

THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITED METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS

Dear United Methodist Leader,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from the thirteen official seminaries of The United Methodist Church (UMC). Collectively we are known as the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools (AUMTS). We are deeply dedicated to the UMC and to forming its leaders for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We write to commend the attached report submitted to the AUMTS by the Rev. Dr. Dan Aleshire, fellow United Methodist and recently retired Executive Director of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). An organization with a membership of more than 270 seminaries in the United States and Canada, ATS is one of three accrediting bodies who hold our thirteen UMC schools of theology accountable to the highest standards in theological education, and Dr. Aleshire is one of the most respected leaders in theological education.

AUMTS commissioned this study of the thirteen UMC seminaries to address three questions:

1. What is the place of the thirteen UMC schools in the larger ecosystem of theological education in the United States, including the other 38 schools recognized by the University Senate for the education of United Methodist ministers?
2. What is the sustainability of a system of thirteen institutions with official support from the Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) of The United Methodist Church?
3. What is the contribution that UMC seminaries make to the witness and ministry of The UMC?

AUMTS commissioned this report in part to assist the denomination in better understanding who we are and what we do within the higher education and denominational contexts within which our thirteen schools function. We also wanted an external perspective on the schools to clarify our strengths, our vulnerabilities, and our needs in faithfully serving the church now and in the future.

Dr. Aleshire visited all thirteen campuses, conducted extensive interviews with the chief executive officers (presidents and deans), other school administrators, trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, episcopal leaders, district superintendents, and staff of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM). With our permission, he consulted the substantial data submitted annually by each school to the ATS and the data regarding UMC ministerial candidates and ordinands that GBHEM collects from our schools and annual conferences.

In separate chapters, the report addresses: the history and context of UMC theological schools, the thirteen official schools as a *system* of UMC theological schools, the thirteen schools as individual institutions, the 38 additional seminaries the UMC University Senate has approved for those seeking ordination in the UMC, and American Protestant theological education. The study also reviewed extensive financial data for each school, including MEF contributions from the UMC. The report concludes with findings emerging from the analyses.

A few key conclusions:

1. A deep Wesleyan theology and ethos pervades the campuses of the thirteen official seminaries. As Aleshire puts it, “these schools are Wesleyan in their bones...” We educate about 60% of (primarily US) UMC students enrolled in Master of Divinity degree programs as they seek ordination in the UMC, and about 60% of all (predominately US) ordinands are educated at our schools. Our faculties overall are 46% UMC (and 60% Wesleyan), and we employ 52% of UMC faculty teaching in all US seminaries. All the other 38 University Senate approved seminaries combined have only 9% UMC faculty. Chapel worship across our schools embodies the Methodist tradition and reflects the range of UMC liturgical practices. Aleshire states, “The thirteen schools...are pervasively United Methodist...Ethos can be taught, no doubt, but perhaps more importantly, it is ‘caught’ – carried from persons to persons.”
2. As is the Wesleyan tradition, the thirteen are also self-consciously ecumenical in thought and practice, teaching students from a wide array of denominations.
3. The thirteen are forming leaders for the future, not the past. Our student bodies overall are far younger and much more racially diverse than the UMC. Half of our UMC students are women. We are deeply committed to racial justice and to the equality of women. Historically we pioneered work to achieve racial equality and women’s full inclusion and continue to do so today. We systematically and enthusiastically engage and support new models of ministry every day.
4. The thirteen schools are very diverse in many ways, including that they reflect the full theological diversity of the UMC. Each school embodies its own range of styles and specialties, yet all thirteen are dedicated to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Through their PhD programs, many of the thirteen educate future faculty who will populate not only UMC and other seminaries, but also UMC-related colleges and universities all over the world.
5. Overall, the thirteen seminaries provide far more resources to the UMC than we receive from it through annual MEF allocations. This is most strikingly evident in scholarships we provide for students; leadership our faculties provide in local churches, annual conferences, and national and international denominational arenas and agencies; and our subsidies for the denomination’s Course of Study. In discussing the MEF, Aleshire points out that “the thirteen United Methodist seminaries bring in large amounts of financial resources from beyond the denomination to pay for the preparation of United Methodist clergy and lay leaders in the United States. And [they] provide the second largest source of funds for the preparation of United Methodist clergy from outside the US [i.e., second only to the Central Conference Theological Education Fund]...What other United Methodist organization is producing such a large net return on investment?”
6. MEF is a crucial material connection that the thirteen official seminaries and their students have with the denomination. We are proud of the historic commitment to MEF as one of the key indicators of the UMC dedication to an educated clergy. It is a crucial source of support for the schools, without which some would be in serious financial jeopardy. Moreover, loss of or radical reductions in MEF undercut the basic economic foundation for students who

are seeking ordination, adding to their financial hardship and debt. Overall, Aleshire concludes that “Most of the schools could likely find their way to a financial future that includes reduced MEF income, but denominational funding has value beyond its absolute amount. Its presence solidifies connections and its absence strains those connections, and weakened connections could be the more difficult to overcome than reduced revenue.”

7. Are there too many seminaries? The study says maybe, but maybe not. Many factors must be considered in answering this question, and they are discussed in Aleshire’s report. He notes, however, that per capita, the UMC has fewer seminaries than any other Protestant denomination. All thirteen have experienced substantial financial stress and across the last decade have reduced faculty, staff, and other non-scholarship expenditures (including for some radical reductions in the property they own), all while creatively innovating curriculum and pedagogy. For example, almost all provide online learning in one form or another.
8. We are highly regulated, and the outcomes we produce are continuously studied and evaluated by ourselves and our accreditors. As institutions of higher education that serve the church, we always welcome careful and critical analysis of what we do, which is why we commissioned the study.
9. The Wesleyan tradition is practiced by many people and institutions across the UMC, thanks be to God! The seminaries, however, are keepers of the “intellectual soul” of the Wesleyan faith through faculty who confirm and debate the meaning of Wesleyan theology and history and who teach generations of UMC ministers, as well as through library collections that chronicle the history of Wesleyan thought and life. The thirteen schools “remember what has been given in the past, test past thought in the context of present realities, ...curate future possibilities, and ... do all three in the presence of students who will lead the continuing extension of the church’s work.”

