**Faith Time Lines Exercise**

Preparatory readings for this exercise are drawn from the following books: Krista Tippett, *Speaking of Faith* (Viking, 2007), Barbara Brown Taylor, *The Preaching Life* (Cowley Publications, 1993), Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak* (Jossey Bass, 1999), and an online video *I Am Second*. Tippet is a journalist; Taylor is a preacher and teacher; Palmer is a Quaker writer and speaker; the video is by the rapper Propaganda. You may use any or all of these excerpts to inform your own interpretation of the exercise. They provide models of autobiographical reflection that places one’s life story on a broader canvas of the religious and historical context of one’s times. The articles are on the Canvas page for REL 3986 for you to reference.

The exercise is designed not only for your sake but also for the sake of your Practicum group members who will be your learning community during your internship. The goals of this exercise are for you to make connections between your own faith story and wider historical events, and for your group to know something about events and relationships that have shaped your ministerial identity prior to YDS.

After reading or listening to the autobiographical essay(s), create a double time line of your life. Both time lines will start with the year of your birth and continue to the present. The top time line will represent significant events in secular and religious history. The corresponding bottom line will represent your journey in faith. Examples of similar timelines are provided in the Tippet and Brown articles.

**Bring your timelines** to class on the due date. Be prepared to share your story within a 5-10 minute framework.