

# CITY SEMINARY OF NEW YORK

Becoming God's peace in our  
neighborhood, city, and world

This initiative is directed by Rev. Dr. Mark R. Gornik and Dr. Maria Liu Wong, and coordinated by Rev. Dr. Geomon George. The facilitator team also includes Rev. Dr. Adebisi Oyesile, Rev. Dr. Huibing He, Minister Miriam Ruiz-Acevedo, and Rev. Vivian Grubb and others.

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This initiative is generously funded  
by the Lilly Endowment Inc.

# Thriving in Ministry

Become part of a growing community of pastoral ministry and leadership practice across church traditions and networks in the metropolitan New York area. The goal of the Thriving in Ministry initiative at City Seminary of New York is to walk alongside pastors from the diverse Body of Christ in our city to nurture networks of mutual support, care, and well-being in a complex and ever-changing urban context.

Whether you are new to pastoral leadership, seeking peers who have been pastoring for several years, or are transitioning into retirement, and serve in New York, this is for you!

Participate in  
a number of  
different ways at  
no cost to you.

**2020**

**We need others...to instill trust in ourselves, because they see in us gifts and capacities that we do not always see...What is important is that people be helped to grow to fulfillment.**

Jean Vanier

### **Spiritual Direction Retreats**

Attend a one-day retreat for time and space for prayer, contemplation on Scripture, and spiritual renewal at City Seminary's Hope Campus in Harlem. Led by a spiritual director, meet God anew during personal time and in fellowship with others. Gain perspective for your journey. Fall retreat open to families.

**Friday / Saturday 9 AM – 3 PM**  
(Central Harlem, Manhattan)

**Reflective Praxis Groups** Join a group of three to four pastors working through individual ministry or leadership challenges over five sessions of prayer, conversation, and fellowship. These groups meet on alternating weeks from March through May, and are facilitated by seminary faculty.

**Tuesdays 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**  
(Central Harlem, Manhattan)

**Thursdays 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**  
(Lower East Side, Manhattan)

### **Pastoral Conversation Collaborative Inquiry Groups**

Take a season of life and ministry to explore more in depth a compelling question around thriving in ministry, chosen together with a group of fellow pastors from diverse church networks. Groups meet approximately one to two times a month over four to six months, and incorporate an action-reflection process that generates new ways of understanding and experiencing ministry. The groups are co-led by participants. Once you have completed one round (you may complete multiple rounds), you may have the opportunity to initiate a new group with others. Coaching is provided by seminary staff.

**Tuesdays / Wednesdays / Thursdays**

(by invitation)

**9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**

**Other times tba**

# **Join in the conversation.**

### **Pastoral Portraits**

Each year, we invite eight pastors (four women and four men) into deeper conversations around their formation as a pastor, practice of and hopes for a thriving ministry. These conversations are documented as written portraits for use as resources to share a theology of story, seeing the many ways that pastoral ministry may look in individual lives and the connections that can be made across networks.

### **Annual Reunion**

Our fall reunion brings together all participants of our Thriving in Ministry initiative for a time of prayer, worship, reflection, and celebration of how God has been in our midst for the past year. This gathering includes good food and good fellowship, and opportunities to network with and build new and lasting friendships with pastors from the diverse Body of Christ in New York City.

**Monday (by invitation)**

**5 PM – 9 PM**

### **UPCOMING DATES**

#### **Spiritual Direction Retreats**

March 20  
September 26

#### **Reflective Praxis Groups**

##### **Tuesdays**

March 3, 17, 31  
April 21  
May 5

##### **Thursdays**

March 12, 26  
April 16, 30  
May 14

#### **Pastoral Conversation Collaborative Inquiry Groups**

##### **Tuesdays / Wednesdays**

**Thursdays (by invitation)**  
March - October

#### **Annual Reunion**

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