AUMTS will seek to draw further insight from this comprehensive report. We will use it to improve our individual and collective offerings of theological education so we may serve the church and the world to which we are called to minister. Methodism offers a profound legacy of theological education that responds to diverse contexts and times. The AUMTS is committed to maintain that historic legacy and characteristic openness to change for the sake of more effective ministries around the world.

We commend this report to you with the hope you will take time to read and review it. We believe it provides data and analysis crucial to addressing the UMC’s vision and urgent priority of *developing principled Christian leaders* dedicated to the Wesleyan tradition.

We will continue to pray for you as a leader in the UMC and ask that you pray for our schools, as together we discern the future to which God calls us.

Respectfully submitted,

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Your partnership, prayers, and support are a cherished gift as BUSTH seeks to serve the church and the world! In a year like 2023, BUSTH's commitments to equip transformational leaders for peace and justice are all the more necessary and significant. We are hopeful and vigilant in our continued partnership with you.

NEWS:

BU and is active in the Green Seminary Initiative.

- **Students:** Our academic year 2023-24 entering class was among our most diverse, with 86 new students enrolling, 34% of whom are international students.
- **Faculty:** In September we welcomed visiting faculty member David Anderson Hooker, Visiting Associate Professor of Religion and Conflict Transformation. Two new faculty searches are underway—an Assistant Professor of Religion and Society and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Religion and Black Studies.
- **Expanding Online Programming:** BUSTH's first fully online master's degree—the Master of Religion and Public Leadership (MARPL)—continues to expand after welcoming its first students in fall 2022. MARPL seeks students who wish to be prepared for leadership roles that creatively engage the challenges of public life. Learn more at bu.edu/sth/marpl.
- **Faculty Research:** Associate Dean Cristian De La Rosa received a Lilly Parenting Grant for \$1.25 million. Our faculty members published more than 75 books, scholarly articles, op-eds, and book reviews during 2023. Many were interviewed by media publications for their work on academics and activism, fat liberation, caring for creation, responding to congregational trauma, and the spread of Christianity in Africa. Selected stories can be found at bu.edu/sth/research/faculty-research/.
- **Scholarships:** We continue to offer free tuition to UMC-registered candidates for ordained ministry and leadership fellowships that support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies. New funds include the Research & Teaching Fund and Affirmation & Empowerment Fund. We have newly endowed funds for DEI, Theology & the Arts, and Doctor of Ministry.
- **Accreditation and Curriculum:** BUSTH received a renewed full and unqualified listing by the University Senate of the United Methodist Church. BUSTH is concluding a curriculum review for the MDiv and MTS programs which will launch in fall 2024.
- **Online Lifelong Learning:** BUSTH offers online courses for professional and spiritual enrichment of religious leaders. Recent offerings include “Sustaining Spirits while Empires Crumble” and “Preaching Mark with Different Voices.” To learn more, visit bu.edu/sth/oll.
- **Development:** Recent accomplishments include endowing the Faith and Ecological Justice Fund, and new funding for student scholarships and academic programs.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE and COMPASSION:

- BUSTH's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers webinars on timely inclusion efforts, such as “Increasing Participation of Students of Under-represented Backgrounds.”

- This year's Lowell Lecture topics explore the role and responses of theological education for the challenges of today with lectures from Rev. Dr. Ted Smith (fall) and Dr. Keri Day (spring).
- Work continues to improve accessibility, sustainability, and responsible investing as written in our 2030 Strategic Plan. BUSTH is the first certified Green School at BU and is active in the Green Seminary Initiative.

With faith and gratitude,
G. Sujin Pak, Dean

DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Drew University Theological School educates and mentors pastors, preachers, deacons, activists, teachers, thought leaders, and change agents for ministry and service in the church and society. Drew Theological School is diverse in theology, vocations, age, as well as racial, ethnic, national, and international identities. Many Drew students are just beginning their ministry, while others come to graduate theological education with prior ministry experience. The latter reflects a growing trend among all theological schools in the United States and Canada. Drew holds in-person classes in Madison, New Jersey, several classes meet exclusively online, while other meet in hybrid fashion, i.e., partially online, partially in-person. This is also the case with chapel worship which originates in Seminary Hall, but also is live-streamed so that students around the world participate. Drew Theological School is a global seminary with a global student population serving the worldwide church.

In Fall 2023 Drew Theological School welcomed 104 new students in all degree programs, with total student enrollment (by head count) growing from 364 students in Fall 2021 to 407 in Fall 2023 semester. Enrollment of international students at Drew increased from 120 students in Fall 2021 to 169 students in Fall 2023. This number includes students who are studying full-time in the U.S.A. on a student Visa, students who are studying online from their home country, and students in the South Korean Cohort of the Doctor of Ministry program.

Drew's interdisciplinary degree programs provide real-world apprenticeships, promotes adaptive leadership skills, and encourages innovation through team-taught core courses as well as a variety of electives that integrate theological disciplines and faith practices. The Drew faculty's shared values are infused across all aspects of the teaching and learning: 1) a commitment to anti-racism; 2) gender and sexual-identity equality; 3) eco-sustainability and environmental justice; and 4) interfaith understanding and cooperation. Drew Theological School has an increase in United Methodist students, additionally, Drew has many United Methodist Global Fellows pursuing further education for ministry. UMC graduates are serving in conferences across the United States, and especially within our nearby regional United Methodist conferences of Greater New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and New York Annual Conference.

