STMM 593 Ethics in Ministry
July 25-29, 2011
9 AM – 4 PM
Marie M. Fortune

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance in class unless excused for illness or emergency

2. Required readings

3. Class participation in discussion and small group work

4. Written project of 5-7 pages (double-spaced) that will serve to educate others about the issues of boundaries and professional ethics:

due by beginning of class July 29

- a sermon to educate your congregation about the importance of healthy pastoral boundaries

- an op-ed piece for your local newspaper to express your point of view as a religious leader on the news report of a neighboring pastor accused of misconduct with members of the youth ministry

- an article for your denomination's magazine/newspaper in response to your denomination's policies/procedures addressing ministerial misconduct

- a rationale and suggested policy for your congregation addressing use of social networking technology by clergy and the church

Required texts: **Edelstein: *SEX AND THE SPIRITUAL TEACHER***
Fortune: *IS NOTHING SACRED?*
Peterson: *AT PERSONAL RISK*
A Sacred Trust: *Participant's Workbook*
Herman: *TRAUMA AND RECOVERY*

Optional text: **N. Poling, Ed.: *VICTIM TO SURVIVOR***

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Mon. July 25 Introductions and Expectations: **Bring your bible**

The Problem
Ethics, Power and Vulnerability
Bible Study

[Please hand in your 1 page description of a confusing boundary situation in ministry that you have observed, experienced or worried about AND a one page review of one of the required texts. Write as if you were reviewing the book for a magazine such as **Christian Century**.]

Tues. July 26 Healthy Boundaries and Healthy Ministry
A SACRED TRUST

Wed. July 27

- Boundary Complexities: Discussion with clergy colleagues
- Social Networking: Blessing or Curse?
- Consultations: How to create consultation for accountability -- Small group work

Fortune : "This Is Not About You": read article from participant's workbook and come prepared to discuss

Thurs. July 28 Policies and Practices
Intervention and Theology

[Bring your denominational or institutional policy on clergy ethics to discuss.**]**

F. Keene: "Structures of Forgiveness . . ." [HANDOUT]

Fri. July 29 **[Papers due at beginning of class. Include stamped, self-addressed envelope if you want your paper returned.]**

Child Abuse

- **M. Fortune: "Reporting Child Abuse: An Ethical Mandate for Ministry" [HANDOUT]**
- **Adams: "When the Abuser is Among Us" [HANDOUT]**