



MERCER

School of Theology

Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

65 Fourth Street, Garden City, NY 11530

FALL 2019

Workshops / Courses / Seminars / Lectures

PROGRAM CATALOG

A Resource and Learning Center
supporting One diocese One mission.

Welcome to the Mercer School of Theology

A Resource and Learning Center for the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

New Beginnings?

"I will sing to my God a new song: O Lord, you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible." (Judith 16:13).

Each new academic year at Mercer we "sing a new song" as we introduce new programs, welcome new students, host new gatherings — all in the service of our God. Even in presenting old offerings, mandated workshops, courses taught previously, groups that have come together before, they seem new. New instructors, new students, new material refresh and enhance former teachings; they "sing" new songs. This year our School for Ministry will add new courses from our second-year academic program as well re-offer first-year courses to new students who will enter academic formation and interested lay men and women. And workshops, events, meetings will support diocesan wide programs such as The Path/La Senda, Recovery Weekend, and many others. The pages that follow provide details. Read on, and Welcome to Fall-Winter 2019-20!



Ted Gerbracht
Director of Academic Programs



Diane Muscarella
Director of Operations

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

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The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island
Canon Ted Gerbracht, Ph.D., Director of Academic Programs (ext. 117)
Mrs. Diane Muscarella, Director of Operations (ext. 140)
Canon Charles Egleston,
Historiographer/Librarian/Archivist (ext. 139)
Mrs. Aissa Hillebrand,
Media Specialist and Safe Church Coordinator (ext. 150)

FALL AND SPRING OFFICE HOURS:

9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Tuesday through Saturday

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Friday

Registration for all courses and workshops must be received no later than one week prior to the event. To register, visit www.mercerschool.org. The Mercer School reserves the right to charge late fees or to cancel classes due to insufficient enrollment. Payment in full must accompany all registrations. No refunds will be given for non-participation.

Getting Ready:

Put the three eight-week Path/La Senda sections on your calendar now! The sections make it possible for people to participate through-out the academic year. The first section starts in September and ends to make room for the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays. The second section of The Path starts again in January concludes at the beginning of March and after a short break, resumes for the third section with the chapters and stories coinciding with Holy Week and in Easter following the life of the early church, to create a powerful liturgical and scriptural experience.

September 15 – November 17

January 12 – March 1

March 22 – May 10

Pentecost Retreat (Scheduled by Churches or Deaneries individually)

Plan a church Pentecost retreat Now using readings from The Path/La Senda in a Way of Love/El Camino Del Amor Retreat. These retreats cover the seven steps of the Way of Love and will be informed by what the people of your congregation have learned in their year-long study of Salvation History in The Path/La Senda and the life of trust and transformation. The intention of the retreat is to give people time to reflect upon and recommit to the life in Christ and Christian service found in the Baptismal Covenant. The retreat ends with a community experience and personal commitment service.

Meeting Bishop Provenzano's call to teach and learn, The Path will fortify our knowledge of God's unfolding plan, build community and unity in our churches, and increase our confidence in understanding and delighting in conversation about scripture.

To see a preview of The Path go here:

www.forwardmovement.org/Products/2418/the-path.aspx

The Path Conference with Author Lindsay Hardin Freeman

Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter



Freeman

Date: Saturday, Oct 26, 2019

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School

For thousands of years, women in the Bible and their words have been ignored or misinterpreted, yet they have much to teach us. From 2011-2014, Lindsay Hardin Freeman and her fellow Minnesota-based researchers worked to do something never done before: to document every word spoken in the Bible by women.

The resulting book, *Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter*, made worldwide news. Join Lindsay as she shares the remarkable voices of Bible women. Learn their stories, hear their words, and step more deeply into God's sacred circle of mothers, grandmothers, warriors, prophets, prostitutes and murderers. You won't come out the same.

The recipient of over thirty awards for excellence in religious journalism, The Rev. Lindsay Hardin Freeman is an Episcopal priest, mother, speaker, blogger, and the author of eight books. A joint endeavor of the Episcopal Church Women and Forward Movement, Bible Women won top honors from Independent Publisher. Lindsay believes deeply in humor, story-telling, imagination, women friends, and dark chocolate.

www.lindsayhardinfreeman.com

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

COMING THIS FALL!