Rev. Edwin David Aponte, PhD, ThD (honorary)
Dean and Professor of Religion & Culture

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Duke Divinity School can attest to the work of God's Spirit to usher us into a season of hope and continued faithfulness to the mission and calling to serve the church, academy, and the world. In 2023, the Duke University president and provost appointed Dean Edgardo Colón-Emeric for a full five-year term. In his Opening Convocation sermon, he stated: "This year marks the 25th anniversary of my ordination in the United Methodist Church. This is the school that prepared me. Today, I give God thanks for still allowing me to serve as a minister of the gospel and I renew the vow I made when I was installed as dean. By the grace of God and en conjunto with you, I will uphold this school's 'commitment to God and the people of God, to the highest standards of academic excellence, and to this university.'"

In the next three years, we will celebrate a number of centennial milestones: Duke University and The Duke Endowment (2024), the 17th centennial of the Council of Nicaea (2025), and Duke Divinity School (2026). As a foretaste of those occasions to reflect and celebrate, we have had two important milestone celebrations in 2023. The Office of Black Church Studies (OBCS) commemorated its 50th anniversary, an occasion to rejoice in all that God has done through OBCS to bless our Duke Divinity community and to extend the gifts from the Black Church to the whole church. As just one example of the impact and influence from OBCS, the Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale (D'79) received Duke University's Distinguished Alumni Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions in ministry and service.

The Hispanic House of Studies (HHS) celebrated its quinceañera (15th anniversary), another opportunity to have our hope buoyed by God's work in our midst. HHS was created by the Divinity School, with support from The Duke Endowment, to support the formation of ministers to Hispanic/Latinx congregations and communities in the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Annual Conferences and beyond. These efforts are not confined to a limited silo but extend throughout our academic and ministerial programs. For instance, we now offer the "Rediscovering the Heart of Methodism" course in Spanish on Divinity+, an online resource that is widely available for ministers and congregations.

This fall, we welcomed 215 entering students from 35 different states as well as new community members who hold either primary or secondary citizenship in 16 other countries including Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, India, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Russia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Zimbabwe. The Master of Divinity program gained 104 new students, with 54 residential students and 50 in the hybrid program. The Master of Arts in Christian Practice enrolled 13 new students; the Doctor of Ministry, 22; Master of Theology, 11; Master of Theological Studies, 29; the Doctor of Theology welcomed five new students to campus, and five special students enrolled. The Certificate in Theology and Health Care welcomed 11 residential students to campus and 15 in the hybrid program. Across all degree programs at the Divinity School, 31 percent of the incoming class identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. Black students made up 21 percent of all students; Latinx students, seven percent. Fifty-four percent of students in the incoming class identify as female. There were 25 denominations represented in the M.Div. entering class, with 26 percent affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Baptists made up 10 percent of the incoming students; Anglican or Episcopal students, 10 percent; and nondenominational students, 12 percent.

Duke Divinity School continues to invest in pathways to support Methodist leadership and pastoral formation. Divinity+ launched the Church Administration series focused on developing practical skills for church leaders. More than 1,000 learners have enrolled in the first two courses, “Theology and Time Management” and “Strategic Management.” We inaugurated the Certificate in Chaplaincy, designed to prepare students to provide spiritual care in a variety of settings such as hospitals, hospice, prisons, higher education, and the military. The certificate can be earned as part of the residential M.Div., Th.M., and M.T.S. degree programs.

The school has also welcomed new leaders who bring their gifts to the work of advancing the mission to serve Christ and the church. Two houses have appointed new directors: the Office of Black Church Studies is led by the Rev. Dr. Eric Lewis Williams (D’05), assistant professor of theology and Black Church Studies; and the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies has named the Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough (D’83), Jack and Barbara Bovender Professor of the Practice of Anglican Studies. Key members who have joined our staff team include Anita Lumpkin, executive director of enrollment management; and the Rev. Sarah Belles, a Duke Divinity alumna and ordained elder in full connection with the Western North Carolina Annual Conference, as the director of student life.

Several new programs demonstrate Duke’s sustained commitment to connecting with churches and ministers. With gratitude to funding from the Lilly Endowment, the Divinity School has launched the Transformative Preaching Lab to prepare creative, culturally competent preachers who can reach audiences in effective and engaging ways. It will expand preaching training for students in the hybrid modality of the M.Div. program with new courses and preaching laboratories along with new capacities to explore and engage digital tools for community worship and preaching. The Transformative Preaching Lab also provides new opportunities for formation in trauma-informed preaching and preaching in immigrant communities, issues that are especially salient in communities across the country and around the world.

The Theology, Medicine, and Culture initiative has launched the Mental Health Track for Christian mental health practitioners as part of its Certificate in Theology and Health Care. This hybrid certificate program offers spiritual and theological formation for mental health clinicians in a range of disciplines. The research and programming from other Duke Divinity initiatives, including Theology, Medicine, and Culture; Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts; Leadership Education at Duke Divinity; and Thriving Rural Communities, continue to provide numerous opportunities to bear witness to God’s creativity, compassion, and care for communities and congregations.

Duke Divinity School continues to be grateful for our ongoing participation in The United Methodist Church and partnership with this annual conference. We look forward to our ongoing work with you as we join the leading of God’s Spirit in the task of preparing people for Christian ministry. To learn more about Duke Divinity School, please visit our website at www.divinity.duke.edu.

Respectfully submitted by Edgardo Colón-Emeric
Dean of Duke Divinity School

ESCUELA DE DIVINIDAD DE DUKE REPORTE A LA CONFERENCIA ANUAL 2024

La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke puede dar fe de la obra del Espíritu de Dios para llevarnos a una etapa de esperanza y continua fidelidad a la misión y el llamado de servir a la iglesia, la academia, y al mundo. En el 2023, el presidente y rector de la Universidad de Duke asignó al Decano Edgardo Colón-Emeric por un término completo de cinco años. En su sermón de la Asamblea de Apertura, indicó: “Este año marca el 25 aniversario de mi ordenación en la Iglesia Metodista Unida. Esta es la escuela que me preparó. Hoy, agradezco a Dios por aún permitirme servir como ministro del evangelio y renuevo el voto que realicé cuando fui instituido como decano. Por la gracia de Dios y en conjunto con ustedes, yo elevaré el compromiso de esta escuela con ‘Dios y con el pueblo de Dios, a los más altos estándares de excelencia académica, y a esta universidad’.”

