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If you would like more information or have interest in facilitating a future program, please contact [facdev@messiah.edu](mailto:facdev@messiah.edu) or stop by our office in Boyer 101.

# Professional Learning Opportunities



# SPRING 2026 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

## *Office of Faculty Development*

### *Everyday Christian Teaching: A Guide to Practicing Faith in the Classroom*

By David Smith

In his new book, David I. Smith invites Christian teachers to notice the everyday movements of the school year and see how routine moments—setting expectations, introducing material, assigning tasks, revisiting ideas, pausing, and wrapping up—can reflect and be shaped by faith. Expanding the practical direction of his earlier *On Christian Teaching*, Smith offers clear and grounded guidance for paying attention to the small habits that quietly define classroom life. This PLC will encourage educators to learn together, discovering how steady, intentional practices can gradually reshape their teaching in life-giving, faith-formed ways.

#### **Facilitator:**

**Anne Reeve**, Professor of Chemistry

#### **Dates and Times:**

Tuesday, January 27 .....	9:30-10:20
Tuesday, February 3 .....	9:30-10:20
Tuesday, February 17 .....	9:30-10:20
Tuesday, February 24 .....	9:30-10:20
Tuesday, March 3 .....	9:30-10:20

**Meeting Space:** Boyer, 102

*with remote option*

### *Uncommon Sense Teaching: Practical Insights in Brain Science to Help Students Learn*

by Barbara Oakley, Beth Rogowsky, and Terry Sejnowski

Join us as we explore *Uncommon Sense Teaching*, a fresh, brain-based approach to instruction that helps students learn more effectively with less frustration, for them *and* us. Together we'll unpack practical strategies rooted in neuroscience, discuss how to support different learning pathways, and try simple shifts that make a big impact in the classroom. This PLC will focus on real examples, easy implementation, and meaningful reflection to elevate teaching and learning.

#### **Facilitator:**

**Krystal Robinson-Bert**, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

#### **Dates and Times:**

Monday, January 26.....	10:00-10:50
Monday, February 2.....	10:00-10:50
Monday, February 9.....	10:00-10:50
Monday, February 16.....	10:00-10:50
Monday, February 23.....	10:00-10:50

**Meeting Space:** Boyer, 102

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#### **TO REGISTER:**

Please contact Elise Buchanan (ebuchanan@messiah.edu or ext.2035) to reserve your space. The PLC text is included with registration. Open until filled, preferred registration deadline is **January 19th**.