## Missional Church: Being the Body of Christ

With
The Rev. Alexia Salvatierra

Hosted by The School of Theology, Missional Engagement Initiative\*

Effectively increasing parishes' capacity for transformational lay leadership

and mission development

#### Three Days – Three Opportunities

Saturday, October 1, 2016, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Otey Memorial Parish, St. Mark's Hall 216 University Ave., Sewanee, TN Open to All

#### Workshop Description:

With so many injustices, small and great, across the world and right at our doorstep, what are people of faith to do? What if Christians were to shape their missional engagement around the implications of the truth that God is real and Jesus is risen? Alexia Salvatierra has developed a model of social action that is rooted in the values and convictions born of faith.

A faith-rooted approach takes seriously the active agency of God's Spirit and our role in partnering with God to go beyond direct service to community development and organizing using approaches that are "wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

This session will focus on faith foundations and orientation as well as key faith-rooted tools for social transformation. It will also point towards how we inspire and equip people to do justice, as Micah 6.8 describes, and address issues such as recruitment, leadership development, mobilizing churches and sustaining the movement.

Sunday, October 2, 2016, 12:15 PM – 1:45 PM St. Paul's, Episcopal Church, Yo Room 305 West Seventh Street (at Pine), Chattanooga, TN Open to All

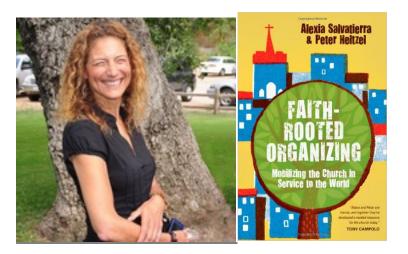
This will be an abbreviated version of the workshop held in Sewanee the previous day. Lunch will be provided, so please RSVP to The Rev. Brad Whitaker, Rector: whitaker@stpaulschatt.org.

Monday, October 3, 2016, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM "Transforming Congregations & Communities" Class 335 Tennessee Ave., Hamilton Hall The School of Theology, Sewanee

Available by Arrangement with Instructor
The Rev. Kammy Young
kmyoung@sewanee.edu

#### **Event Description:**

With the permission of the instructor, guests make join the *Transforming Congregations & Communities* class for Alexia Salvatierra's guest lecture in this semester-long interdisciplinary course which was collaboratively created by School of Theology faculty and students and adapted from the works of Marshall Ganz of Harvard University and the Direct Action & Research Training Center, Leadership Development Initiative. The course explores various biblical and theological perspectives on practices that use relational power to bring about political, economic, social and spiritual transformation. Please contact the Rev. Kammy Young for information about attending this class session so we can be sure to provide adequate space for those attending.



#### **About our Guest:**

The Rev. Alexia Salvatierra is the co-author of "Faith-Rooted Organizing" and currently serves as adjunct faculty for seven seminaries, in the U.S. and in Latin America. She is an ordained Lutheran priest with 35 years of experience in community ministry. She also trains, coaches and consults with a wide variety of national and international ministries, including World Vision, the Christian Community Development Association and Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. For over 20 years, she has been a national leader in the area of immigrant rights and the struggle for immigration reform. For over a decade, she was the Executive Director of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice of California, focused primarily on issues of working poverty. She is the proud mother of a 22-year-old activist. For more information please see her website: http://www.alexiasalvatierra.com/bio.html.

#### **Endorsements:**

"Alexia Salvatierra is the finest organizer of faith communities I know. Her skills range across academia, an international perspective, a keen eye for the needs of the poor, an enviable record of organizing for significant change, and her roots in Latino culture and theology."

-Rev. John Fife (Former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church and co-founder of the Sanctuary Movement)

"Rev. Alexia Salvatierra inspires and equips religious leaders for a deeper level of engagement and effectiveness, drawing on her own history of highly effective leadership. She is one of very few mentor-consultants who is able to link a strong theological grounding to a strong strategic focus. She can help other faith leaders avoid the disastrous but not uncommon pitfall of appearing to leave their faith behind when they enter the public square. In addition, few consultants in this field are as personally engaging or as pastorally sensitive as Rev. Salvatierra. People who work with her come out feeling energized at many levels. She is a remarkable thinker and teacher: one whose gifts and insights are well attuned to helping us all meet our 21st century challenges."

-Rev. Peter Laarman (Executive Director, Progressive Christians Uniting)

"Alexia and Peter are friends, and together they've developed a needed resource for the church today. In my lifetime organizing has never been more important and more effective than it is right now. But it's not enough to base our organizing in faith, it needs to be rooted deep down, and that's exactly what Alexia and Peter do. They take the reader step by step through how to effectively discern, recruit and follow through when organizing. They're pioneers! This book is a must-read for all in the church today who are concerned about their schools, towns, states and nation--and want to do something about it!"