En los siguientes tres años, celebraremos varios hitos de centenario: el de la Universidad de Duke y el de La Dotación Duke (2024), el centenario número 17 del Concilio de Nicea (2025), y el de la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke (2026). Como muestra de esas ocasiones para reflexionar y celebrar, hemos tenido la celebración de dos hitos importantes en el 2023. La Oficina de Estudios de la Iglesia Negra (OEIN) conmemoró su aniversario número 50, una ocasión para alegrarse de todo lo que ha hecho Dios a través de OEIN para bendecir a nuestra comunidad de la Escuela de Divinidad y para extender los dones de la Iglesia Negra a la iglesia en su totalidad. Tan solo como un ejemplo del impacto y la influencia de la OEIN, la Rev. Dra. Cynthia Hale (D’79) recibió el Premio al Alumno Egresado Distinguido de la Universidad de Duke en reconocimiento a sus importantes contribuciones en el ministerio y el servicio.

La Casa Hispana de Estudios (LCHE) celebró su quinceañera (aniversario número 15), otra oportunidad para elevar nuestra esperanza por el trabajo de Dios en medio nuestro. LCHE fue creada por la Escuela de Divinidad, con el apoyo de La Dotación Duke, para apoyar la formación de ministros para congregaciones y comunidades Hispano/Latinas las Conferencias Anuales de Carolina del Norte y del Oeste de Carolina del Norte y más allá. Estos esfuerzos no están limitados a un solo segmento si no que se extienden a través de nuestros programas académicos y ministeriales. Por ejemplo, ahora ofrecemos el curso “Redescubriendo el Corazón del Metodismo” en Español en la plataforma Divinity+, un recurso en línea que está ampliamente disponible para ministros y congregaciones.

Este otoño, le dimos la bienvenida a 215 estudiantes de nuevo ingreso de 35 estados diferentes así como también nuevos miembros de la comunidad quienes tienen su ciudadanía principal o secundaria en 16 países distintos los cuales incluyen Alemania, Canadá, Chile, China, Finlandia, India, Kenia, México, Nigeria, Perú, Rusia, Saint Kitts y Nevis, Corea del Sur, Sri Lanka, Siria, y Zimbabue. El programa de Maestría en Divinidad agregó 104 nuevos estudiantes, 54 de los cuales son estudiantes residenciales y 50 estudiantes del programa híbrido. El programa de Maestría de las Artes en la Práctica Cristiana inscribió 13 nuevos estudiantes; el de Doctorado en Ministerio, 22; el de Maestría en Teología, 11; el de Maestría de Estudios Teológicos, 29; el de Doctorado en Teología le dió la bienvenida a cinco nuevos estudiantes al campus, e inscribió a 5 estudiantes especiales. El programa de Certificado en Teología y Cuidado de la Salud le dió la bienvenida a 11 estudiantes residenciales al campus y a 15 en el programa híbrido. El 31 por ciento

de los estudiantes de la clase de nuevo ingreso en todos los programas de estudios en la Escuela de Divinidad se identifican como miembros de una raza o etnicidad distinta a la raza blanca. Los estudiantes de la raza negra componen el 21 por ciento de todos los estudiantes; estudiantes Latinas/os/es, el 7 por ciento. El 54 por ciento de los estudiantes de la clase de nuevo ingreso se identifican como miembros del género femenino. Hubo 25 denominaciones representadas en la clase de nuevo ingreso de la Maestría en Divinidad, del cual el 26 por ciento está afiliado con la Iglesia Metodista Unida. Los Bautistas componen el 10 por ciento de los estudiantes de nuevo ingreso; los estudiantes Anglicanos o Episcopales, el 10 por ciento; y los estudiantes no-denominacionales, el 12 por ciento.

La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke continúa invirtiendo en vías para apoyar a la formación del liderazgo y pastorado Metodista. La plataforma Divinity+ lanzó la serie de Administración de la Iglesia la cual se enfoca en desarrollar las habilidades prácticas para líderes de iglesia. Más de 1,000 estudiantes se han inscrito en los primeros dos cursos, “La Teología y el Manejo del Tiempo” y “Administración Estratégica”. Inauguramos el Certificado en Capellanía, diseñado para preparar estudiantes para proveer cuidado espiritual en una variedad de ámbitos tales como hospitales, hospicios, prisiones, instituciones de educación superior, y el servicio militar. El certificado se puede obtener como parte del programa de residencial de Maestría en Divinidad, Maestría en Teología, y Maestría en Estudios Teológicos.

La escuela también le ha dado la bienvenida a nuevos líderes quienes traen sus dones para contribuir al trabajo de avanzar la misión de servir a Cristo y a la iglesia. Dos casas de estudios han asignado nuevos directores: La Oficina de Estudios de la Iglesia Negra es dirigida por el Rev. Dr. Eric Lewis Williams (D’05), profesor asistente de teología y Estudios de la Iglesia Negra; y la Casa de Estudios Anglicana Episcopal ha nombrado al Muy Rev. Timothy Kimbrough (D’83), Profesor Jack and Barbara Bovender de la Práctica de Estudios Anglicanos. Miembros clave que se han unido a nuestro personal incluyen a Anita Lumpkin, director ejecutivo de administración de inscripciones; y la Rev. Sarah Belles, alumna egresada de la Escuela de Divinidad y presbítero ordenado en plena conexión con la Conferencia Anual del Oeste de Carolina del Norte, como director de vida estudiantil.

Varios nuevos programas demuestran el constante compromiso de Duke para conectar con iglesias y ministros. Con gratitud por los fondos recibidos de La Dotación Lilly, la Escuela de Divinidad, ha lanzado el Laboratorio de Predicación Transformadora para preparar predicadores creativos, y culturalmente competentes quienes puedan alcanzar audiencias de maneras efectivas y atractivas. Expandirá el entrenamiento de predicación para estudiantes del programa de Maestría en Divinidad en su modalidad híbrida con nuevos cursos y laboratorios de predicación aunado a nuevas capacidades de explorar y emplear herramientas digitales para la adoración y predicación comunitaria. El Laboratorio de Predicación Transformadora también provee nuevas oportunidades para la formación en la predicación consciente de situaciones y experiencias traumáticas y la predicación en comunidades inmigrantes, asuntos especialmente sobresalientes en comunidades alrededor del país y alrededor del mundo.