The Path: A Journey Through The Bible

Building on RenewalWorks, in the Fall of 2019 a Diocesan wide reading will launch of The Path: A Journey Through Scripture, a selection of the stories and scriptures



that show the arc of God's path to restore us to the full embrace of God's love in Jesus Christ. Beginning with Creation, right on through the Book of Revelation, The Path: A Journey

Through Scripture shows God's long commitment, a living plan to restore our relationship with God, here and now, in this life. Available through Audio books, all ages and reading proficiency levels can enjoy The Path/La Senda.

This intergenerational reading of scripture means the whole family, at home and in church, will be reading and engaging our common family story in Scripture from ancient times until now. See how the Old and New Testaments hang together and show a clearly intelligible Path and what it says about our story in God's story. With adult, youth and children's curriculums, coloring books, and a suite of resources that will be available on-line, open scripture in a variety of creative and thought-provoking ways. We'll grow together in our understanding of God's love and our ability to encourage one another and the world that God cherishes.

New Congregational Development Website

Learn more about the Path and other Congregational Support Programs in the Diocese of Long Island!

Visit the new online resource page at <https://www.congsupport.info/>

CLERGY EDUCATION

First Tuesdays Education Program

DATE: Beginning Tuesday, September 10, 2019
Time: 10 am – 2 pm
Location: Mercer School of Theology

A monthly program for clergy to gather, pray, access continuing education and enhance skills as a clericus, and build community among the clergy of Long Island. The day begins with Morning Prayer in the Cathedral at 8:45, Continuing Education at 10:00 at Mercer School of Theology, Eucharist at the Cathedral with shared preaching and celebration at 12:15, followed by lunch.

Dates are: September 10, October 1 Fall Clergy Day, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4 Winter Clergy Day, March 3, No April or May, June 2.

Note: May 5 - 7, 2020 is the Clergy Conference.

For more information and registration contact Office of Congregational Support at (516) 248-4800 Ext. 134.

Latino Ministries Group of Long Island Buscando del Rostro de Dios (Seeking the Face of God)

DATES: Friday, Sept 27, 2019 7 – 9 pm and
Saturday, Sept 28, 2019 10 am – 4 pm

Location: The Sisters of St. Joseph Retreat Center,
1725 Brentwood Road, Brentwood, NY 11717



Acosta

What is God's desire for ministry in and among Latinx communities in the Diocese of Long Island? What is God's hope for us? What is God's call? This event is for people engaged in ministry in and among Spanish-speaking people and communities, and those wishing to engage in new ministries in and among the Spanish-speaking communities of Long Island.

Clergy and lay leaders are invited to join the Rev. Miguel Gomez Acosta, Director of Evangelical Mission for the Lutheran Synod of the Grand Canyon, and the Latino Ministries Group of Long Island for a day of discernment. We will spend the day in prayer, singing and bible study to seek God's lead and inspiration in building the foundation for a long-range development plan for ministries with Latinx communities here on Long Island. There will be translation for English speakers.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

Fall Clergy Day "Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches"

Conversation with Richard Blackburn,
Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

DATE: Tuesday, Oct 1, 2019
Time: 9:30 am – 4 pm
Location: Mercer School of Theology



Blackburn

Richard Blackburn serves as Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC), located near Chicago. He is also an ordained minister in the Mennonite church and has taught conflict transformation and mediation skills at Southern Methodist University, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and Goshen College. Richard has led hundreds of workshops on these topics; he has also had broad experience as a mediator and consultant, working primarily with conflicted churches, both at the congregational and judicatory level. The congregational mediation model he developed represents a transformational model of mediation placed within the context of Bowen family systems theory.

LMPC is a not-for-profit ministry that shares educational resources in Christian peacemaking with churches of all denominations. Since its inception in 1983, LMPC has provided more than 5,000 educational programs on a host of topics regarding biblical peacemaking and conflict transformation. Among the more popular training events offered by LMPC has been the Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders, with over 7,000 pastors and other church leaders having attended the event.

