

# 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.

For more information, please contact Rev. Dr. Geomon George at [learning@cityseminaryny.org](mailto:learning@cityseminaryny.org).

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# 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

**Connecting with one another helps us create a new story together...to imagine stories of co-creation with God in partnership with one another.**

Elizabeth Conde-Frazier

### **Spiritual Direction Retreats**

Attend a half-day retreat for time and space for prayer, contemplation on Scripture, and spiritual renewal through Zoom (with offline activities). Led by a spiritual director, meet God anew during personal time as well as in fellowship with other pastors. Gain perspective and rest for your journey.

**Fridays 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**  
(Virtually via Zoom and offline)

### **Reflective Praxis Groups**

Join a group of three to four pastors / ministry leaders working through individual ministry or leadership challenges over five sessions of prayer, conversation, and fellowship. These groups meet for 5 1/2 hour sessions weekly or bi-weekly during fall, summer and spring, and are facilitated by seminary faculty. This year we host groups for single / mixed gender as well as pastoral couples.

**Dates by arrangement**  
(Virtually via Zoom)

### **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 / ministry leaders from diverse church networks. Groups meet approximately one to two times a month over four to ten 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 may be provided by seminary staff. This year we are single / mixed gender groups.

**Dates by arrangement**  
(Virtually via Zoom)

## **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 (meal giftcard!) 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)  
**6:00 PM – 8:30 PM**  
(Virtually via Zoom)

### **UPCOMING DATES**

#### **Spiritual Direction Retreats**

October 23, 2020  
November 20, 2020

#### **Reflective Praxis Groups**

Dates tba

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

**Mondays PM**  
**Tuesdays PM**  
**Wednesdays AM**  
**Thursdays AM / PM**  
(by invitation)

**Annual Reunion**  
December 7, 2020