La Iniciativa de Teología, Medicina, y Cultura ha lanzado el Enfoque de Estudio en Salud Mental para practicantes Cristianos de la salud mental como parte de su Certificado en Teología y Cuidado de la Salud. Este programa híbrido de certificado ofrece formación espiritual y teológica para profesionales clínicos quienes ejercen en un amplio rango de disciplinas. La investigación y los programas por parte de otras

iniciativas la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke, incluyendo Teología, Medicina, y Cultura; Iniciativas de Duke en la Teología y en las Artes; Educación del Liderazgo en la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke; y Comunidades Rurales Florecientes, continúan proveyendo numerosas oportunidades para testificar de la creatividad, compasión, y cuidado de Dios por las comunidades y congregaciones.

La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke continúa agradeciendo su continua participación en la Iglesia Metodista Unida y su relación de colaboración con esta conferencia anual. Esperamos continuar trabajando con ustedes al unirnos al liderazgo del Espíritu de Dios en la tarea de preparar gente para el ministerio Cristiano. Para conocer más acerca de la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke, por favor visiten nuestra página de internet en la dirección www.divinity.duke.edu.

Enviado respetuosamente por Edgardo Colón-Emeric
Decano de la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY 2024 REPORT TO THE UMC ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Since 1914, **Candler School of Theology at Emory University** has educated faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries throughout the world. An official seminary of The United Methodist Church, Candler holds true to the Wesleyan value of ecumenical openness, enthusiastically welcoming students from more than 40 denominations, with nearly half of Master of Divinity students coming from the Methodist family, including United Methodist, African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, Wesleyan, Free Methodist, Church of the Nazarene, and others. Our student body reflects the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 419 from 12 countries and 38 states, and 44% persons of color. This diversity is a blessing, enriching our life together and providing a "learning laboratory" for ministry in the 21st century—ministry that cultivates community across difference, welcomes all to contribute and belong, and embodies Christ's love in and among us.

Candler offers six degrees (Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Religion and Public Life, Master of Religious Leadership, Master of Theology, Doctor of Ministry) and ten dual degrees, most of which are available in hybrid or online formats. Response to our new hybrid-format Master of Divinity, which launched in Fall 2023, has been strong: 65% of 2023's MDiv entering class chose the hybrid model, blending online classes and in-person intensives. Plus, around 20% of MDiv students participate in Candler's Teaching Parish program to earn contextual education credit as they serve as student pastors in local churches. Our proven DMin program—with a near 90% completion rate—is 90% online as well. These flexible options plus Candler's recognized academic excellence and hands-on learning opportunities are opening possibilities for even more people to follow God's call to ministry.

Reducing student debt through generous financial aid is a top priority for Candler. In 2023-2024, we are on track to award \$6.3 million in scholarship support, with 100% of MDiv students receiving aid. All MDiv students who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in the UMC receive full-tuition scholarships, and all MDiv, MTS, MRL, and ThM students receive a scholarship covering at least 50% of tuition. MDiv students also receive financial coaching and complete a financial literacy program to strengthen their budgeting skills and reduce debt. That knowledge will serve them—and the ministries they serve—well into the future.

Candler is growing in exciting directions as it creates avenues to bring high-quality theological education to a wider audience. It is a hub of Christian learning with multiple entry points. Those who aren't seeking an advanced degree can engage in learning through The Candler Foundry, our innovative program to make theological education accessible to the public through short courses, events, and related activities; the United Methodist Course of Study to educate licensed local pastors; the new Candler Center for Christian Leadership to refine business-related skills of United Methodist leaders; and La Mesa Academy, offering diplomas in pastoral leadership via a two-year hybrid program with courses in Spanish, English, and Korean.

One of the biggest news items of the year for Candler is the announcement that after nearly 18 years, Dean Jan Love will step down from Candler's deanship in the

summer of 2024. Through Dean Love's transformational leadership, Candler has expanded to offer three new degrees, five new dual degrees, and more online and hybrid options, including the highly successful hybrid MDiv and DMin degrees. She has increased the diversity of Candler's faculty and student body, continued the school's tradition of world-class scholarship in hiring 75% of the current full-time faculty, and grown the number of endowed professorships. Her efforts have enhanced Candler's ability to fulfill its mission in a rapidly changing environment, and she leaves the school in a strong position. The next dean of Candler is expected to be named by early summer.

Candler depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us online at candler.emory.edu.

Office of Communications
Candler School of Theology, Emory University

GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY – 2024 REPORT

Gammon Theological Seminary is the Interdenominational Theological Center's United Methodist constituent member in Atlanta, Georgia. The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) is a Christian Africentric ecumenical consortium of seminaries and fellowships that educate students to commit to practicing justice and peace through a liberating and transforming spirituality to become leaders in the church and local/global communities. Gammon was founded in 1883, bearing the name of the Rev. Elijah H. Gammon, a generous clergyman, businessman, and philanthropist. Rev. Elijah H. Gammon invested and endowed the founding of Gammon Seminary in partnership with Bishop Henry Warren and the Freedman's Aid Society. Gammon has educated Black Clergy for almost 140 years, with graduates serving every level of the church, including Bishops, Superintendents, General church leaders, Conference staff, and Clergy in every jurisdiction. Gammon/ITC offers the following degree programs: the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Religion and Education, and the Doctor of Ministry. The support given to The United Methodist Ministerial Education Fund by United Methodist Conferences continues to enable Gammon students to be grounded in the Wesleyan tradition of theological education.