To register for Clergy Day contact the Bishop's Office (516) 248-4800 Ext 131.

Diakonia

DATE: Saturday Oct 19, 2019
Time: 9:30 am – 3 pm (Lunch provided)
Location: Mercer School of Theology

A gathering of the deacons of the diocese for learning, support and fellowship.

To register, contact Rev Canon Patricia Mitchell,
pmitchell@dioceseli.org or (516) 248-4800 Ext 166.

SAVE THE DATE:

Coming in May 2020:
A Pilgrimage to Turkey and Greece

Contact Canon Claire Woodley cwoodley@dioceseli.org.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

DATES: Saturday, Jan 11, 2020 9 am – Noon
Thursday, March 5, 2020 6 pm – 9 pm
Location: Mercer School of Theology

This workshop will prepare those nominated by their clergy to act as Lay Eucharistic Visitors to those hospitalized or confined to rehabilitation and nursing institutions, as well as the homebound. Content will include Eucharistic theology, role-playing for visits, and the required Safe Church training. Those who participate in this workshop, with their rector/clergy-in-charge's support, can then be licensed by the Bishop's Office as Lay Eucharistic Visitors.

There is no fee for this event.

For registration, assure first that you are sponsored by your parish clergy, then contact the Mercer Office (516) 248-4800 Ext 140 or mercerooffice@dioceseli.org.

TO REGISTER:

[For Jan 11: CLICK HERE](#)

[For Mar 5: CLICK HERE](#)

Racism Awareness Training

DATE: Saturday, Nov 9, 2019
Time: 10 am – 4 pm
Location: Mercer School of Theology



Awareness of racism and response to it in our individual lives and in our communities remains as crucial as ever to the health of both Church and society. Participants will be led from an awareness of discrimination to an understanding of racism and other forms of oppression on the personal, interpersonal, institutional and systemic levels.

There is no fee for this class. Class size limited.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

Safe Church

DATES: Saturdays, Oct 12, 2019; Oct 26, 2019 (En Espanol at St Mark's)
Dec 7, 2019; Feb 22, 2020; April 25, 2020; June 13, 2020
Time: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology; (Oct 26, St Mark's Church, Jackson Hts)

Topics covered include the legal, ethical, and theological foundations for the prevention of sexual abuse or harassment and the development of safe working and learning places. New church employees and lay leaders are encouraged to register for these workshops. The training is required for vestry and church staff, including Sunday School teachers and all parishioners who work with children. Safe Church workshops are offered in English and Spanish throughout the academic year, both at Mercer School and locations throughout the diocese.

There is no fee for this event. Class size is limited. Lunch will be provided.

TO REGISTER: **For Oct 26:** Call St. Mark's church at (718) 639-8893

[For Oct 12: CLICK HERE](#)

[For Feb 22: CLICK HERE](#)

[For Dec 7: CLICK HERE](#)

[For Apr 25: CLICK HERE](#)

[For Jun 13: CLICK HERE](#)

DIOCESAN TRAINING WORKSHOPS

How to Host a Safe Church Training at Your Parish?

There are instances in which trainings may take place off-site of the Mercer School Campus. There are a number of trainers authorized by the Diocese of Long Island to travel to your parish and lead an onsite training session. In total, trainings usually last between 4-5 hours accommodating no more than 40-50 people. The trainer's fee is \$400. Parishes may not charge participants for these sessions, but may want to partner with a neighboring parish to share the cost. During sessions, a member of clergy, staff, or vestry should be available for pastoral purposes or if any questions or concerns regarding your specific parish arise.

Parish training sessions will be listed online on the diocesan and Mercer website's calendars, and are open to all members of the diocese. Host parishes handle the registration process, and may give priority to their own parishioners.

If you are interested in this option, please email Safe Church Coordinator Aissa Hillebrand at ahillebrand@dioceseli.org

Did you know that Safe Church is available online?

