Biblical Scholar Obery Hendricks to Speak at UD's Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast

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DAYTON, Ohio — A groundbreaking biblical scholar will speak at the University of Dayton's Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, in the Kennedy Union Ballroom.

The speaker, Obery M. Hendricks, president and associate professor of New Testament at Payne Theological Seminary, is, according to social critic Cornel West, "not just on the cutting edge; he's the knife."

The prayer breakfast is open to the public, but there is limited seating. Tickets cost $6 and must be purchased in advance by calling (937) 229-3634.

Hendricks' awards include the E.I. Wailes Memorial Prize in New Testament from Princeton Theological Seminary and selection as Outstanding Biblical Scholar of 1994 by the Fund for Theological Education. He has been a guest lecturer at Harvard Divinity School and Emory Divinity School.

Known for his ideological-political readings of the Bible, Hendricks published an article, "Guerrilla Exegesis: 'Struggle' as a Scholarly Vocation — A Postmodern Approach to African-American Biblical Interpretation," which scholars credit as sending black biblical interpretation in a new direction. He has three books forthcoming about the Gospel of John.

Hendricks received a bachelor of arts degree from Rutgers University, a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a master of arts degree from Princeton University. He holds a doctorate of philosophy in New Testament and early Christianity from Princeton. Hendricks has served as professor of New Testament and Christian origins at Drew University and New York Theological Seminary and is an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

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For more information, contact Kathleen Henderson, director of diverse student populations, at (937) 229-3634.