Our 17th President/Dean, Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis, and the Gammon staff team continue to lead innovatively in chartering a "Brand New Day" for Gammon's recruitment, retention, research and resources, fund development, and scholarship endowments in her first two years of service.

Our new initiatives and celebrations this year, 2023 – 2024, at Gammon, include:

- In May 2023, Gammon held our 1st Annual Student Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament, receiving \$70,000 in donations to assist students with their tuition, which also helped Gammon build more relationships and partnerships.
- In June 2023, The Rev. Walter H. McKelvey Endowed Scholarship Fund was launched by Dr. Loretta F. McKelvey (wife of the late Rev. McKelvey) and Dr. Walter Kimbrough with a \$50,000.00 matching gift in partnership with the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation.
- In June 2023, The Florida Conference raised and donated over \$ 60,000.00 to the Rev. Geraldine McClellan Endowed Scholarship Fund, which is now fully endowed by the Florida United Methodist Foundation.
- In July 2023 and December 2023, Gammon hosted the Ebony Exploration Event for 75 young adults under 35, increasing participation and forming strategic partnerships with external organizations to enhance the program's reach and impact.
- In December 2023, we celebrated our 140th Founders Day Event/Pastors and Leaders Conference, with over two hundred persons attending workshops (in person and virtual) and our Scholarship Gala Dinner, hosted at IMPACT Church in Atlanta, GA.

The greatest challenge facing Gammon Seminary is the rising cost of theological education and the significant debt our students incur as they answer their call to full-time ministry. Therefore, Gammon is committed to raising a million dollars in the next two years to offer full-tuition scholarships to students called and committed to full-time ministry in the United Methodist Church. We are grateful to this Annual

Conference for your support of theological education and your commitment to ensuring pastoral leadership is theologically trained to lead us forward in the Wesleyan tradition.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis, President-Dean

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY 2023-2024

For 170 years Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary has been in service to the Church and the Wesleyan/Methodist connection through the formation of Christian leaders in ordained and lay ministries. As the result of a new strategic planning process that seeks to position the seminary more fully and purposefully in service to the global church, Garrett adopted a new mission and vision that will focus our work to this end: *Forming courageous leaders in the way of Jesus to cultivate communities of justice, compassion, and hope...for the thriving of the Church and the healing of the world.*

During this past academic year, Garrett also welcomed its largest entering class in over a decade, with 124 new students, and a current enrollment of 314 students representing 37 states and 21 nations from across the globe. We have experienced particular growth in students from the African continent and the Indian subcontinent, adding to an already richly diverse student body. While our denominational diversity also continues to grow, we also proudly welcomed growth in our United Methodist students who constitute more than 50% of our student body.

Of particular importance in the past year has been the partnership we have entered into with Phillips School of Theology of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME). Phillips students are now also fully Garrett students and together we are preparing the next generation of CME leaders in a robust pan-Methodist/Wesleyan context alongside UMC, AME, and AMEZ students. Phillips President, Dr. Paul Brown, is now also affiliated with our faculty, teaching CME History, Doctrine, and Polity, as well as spiritual formation and organizational leadership courses. It is our hope and intention to continue to grow this partnership and foster a truly pan-Methodist/Wesleyan ethos which includes our growing global Methodist partners in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Additionally, last year, all Garrett degree programs were made truly hybrid so that students can study with us and earn their degrees either on our Evanston campus or in virtual learning spaces around the globe. This has added an amazing breadth of experience and contexts to our classrooms, where we seek to address real-world challenges with gospel inspired solutions or responses.

Garrett's world-class faculty continue developing curricular innovations that are responsive to the church's growing needs, while also contributing a significant body of scholarly work to their respective fields. Our faculty are also at work developing The Garrett Collective, an online platform of theological learning and resources for churches and partner organizations inspired by our faculty's research and/or strategic partnerships. Finally, at this critical juncture in the history of United Methodism, faculty leaders are providing essential guidance to UMC students, while also continuing to envision with hope the next expression of Methodism that is responsive to the Spirit's call for such a time as this.

METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN OHIO
2024 REPORT
www.mtso.edu

Thank you for this opportunity to bring news from MTSO.

Curriculum revision offers shorter paths to degrees

Beginning in the fall of 2024, MTSO will offer incoming master's degree students a slate of revised programs offering clear, achievable paths to their vocations. This curriculum revision will give most students the opportunity to complete their degrees in less time. Under the updated curriculum, the Master of Divinity degree requires 75 credit hours and is achievable in three years. The Master of Theological Studies, MA in Public Theology, and MA in Social Justice require 39 hours and are achievable in two years.

The revised curriculum for each master's degree is organized around four cores: the Values Core, Methods Core, Vocational Electives Core and Integrative Core. Detailed information is available at mtso.edu/degreeupdates.

The MA in Public Theology gets a new name and updated focus

MTSO's newly revised MA in Public Theology degree (formerly the MA in Practical Theology) deepens the knowledge and skills of those working to build societal peace, justice and the common good. The MAPT offers formation for the next generation of practical, public theologians by cultivating abilities for negotiating the dynamic interplay in these areas: Christian heritage, congregational culture and contemporary society; theological, educational and social- science disciplines; and the diversities of human and creaturely existence.

Cross-cultural immersion is expanded

Previously required for the Master of Divinity and MA in Social Justice degrees, cross-cultural immersion trips are now required for all MTSO master's degrees and are covered by tuition. Cross-cultural immersion is not a mission trip. Rather, it is an opportunity to learn from and fully experience another culture, rather than attempting to "help" or impact cultures different from one's own. Trips nurture a global perspective and serve as a foundation for learning to respect the rich diversity of beliefs and practices in the wider church.

Participants in the January 2024 cross-cultural trip visited South Africa. Upcoming destinations include Mexico and Italy.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Russell, director of communications

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating tomorrow's leaders by offering on-campus, online, and hybrid learning courses at a FLEXible schedule, Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary serving a diverse community committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry through rigorous academic life. Grounded in the academic study of faith and ministry, theology is practiced in a traditional classroom and remote spaces. Our contextual curriculum features Ministry Collaboration Groups, Practicums, Spiritual Formation Retreats, and Seminars. Students learn from dedicated faculty, experienced pastors, and community leaders about best ministry practices, leaving our graduates with the tools and first-hand experience necessary to meet the needs of a changing world.