Though in-person Safe Church training is required initially in almost all cases, there is the ability for those previously trained to renew their training online. This requires each parish to have an online administrator who will be in charge of maintaining that parish's Safe Church records.

If your parish does not have an online administrator and wishes to set one up, you should designate a person, then contact Diocesan Safe Church Coordinator Aissa Hillebrand at (516) 248-4800 Ext. 150 or ahillebrand@dioceseli.org



MERCER School for Ministry

From a “School of Theology” forming men for the priesthood ...



MERCER THEN

The Mercer School began in the post-WWII period to encourage men employed full time to become Episcopal priests to fill the need for pastors for churches growing in the new communities springing up during the postwar period. The model for the School was a four-year version of the curriculum offered in three-year courses of study offered at residential seminaries. The level of work and commitment were comparable to that of any advanced degree professional academic program.



MERCER NOW

Today's classes feel very different. We gather around a table seminar-style, or for larger classes in a horseshoe arrangement. Some students interact with their instructor via video conference. There are both lay learners and men and women preparing for ordination side by side. In some classes lay students significantly outnumber ordinands. As during “Mercer Then,” tuition for classes is largely underwritten by the Mercer Scholarship Fund, with laity paying \$25 per course to cover administrative expenses.

The School for Ministry meets in the School’s building at the Diocesan Center one Saturday each month, from September through January.

The fall-winter semester dates are: 9/28; 10/19; 11/23; 12/21; 1/18 2020. Class sizes are limited. Lunch is provided. Fee for each course is \$25.

The School for Ministry seeks your suggestions and feedback about our programs.

In addition to our scheduled meetings as a school, watch for the return of our popular mid-day short “Lunch and Learn” courses in Advent and Lent.

Follow the School for Ministry tab on the Mercer website, or contact Canon Ted Gerbracht, Director of Academic Studies, at (516) 248-4800 Ext. 117 email: tgerbracht@dioceseli.org.

To a “School for Ministry” preparing all for 21st century ministries.

HS1 – Introduction to the Study of Holy Scripture

Time: 10:30 am – 11:45 am
Instructor: Rev. Dr. Michael Hull

This course introduces the study of Holy Scripture: the basics of biblical science, inspiration and canonicity, and a broad outline of the contents and structure of the Old and New Testaments. (Note: class sessions taught via Skype at Mercer)

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

LT1 – Liturgical Theology

Time: 9 am – 10:15 am
Instructor: Very Rev. Dr. Michael Sniffen

In liturgical theology, we investigate the church at worship. This introductory study includes methodologies for liturgical theology as well as the history and origins of rituals, sacramental theology and pastoral rites.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

CH1 – Early Christianity

Time: 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm
Instructor: Canon Ted Gerbracht

Over the centuries, Anglicanism has especially valued the first 500 years of the Worldwide Christian Movement. It was during this seminal period that our patterns of worship, orders of ministry, creedal statements of belief and paths to Christian spirituality were hammered out. Join us as we review the major institutions, issues and personalities which dominate this critical time in the formation of our faith.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

OT2 – The Prophets and the Writings

Time: 9 am – 10:15 am
Instructor: Rev. Dr. Michael Hull

The course introduces the Prophets and the Writings including synopses of their outlooks, ideologies, and theologies. The course pays close attention to their literary traditions, historical and cultural contexts, and thematic structures. Selected passages from both the Prophets and the Writings are exegeted in detail (Note: class sessions taught via Skype at Mercer).

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

TH1 – Introduction to Theology

Time: 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm
Instructors: Rev. Dr. John McGinty,
Rev. Canon Dr. Bruce Griffith

The theology series of courses begins with an examination of the meaning of theology and its many resources. We introduce the subject by a consideration of David Ford's *Theology: A Very Short Introduction*. From there we consider the place of theology in biblical and historical studies and its importance for understanding faith, the spiritual life, and the proclamation of the gospel in everyday life.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

