

## Theology of the Body

As Christians continue to grapple with issues of human sexuality, marriage, and the sanctity of life, we have often failed to give serious consideration to some foundational theological questions:

*What is the real dignity of the created human person?*

*Why were we created male and female, and what does that teach us about God?*

*What is the deepest meaning of human sexuality, and how does spousal love reflect divine love?*

From 1979-1984, Pope John Paul II explored these and other topics in a series of Wednesday audiences that have become one of his major teaching legacies — *Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan*.

Papal biographer George Weigel described *Theology of the Body* (TOB) as

*“... a resource for Christians who wish to understand more fully the beauty of the fact that we are flesh, and thereby come to a deeper appreciation of fleshly desire and fleshly pleasure as gifts of God.”*

Over the last decade, TOB has become an indispensable resource for Christians who would challenge post-modern culture’s assumption: that our bodies are nothing more than material objects to be used (or abused) for personal pleasure or convenience.

Join us for this time of theological reflection, as we discover the riches of John Paul’s teachings for our lives and churches.

A Seminar for Clergy and Laity

# Theology of the Body

An Ecumenical Introduction  
to John Paul II’s Teaching



**May 21, 2009**

(Ascension of the Lord)

**9:30 AM—5:00 PM**

**Sheraton Hotel and Marina**

**100 Middle Street**

**New Bern, NC 28560**

Sponsored by Lifewatch,  
New Bern District of The United Methodist Church,  
and Transforming Congregations

# Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: work: \_\_\_\_\_ home: \_\_\_\_\_ cell: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I request 1.0 CEU credit for participating in this event.

To register for this event, please send this completed form and a \$30 check (made payable to St. Peter's United Methodist Church) to: St. Peter's United Methodist Church, 111 Hodges Street, Morehead City NC 28557.

Lunch and refreshments are included in the registration fee.

## Keynote Speaker



Dr. Paul J. Griffiths is the Warren Professor of Catholic Theology at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina.

A native of England, Dr.

Griffiths has lived and studied in the USA since 1980. He has held academic positions at the University of Notre Dame (1986-1990), the University of Chicago (1984-1986, 1990-2000), and the University of Illinois at Chicago (2000-2007).

With special interest in the philosophical and political questions that arise from religious diversity, he has been a frequent contributor to *FIRST THINGS: A Journal of Religion, Culture, and Public Life*. He is also the author, co-author, or editor of 15 scholarly works, the most recent being *Reason and the Reasons of Faith* (T. & T. Clark, 2005) with Reinhard Hutter and *Lying: An Augustinian Theology of Duplicity* (Brazos Press, 2004).

A former Anglican, Dr. Griffiths and his family joined the Roman Catholic Church in 1996.

## Hotel Information

To reserve a room at the Sheraton, at a special rate (\$149—\$179) in a Lifewatch block, please call (800-326-3745 or 252-638-3585 and ask for reservations). This offer ends April 15.

Other nearby hotels: BridgePointe Hotel and Marina (877-283-7713), Comfort Suites Riverfront Park (252-636-0022), and Days Inn Hotel (252-636-0150).

## Getting to New Bern

**Flying:** Coastal Carolina Regional Airport, which is served by US Airways Express and Delta Connection, is in New Bern. Other nearby airports in NC include Jacksonville, Wilmington, and Raleigh.

**Driving:** From Highway 70, take exit #416 and follow US 17 Business (Broad Street) to the downtown area. Turn right on Middle Street and follow it three blocks to the hotel complex.

## About the Event Sponsors

Lifewatch serves the Gospel of Life within The United Methodist Church.

The New Bern District includes 67 congregations and 63 pastors, and its District Superintendent is Rev. Dennis M. Goodwin.

Transforming Congregations' mission is to equip the Church to model and minister sanctified sexuality. (1 Thessalonians 4:1-7)