At the core of our mission at Saint Paul is the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry through rigorous academic life. In 2024, we are launching two exciting new programs to revitalize current pastors and preachers and prepare seminary students for music ministry. First, with the help of Lilly Endowment's Compelling Preaching grant and the leadership of Dr. Casey Sigmon, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship and Director of Contextual Education and Pause/Play Center for Preachers, Saint Paul School of Theology is creating a Center that addresses the risk of losing heart and prophetic imagination as a preacher in this divided world. The *Pause/Play Center for Preachers*' mission is in its name: to hold space for busy preachers to pause and play their way into a renewal of their vocation as preachers of the Good News. Second, for Fall 2024, as part of our Master of Arts in Christian Ministry (MACM) degree program, we will launch a first-of-its-kind specialization in Modern Worship Music. Saint Paul will partner with The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection and their *COR Worship Collective* to prepare students to write, produce, and perform modern worship music. Students will integrate a worship leaders' skills with their study of theology, the bible, history, and worship in a diverse, inclusive, and spiritually enriching environment. Lastly, we recently completed the (Theo)Logic Studio on our Oklahoma Campus. The Studio serves as a dedicated space for creating, recording, and editing digital media resources tailored to the ministries of students, staff, faculty, and alums, encompassing content development ranging from podcasts and video resources to digital graphics.

We continue to invite Saint Paul students, alums, and friends to join us in a hybrid format, where participants may join in-person or online, allowing everyone to come together as one institution from wherever they are. Saint Paul offers weekly chapel services throughout the academic year featuring students, alums, faculty, and local leaders. In addition, weekly Spiritual Formation allows attendees to engage in spiritual practices led by new Oklahoma Chapel Coordinator Rev. Alanna Ireland '23. Some practices take us outdoors or to other sacred spaces, and others have us connect with community leaders.

For the 2023-2024 academic year, we brought 41 new, faithful theologians from across the world to our learning community. International students from South Korea, Belgium, and Mexico added to the global learning environment on both campuses and online. Twenty-seven percent of incoming students identified as a race or ethnicity other than white, and 53 percent identified as female.

Saint Paul staff and faculty continue contributing to the academy, church, and society. The faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology maintains high standards of

scholarship, research, publication, and engagement. Over the past year, their many activities and publications have been so numerous that space permits only sharing selected highlights:

- Dr. Israel Kamudzandu, Lindsey P. Pherigo Associate Professor of New Testament Studies and Biblical Interpretation, published *Translation as Incarnation: The Bible in the Twenty-First Century Global South* and was the featured guest speaker of our January forum.
- Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church, and Society, published *Black Theology and The Black Panthers*
- Dr. Elaine Robinson, Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, published *Leading with Love: Spiritual Disciplines For Practical Leadership*
- Rabbi Michael Zedek, Rabbi-in-Residence, published *Taking Miracles Seriously: A Journey to Everyday Spirituality* and hosted a forum with Dr. Jeanne Hoeft, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Care, and Franklin and Louise Cole Associate Professor in Town and Country Ministries, on The War in Israel and Traumatized Communities
- Dr. Mike Graves, Professor Emeritus of William K. McElvaney of Preaching and Worship, published *Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life (on Things Like Poverty, Hunger, Polarization, Inclusion, and More)*

The 2023-2024 Fiscal Year brought a change in leadership to the Seminary. Rev. Neil Blair '80 retired as President on December 31, 2023, and President Jay Simmons, formerly Vice President of Institutional Advancement, took the helm at the start of 2024. In addition, Saint Paul Board of Trustees' Chair Dr. Amy Hogan stepped down as Board Chair, with Ms. Sharon Cleaver assuming the position until the end of June 2024. Our current strategic plan is set to conclude within the coming year. Consequently, the Board of Trustees formed a task force several months ago to prepare the next iteration of our strategic plan. Members of the Seminary's Executive Leadership Team are now working with faculty and staff to refine the draft scripted by the task force. These efforts will continue over the next few months until we have a document ready for review by the Board of Trustees. While we are still too early in this effort to comment on any specific initiatives, the plan ultimately endorsed by the Board will guide all our efforts for the next several years. Therefore, this effort is critical in defining how we ensure that Saint Paul remains a vital and vigorous Seminary committed to preparing our students for creative and innovative ministry.

For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 250 individual students, including 79 new students, with approximately 600 registrations and offering 46 classes. Serving 31 Conferences, 89 Districts, 116 Full Time and 126 Part-Time Licensed Local Pastors comprised these registrations. Seventy percent of these students are taking more than one course. To help offset student costs, twenty percent of all students received aid from their conference or church. COS School continues to attract a diverse student body. One hundred eighty-eight students ranged in age from 30 to 65, and 62 students ranged in age from 66 to 82. Students self-identified across four racial/ethnic groups. Fifty-two percent were male, and forty-eight percent were female. Many COS School students serve more than one church, many rural, with a few dozen students serving three or more churches. We helped 23 students finish the 20-course program this year, issuing them certificates of completion. With approval from GBHEM, the school has continued its course offerings in both asynchronous and synchronous online formats. Utilizing this online format, we reached students in 28 states. We continue to offer

online registration completed by the student with the ability to access their student account through Populi as used by our Seminary students. COS also uses the same learning platform, Moodle, as our Seminary students. By implementing the Course of Study School into Populi, these students share the same benefits as the Seminary, allowing them to participate in the Saint Paul experience. They have full access to the Seminary library on campus and online, with several required readings accessible as an eBook. We have invited COS School students to join our Saint Paul School of Theology Weekly Chapel Services and Spiritual Formation gatherings and other Saint Paul events.