CH3 – Episcopal Church History

Time: 10:30 am – 11:45 am
Instructor: Right Rev. Dr. R. William Franklin

An historical exploration of the development and form of Anglican Christianity that emerged in the American Episcopal Church from its initial planting in Jamestown in 1607 to the present day. We will consider the development of a new form of church governance, regional differences in practice and polity, missionary strategies, and the overall response of the Episcopal Church to the needs of Episcopal communities of the faithful in the diverse religious landscape of the United States. Our purpose is to prepare you to use history pastorally in your various ministries.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

TO REGISTER Links are posted for each course in the online catalog. Click on the Catalog Icon on the homepage at www.mercerschool.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS & LECTURES

The Gothic Imagination: Wonder and Inspiration from Notre Dame to Garden City

DATE: Wednesday, Oct 2, 2019

Time: 7 pm

Location: Cathedral of the Incarnation

Delve into the Gothic experience in a lively multimedia presentation from the Very Rev. Michael Sniffen, Dean of the Cathedral. Come explore the invention of Gothic, its rediscovery in the 19th century, and how its creative potential might invigorate our life today.

The evening will begin with a light reception. Dean Sniffen recently completed his PhD in Liturgical Studies at Drew University, writing his dissertation on the topic of Gothic power, performance and imagination.

Registration, free but required:

<https://tinyurl.com/GothicImagination>.

Cathedral Conversations: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Discipleship Come of Age

DATE: Wednesdays, Nov 6, 13, 20

Time: 7 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

The Lutheran pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer is perhaps best known for his role in the anti-Nazi resistance and his subsequent martyrdom. But since his death in 1945, shortly before the end of the war, he has been claimed by religious movements – Left, Right, and Center – that are deeply opposed to each other. Sometimes it seems as if there are as many Bonhoeffers as there are Bonhoeffer “fan clubs.” This course seeks to disentangle Bonhoeffer’s thought from one-sided interpretations through a close reading of two of his most important texts, *The Cost of Discipleship* and *Letters and Papers from Prison*, and by placing his theology in its social and historical context.

Instructor Laura Nelson is a parishioner at The Cathedral of the Incarnation. She received her Ph.D. in Philosophy from Fordham University, and has taught at various colleges and universities in the Greater New York area, including Hofstra, Molloy, Drew, and The New School. She has published numerous articles in *Public Seminar and Medium* on philosophy, theology, politics, literature, and gender.

To register, contact the Cathedral Office (516) 746-2955 or cathedral@incarnationgc.org



Hoke

Recovery Weekend with the Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke

The spiritual principles of the 12 steps can be life-giving and meaningful to everyone. Join the Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke for workshops on the 12 steps and how they can benefit anyone, no matter what your relationship is to recovery.

Recovery Forum

DATE: Friday Oct 4, 2019

Time: 10 am

Location: Mercer School of Theology

An opportunity for clergy and all those in ministry to have a conversation with Dr. Hoke about recovery in the church:

- How do we best serve those in our parishes and diocese who are in recovery?
- How have other parishes/dioceses approached ministry to those in recovery?
- What are the issues/questions?
- What are best practices?

Clergy and lay ministers who wish to attend the forum on Friday should RSVP to the Rev. Canon Pat Mitchell at pmitchell@dioceseli.org or (516) 248-2800 Ext 166.

Open Workshop

DATE: Saturday Oct 5, 2019

Time: 9 am

Location: Mercer School of Theology

In an open workshop for the public, Dr Hoke will examine the Spiritual Dimensions of Addictive Illness and the Family Disease as well as how congregations can support of those who suffer.

On Sunday, Dr. Hoke will preach in the Cathedral at all three services, and lead a conversation on recovery and the church in the Dean’s Forum at 10 am.

Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke is a priest of the Diocese of New York who retired in 2008 as Executive Assistant to the Rector of Trinity Wall Street and Missioner to St. Paul’s Chapel at Ground Zero on 9/11. Ordained in 1972, Hoke spent the greater part of his ministry serving congregations in Arkansas and Texas.

In his extensive work for the past 30 years in the ministry of recovery, Hoke has been a frequent conference and retreat conductor throughout the Episcopal Church. He currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at New York’s General Seminary where he has pioneered two courses on the Church’s role in the treatment of alcoholism and addictive illness.