- (Tony Campolo, founder of Red Letter Christians and professor emeritus, Eastern University)

\*The Missional Engagement Initiative (MEI) is a collaborative partnership between the School of Theology contextual education program, clergy, lay leaders, and their communities to develop spiritual leaders for God's dream of a just and reconciled creation.

MEI strives to enable us all to live more fully into our baptismal covenant.

Together, we are building bridges between the seminary and the world in which we serve in order to better facilitate the empowerment of parishes and their communities.

#### **Building the Body**

Strengthening our Capacity
To Follow the Jesus who Transforms the World



# Grounding our Work in God's Promise of Abundant Life

Pay close attention now: I'm creating a new heaven and a new earth. All the earlier troubles, chaos and pain are things of the past, to be forgotten. Look ahead with joy. Anticipate what I am creating; I'll create Jerusalem as sheer joy, create my people as pure delight. I'll take joy in Jerusalem, take delight in my people. No more sounds of weeping in the city, no cries of anguish; No more babies dying in the cradle, or old people who don't enjoy a full lifetime. One hundredth birthdays will be considered normal – anything less will seem like a cheat. They'll build houses and move in. They'll plant fields and eat what they grow. No more building a house that some outsider takes over. No more planting fields that some enemy confiscates. For my people will be as long-lived as trees, my chosen ones will have satisfaction in their work. They won't work and have nothing come of it; they won't have children snatched out from under them. For they themselves are plantings blessed by God, with their children and grandchildren likewise God-blessed. Before they call out, I'll answer. Before they finish speaking, I'll have heard.

Isaiah 65:17-24 (The Message)

#### Abundant Life – How to Get There

- What does the Lord God require of you, Oh Israel, but to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with your God?
- Celebrating acts of mercy
- · Going beyond mercy to include justice
- Biblical justice not just retributive, workplace, restorative but also familia justice (Leviticus 25, Luke 4:16-20 & Acts 2/4)
- In Scripture, Justice and mercy kiss...if we follow mercy all the way, it takes us to justice

#### Leviticus 25

You shall count off seven weeks[a] of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month—on the day of atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land. <sup>10</sup> And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family.

#### Isaiah 58

Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of injustice,
 to undo the thongs of the yoke,
 to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?

 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
 when you see the naked, to cover them,
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;

#### Luke 4:16-21

- 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
- 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
  He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
   19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
- <sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

#### Acts 2:44-47

• All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds<sup>[j]</sup> to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home<sup>[k]</sup> and ate their food with glad and generous<sup>[j]</sup> hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Following mercy to justice...

How does the World Break your heart?



## God's Broken Heart Seeing through the eyes of Jesus

- Matthew 9:35-37: Com-passion Seeing through Jesus' eyes...
- Not invisible any more...Luke 16
- Fully Visible Entertaining angels (Hebrews 13:2) and calling the outcasts (Mk. 2:17)
- Brothers and sisters in one Family (Ephesians 3:14-15)
- Now you are the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-26)
- Seeing the crowd
- ❖ How did Jesus respond? He gave it all
- ❖ Intelligent and effective love
- Not what are we required to give— What do we have the capacity to give? the heart of stewardship...

#### Responding to a World that Breaks our Hearts -- Tools for Change

- Giving a Fish Direct Service doing "for"
- Teaching people to Fish Individual Development
- Fishing Together Community Development (people doing it for themselves together – alternative systems)
- Removing the Barrier around the Pond Organizing and Advocacy (engaging the systems that affect our lives)
- Systems— laws, policies, structures
- Democracy = Participation in public decision-making about systems – vote, voice, influence
- ❖ Advocacy = influencing public decision-making



## Building the Body - 1 Cor. 12:12-27 Justice in the Process

- <sup>2</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is
  with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For wewere all baptized by<sup>§</sup> one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jaws
  or Gentiles, Jaw or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is
  not made up of one part but of many.
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  15 Now if the foot should say, "Becausel am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if theear should say, "Becausel am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. "If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? if the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as hewanted them to be. 19 if they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.
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  \*\*I heeye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" \*\*2 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, \*\*3 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, \*\*2 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, \*\*5 so that the reshould be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. \*\*2 if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.
- <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

## Power Sharing Acts 6:1-7

- In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews<sup>[2]</sup> among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widowswere being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."
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  <sup>5</sup> This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.
- 7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