Saint Paul is a financially healthy Seminary. We operate with a balanced budget, no debt, and an endowment that is 9-10 times the size of our annual expenses. Sustainability has been our focus over the past six years, and we have achieved our goal. Investments in our future bring exciting new opportunities for our students, staff, and faculty. As always, we continue to be grateful for donations from the community that provide technology, scholarships, and evolving academic programs to students. Our significant technological investments have allowed us to maintain a hybrid educational delivery model, providing a flexible working arrangement for our students.

We are continuing to enhance our partnership with Zoom and Neat. We now have Neat Bars & Neat Boards in all our classrooms. In addition, during this last year, we implemented a Neat Board in Harris Chapel on our Oklahoma Campus. We also have Neat Boards in multiple common areas to encourage ad-hoc use of the technology for breakout groups and other miscellaneous meetings between our two campuses and our remote students. One of the best features of this technology is its ability to receive automatic real-time over-the-air feature upgrades. Zoom & Neat continue enhancing our learning environment by rolling out new enhancements, including enhanced whiteboarding, noise cancellation, and AI features. Our Neat equipment continuously monitors several environmental factors within our classrooms: air quality, temperature, humidity, VOC, and CO2, as well as being able to tell if the classrooms are occupied and how many individuals are in the room. We can also monitor the audio/video quality and network connectivity in each of our classrooms, as well as the connection quality for all remote students attending the class. We are excited about the additional enhancements that will come to our classrooms from Neat and Zoom over this next year.

Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be your partner in ministry and help those seeking to discover more and answer the call. Your advocacy for the Seminary and generous financial support have been vital in realizing our accomplishments. Many thanks for the innumerable ways you have helped Saint Paul. Your prayers and actions on behalf of the Seminary are a blessing to all of us.

Jay K. Simmons, President



spst.edu

Where Theology Meets Life

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dayton, OH

For more than 150 years, United Theological Seminary has prepared men and women to serve as faithful and fruitful Christian leaders who make disciples of Jesus Christ. In the 2022-2023 academic year, the seminary served 547 students, representing 36 states, 20 countries, and 43 denominations, with 38% of students identifying as United Methodist. United in Christ, the student body is a multi-ethnic, multi-racial community that is 43% African American, 27% White, 18% international, 9% Hispanic, and 2% Asian or Pacific Islander.* During the 2022-2023 academic year, 120 graduates completed their programs.

Houses of Study

United's academic programs include seven Houses of Study for denominational, church renewal, and/or language- and culture-based ministry, including online Spanish and Korean houses of study. These houses of study have enrolled over 120 new master's students in the United States and around the world.

Bishop Bruce Ough Innovation Center

In 2023, the Bishop Bruce Ough Innovation Center, directed by Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey, engaged more than 5,000 participants through 64 resourcing events and activities. The Center partnered with the Black Methodists for Church Renewal Laity Advocacy Committee to conduct the 2023 Laity Leadership Institution. The Center also launched a *Dynamite Prayer* movement, based on the guidebook *Dynamite Prayer: A 28 Day Experiment* (Invite Resources, 2022) by Rev. Kibbey and Rev. Dr. Rosario Picardo. Multiple United Methodist conferences and more than 90 congregations across denominations committed to be part of a Dynamite Prayer Wave and received resourcing on the practice of "breakthrough prayer."

New Faces at United

Over the past year, the seminary welcomed several new members to the United community. Bishop James Swanson, most recently bishop of the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church, was installed as United Methodist Bishop-in-Residence. Dr. Pauline Paris Buisch and Rev. Dr. Xavier L. Johnson joined the faculty as Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Assistant Professor of Preaching and Black Church Studies, respectively, and Dr. Eliseo Mejia came on board as the Academic Oversight Officer for the Hispanic House of Study.

Reducing Student Debt

Finances shouldn't stand in the way of a seminary education. That's why United has launched the Fresh Wind: Where the Spirit Takes Flight campaign to add \$10 million to the scholarship endowment, which will dramatically increase the seminary's capacity to provide scholarships to students for many years to come. As of January 2024, the seminary was more than 70% toward the \$10 million goal.

Kent Millard, President

** Student data represent unduplicated headcount enrollment for the 2022-2023 academic year. Demographic figures represent those who responded.*

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President

The mission of Wesley Theological Seminary (WTS) is to equip persons for Christian ministry and leadership in the church and the world, to advance theological scholarship, and to model a prophetic voice in the public square.

Despite the challenges posed by the global landscape, WTS continues to flourish, driven by our commitment to excellence in theological education and community engagement:

Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Theological Studies Degrees: We offer pathways to meet the needs of a variety of students. Whether traditional, brick and mortar, in- person study or a flexible, online, hybrid model (Wesley FlexMA), WTS is committed to curating space for theological reflection, academic inquiry, and practical application. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/study/>

Doctor of Ministry Degree: WTS is a leader in DMin education offering specialized tracks of study for scholars going into parish ministry, global missions, or military chaplaincy. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/program/>

Wesley Innovation Hub: WTS received a \$1.2M grant from the Lilly Endowment and will embark on groundbreaking initiatives that harness the power of technology, entrepreneurship, and interdisciplinary collaboration. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/wesley-innovation-hub/>

Center for Public Theology: WTS received a generous grant from the Trinity Wall Street Foundation to launch “The Public Theology Fellows Program,” an innovative initiative to bridge gaps between faith communities and political action. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/>

Community Engagement Institute: WTS received a generous grant from City Seminary in NYC for the innovative, immersive study and praxis of urban ministry. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/about-us/overview-2/>

The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion: WTS is thrilled to share two new exhibits, *Sacred Ground*, which focused on the intersection of community-engaged art and spirituality; and *Paradise Lost*, a captivating exhibition highlighting transcultural, multicultural, and interreligious narratives. <https://www.luceartsandreligion.org/>

Lewis Center for Church Leadership: The Lewis Center conducts leading edge research for the local church. WTS is pleased to report a growing demand for transformative leadership training within religious communities. <https://www.churchleadership.com/>

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Submitted by Lyvonne Briggs,
Director of Strategic Communications and Marketing