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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kincaid's review appears in the Christian Century

INDIANAPOLIS (July 21, 2010) – A desire to help ministers progress beyond managers into leaders prompted Christian Theological Seminary's Bill Kincaid to review the book *The Practice of Adaptive Leadership: Tools and Tactics for Changing Your Organization and the World* by Ronald Heifetz, Alexander Grashow and Marty Linsky. A desire to share Kincaid's observations with the magazine's international readership of more than 56,000 people prompted the editors of the Christian Century to include his review in their most recent issue of the magazine.

"I thought this book, of all of Heifetz' work, needed to be read and considered by leaders of faith communities and by those engaged in practical theology," says Kincaid.

Kincaid's review appears in the July 13, 2010 issue of the Christian Century. In publication for more than 100 years, the biweekly magazine is considered by many to be the journal of record for American Protestants. In addition to the print version, the review can be viewed online at <http://www.christiancentury.org/article.lasso?id=8588>.

The Practice of Adaptive Leadership is a key text used in Introduction to Christian Ministry, the course taken concurrently by students during their first year of "field education" at CTS, according to Kincaid. In addition to being the director of field education at CTS, Kincaid is assistant professor of Christian ministries.

Kincaid says the authors' descriptions of secular organizations and institutions applies to the church, as well. He explains that leaders are often much better at diagnosing situations and making interpretations about them than at developing and implementing strategies for change. This tendency is no less true for ministers, says Kincaid.

“Most of our students experience a call to ministry as a call to make things different – more just, more compassionate, more inclusive, more hopeful – but once they are in congregational systems the status quo presses upon them from every side and their dreams for ministry, rooted in what God desires for the world, often get lost,” he says. “That shouldn’t be the case and this material is one way of ensuring that it isn’t. Even though there are things to manage in ministry, we are forming leaders in faith. We want to keep that before us.”

Christian Theological Seminary is a fully-accredited ecumenical seminary related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that includes faculty and students from many religious groups. CTS offers eight graduate level degrees and many programs for individuals interested in exploring sacred traditions.

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