#### Giving it All

**Direct Service**Community Development Broader Systems

Food Pantry Community Garden School Lunches
Tutoring Church-based Schools Equal Quality
Job Training Coops/Incubators Redlining
Shelter Habitat for Humanity Affordable HD
Parish Nurse Community Health Clinic Health Access

#### **Beyond Development -- Theories of Change**

Organizing - bringing people together to create systems change:

- Getting organizational entities to provide individuals the resources/opportunities they need to achieve their dreams (economic development – own the pond)
- Utilize civic processes to access legal rights
- Collaborate multi-sectorally (government, business, civil society) to mutually create policies and plans
- Engage community members in working together to influence public decision-making by applying a critical mass of pressure, using confrontation and negotiation
- Transform the processes used to make public decisions through cultural change, popular education and direct action

Faith-Rooted Organizing = as if God is real, in a way that is completely shaped by our faith, designed to enable people of faith to contribute all our gifts (not faith-based, faith-rooted)

#### **Motivating Participation**

Fanning the Flame – Up Close and Personal

- Barriers
- Called by Name know the name of your flame
- Whose pain moves you most?
- · What makes your heart sing?
- Where is the connection between your own deep gladness and the world's deep hunger?
- Are you carrying on a legacy? Passing one on?
- When and where did you first realize that there was a connection between faith and justice?
- What do you dream for your community?

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#### **Developing Leadership Teams**

- Body of Christ Exercise
- Fishing: Risk/Investment/Sacrifice, Support, Acknowledgement
- Healing the wounds created by oppression and privilege that perpetuate the system - "It" to "I", "I" to "We" (popular education)

## Leaders are Parts of the Body - Divine Purpose of Government

• 1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

<sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

and your poor with justice.

3 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

<sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

13 He has pity on the weak and the needy,

and saves the lives of the needy.

14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight. (Psalm 72)

### Mt. 10:18 - Wise as Serpents and Innocent as Doves

- Serpent Wisdom Luke 18:1-8:
- And he told them a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; <sup>3</sup> and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary.' <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow bothers me, I will windicate her, or she will wer me out by her continual coming?" <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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#### Serpent Power

- 1. Power = Force of law, Wealth, Influence, Numbers
- 2. Self-Interest and the Negotiation of Interests
- 3. Constituency, Connections and Case
- 4. Direct Communication
- 5. Indirect Communication
- 6. Escalation

## 2 Samuel 12:1-12

- <sup>1</sup> The LOBD sett Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "Them were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had a very large number of sheep and catife, b but the poor man had nothing except one little were lamb he had bught. He missed it, and it gree wur with him and his children. It shared his food, dank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the chim an refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one of the come of

- "I "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will lake your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight." You did in its except, but will do this thing in boost daylight-before all Israel."

  1º Then bavid said to Nathan, "I have simed against the LORD."

  Nathan spiled, "The LORD has kelen away yoursin." You are not going to die.

#### **Dove Power**

- Frederick Douglas power never cedes power without a struggle vs. the struggle in the soul
- Becoming an ally of the Holy Spirit
- Human beings not targets
- Poor have the power already



#### **Dove Power**

- ➤ Prayer
- ➤ Pastoral Support Chaplaincy encouragement
- ➤ Prophetic Call:
- 1. Re-member the Poor
- 2. Dreams and Visions
- 3. Exposing and Combatting Lies
- 4. Reaching both sides of the Brain (rainbows)

## Sustaining Leaders

- The Long View
- Supporting Families
- Creating Sabbath
- Victory, Lamentation and Hope
- Renewing Relationships



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- 1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
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- 6. Escalation

## 2 Samuel 12:1-12

- <sup>1</sup> The LOBD sett Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "Them were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had a very large number of sheep and catife, b but the poor man had nothing except one little were lamb he had bught. He missed it, and it gree wur with him and his children. It shared his food, dank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the chim an refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one of the come of

- "I "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will lake your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight." You did in its except, but will do this thing in boost daylight-before all Israel."

  1º Then bavid said to Nathan, "I have simed against the LORD."

  Nathan spiled, "The LORD has kelen away yoursin." You are not going to die.

#### **Dove Power**

- Frederick Douglas power never cedes power without a struggle vs. the struggle in the soul
- Becoming an ally of the Holy Spirit
- Human beings not targets
- Poor have the power already



#### **Dove Power**

- ➤ Prayer
- ➤ Pastoral Support Chaplaincy encouragement
- ➤ Prophetic Call:
- 1. Re-member the Poor
- 2. Dreams and Visions
- 3. Exposing and Combatting Lies
- 4. Reaching both sides of the Brain (rainbows)

## Sustaining Leaders

- The Long View
- Supporting Families
- Creating Sabbath
- Victory, Lamentation and Hope
- Renewing Relationships

