8-15 participants for a site and contact Paul Nuechterlein by email (paulnue56@sbcglobal.net) or phone (269-290-4533) to inquire about scheduling a series

Who: Clergy and lay church leaders interested in recovering the prophetic dimension of the Gospel

Tuition: $550 in 2016; or $600 spread over 2016-17 ($100 at time of registration)

Required Reading: Everything Must Change by Brian McLaren, Compassion or Apocalypse? by James Warren, and numerous chapter excerpts and extended outlines from additional MT books.

8-Session Schedule: This option provides optimal spacing for reading and digesting the seminar concepts and applications

Part I – Introduction to Mimetic Theory in 3 sessions:
- October - Original Goodness — Created in God’s Image for Compassionate Stewardship
- November - Original Sin – From Mimetic Desire to Mimetic Violence
- December - Original Sin – Cultures of Sacred Violence and the Prophetic Critique of Sacrifice

Part II – Mimetic Theory and Theology in 2 sessions:
- January - Apocalypse and Eschatology
- February - The Cross and Atonement — from Retributive Justice to Restorative Justice

Part III – Mimetic Theory and the Prophetic in 3 sessions:
- March - Racism - Engaging Inequity in the Equity System
- April - Economics - Engaging Scarcity as Sacred Violence in the Prosperity System
- May - Militarism and Policing - Engaging the Sacred Violence in the Security System

3-Session Schedule: This option is offered for situations of further travel distance for Paul Nuechterlein (Kalamazoo, MI)
- Fall - Part I: Introduction to Mimetic Theory in 2.5-Day Session
- Winter - Part II: Mimetic Theory and Theology in 1.5-Day Session
- Spring - Part III: Mimetic Theory and the Prophetic in 2.5 Day Session

Paul Nuechterlein has been a student of Girard’s work for over twenty years. He has presented at multiple international conferences of The Colloquium on Violence and Religion, makes Mimetic Theory accessible through his website Girardian Reflections on the Lectionary (girardianlectionary.net), and is currently the Contributing Theologian for Theology and Peace, a para-church organization dedicated to “the application of René Girard’s groundbreaking work to subvert the matrix of human violence.”