

A COURSE OFFERING
NEW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OF THE WEST



Pray Without Ceasing

Taught by
Dr. Janna Gosselin

Wednesday Evenings
July 26 – August 23, 2017
6:45 – 8:45 pm

Pasadena Presbyterian Church
626 Foothill Blvd.
La Canada, CA 91011

ntswest.org

\$10 Registration Fee

COURSE FEE

Credit: \$300
Pray Without Ceasing
(a 2-unit class)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Symonds
Director of Admissions
bsymonds@ntswest.org
(562) 674-8407

NTS West
54 N. Oakland Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 765-9500

Find us on Facebook



Pray Without Ceasing
You may register online at ntswest.org or fill in the form below and mail to:

NTS West
54 N. Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91101 (626) 765-9500

Credit \$300

Please include your \$10 Registration Fee and Course Fee - Thank You

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____



Pray Without Ceasing

This class will be live-streamed for online participation

“I have abandoned all particular forms of devotion, all prayer techniques. My only prayer practice is attention. I carry on a habitual, silent, and secret conversation with God that fills me with overwhelming joy.” –Brother Lawrence

Although Brother Lawrence claimed to have abandoned all prayer techniques to find a way to carry on this habitual, silent and secret conversation with God, most of us find it difficult to achieve this constant conversation with God without some form of devotion. In this class, we will consider the forms of devotion—the “prayer techniques”—that have helped Christians over the years to develop that sense the presence of God. Our analysis will hinge on two categories of prayer: cataphatic and apophatic prayer. We will examine the “cataphatic” approach by learning of methods of prayer expressed in Scripture, poetry and other types of “word” prayer. We will also consider the apophatic approach, which has included wordless prayer, silence and solitude to find and unite with God.

This class will examine both approaches by reading works written by or about both ancient and modern Christian prayer exemplars, including: Gregory of Nyssa, Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Brother Lawrence, Jonathan Edwards, Simone Weil, and Howard Thurman. We will also read some of the more obscure experts on prayer, including the Eastern Orthodox monks who originated the *Jesus Prayer* and the practice of hesychasm, as well as the Western monk who composed the *Meditationes Vita Christi* and the Puritan authors of the *Valley of Vision*.

For credit students, the class will for five weeks from July 26 to August 23 [10 hours] and continued for 10 more hours online in a variety of interactions.

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**La Canada Presbyterian Church
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Janna Gosselin earned her Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in the School of Religion. A lawyer with an M.A. in Theology from Fuller Seminary, she seamlessly navigates the academic world of medieval studies while offering popular courses in congregations across Southern California on Christian mystics.

Coming in Fall 2017:

**The Whole Bible for the Whole Church:
Part 1: Introduction to the Old Testament**

La Canada Presbyterian Church

**Leadership for the Church Today:
Theory and Practice**

Second Baptist Church, Santa Ana

**Introduction to Christian Belief
and Practice**

La Canada Presbyterian Church
and live-streamed

Basic Counseling Skills

Glendale Presbyterian Church

**A Commemoration of the 500th
Anniversary of the Reformation**

Glendale Presbyterian Church

*The **New Theological Seminary of the West** is a teaching/learning community of choice for those seeking a transformational education rooted in the Bible and Christian spirituality in order to serve the world in love and justice.*

NTS West offers a Biblically-centered education emphasizing missional theology, spiritual formation, and social justice to prepare you for service in the emerging church in diverse Southern California. The seminary provides a supportive environment to discover and enhance the gifts God has given you for your distinctive call to ministry.