Registration is free but required for the Saturday workshop, as lunch will be served.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/CathedralRecovery> to learn more and to register.



Red Ecumenica de Desarrollo de Iglesias Latinx/Ecumenical Network for the Development of Latinx Churches Workshops

Two Days of discernment and learning with Pastor Ruben Duran of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

REDIL es una red ecuménica de denominaciones cristianas especializada en ofrecerles apoyo a personas que están plantando y desarrollando misiones, iglesias, y obras dentro de comunidades latinas en Estados Unidos, el Caribe y en colaboración con nuevos ministerios en América Latina.

La misión de REDIL se lleva cabo de cuatro maneras: Entrenamiento a Plantadores, Coaching/Asesoría, Academia para Líderes Laicos y proveer recursos a través de la página web de REDIL.

Denominaciones participantes en REDIL:

Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en América (IELA), Iglesia Unida de Cristo (IUC), Iglesia Presbiteriana EE. UU. (IP-EE. UU.), Iglesia Episcopal (IE), Iglesia Metodista Unida (IMU)

We are in the process of planning an outreach and mission strategy with Latinx communities on Long Island. REDIL is a network of ecumenical partners focusing on the support of leaders planting new churches or revitalizing existing ones within the Latinx communities in the USA and the Caribbean, and in partnership and cooperation with leaders in Latin America and other parts of the world.

The mission of REDIL is implemented in 3 ways:

1. Congregational Vitality Training every 6 months
2. Coaching training for the support and multiplication of leaders.
3. Resourcing through the web.

For Clergy

DATE: Friday night, Nov 1

Time: 5 – 9 pm

Location: Sisters of St. Joseph Retreat House, Brentwood

We will gather together to take our first steps to create a community of learning for Episcopal and Lutheran clergy working in Latino ministries on Long Island and New York Metropolitan Synod. What are we doing, what might we do together? We will spend time together, understanding each other and our ways of being church—how we can share, teach, and encourage each other. In our listening to God we will be part of a community that is an ecumenical learning community.

For Lay Leaders and Clergy

DATE: Saturday, Nov 2

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

What are God’s desires for the church, my life, my leadership? How can we make a difference and have impact in our lives, our networks, the world? We will engage in building community and interactive leadership development. We will be listening for skills, passion and capacity and discern what we need to learn to build our community and ministry. There will be something for everyone and we will all be teachers and learners together.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

We are also in partnership with the Ecumenical Academy for Lay Leaders.

Advent Series: The Universal Christ

DATE: Wednesdays, Dec 4-18

Time: 7 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

Join us on Wednesday evenings in Advent for a discussion on Richard Rohr’s latest New York Times bestseller, *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe*. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God’s constant, unfolding work in the world.

Rohr is a globally recognized ecumenical teacher whose work is grounded in Christian mysticism, practices of contemplation, and compassion for the marginalized. He is a Franciscan priest and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation.

The class will begin with a shared, light meal in the Mercer refectory followed by conversation.

Registration, free, but required: <https://tinyurl.com/AdventSeries2019>



LAY EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

Congregational Development Institute



The Rev. Elisabeth Tunney

DCDI is a leadership training program focused on developing the spiritual community and organizational life of congregations. It equips leaders to serve their congregations through a highly integrated training experience that engages participants in the issues and dynamics that they face as leaders. DCDI is a program for clergy and lay leaders

who desire to transform their congregations by making them stronger, healthier, more deeply rooted in Anglican Spirituality, more responsive to God and more effective in their communities.

Register Now for DCDI!

2019 September 27-28; December 6-7

2020 January 31-February 1; May 1-2;
October 2-3; December 4-5

Times: 9:30 am Friday – 2:00 pm Saturday

Location: The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception,
Huntington, NY

For more information and to register, visit:

<https://www.dioceseli.org/resources/church-development-overview/>

or contact etunney@dioceseli.org



DCDI small group session

Education for Ministry (EfM) in the Diocese of Long Island



Education for Ministry, affectionately known as EfM, is a four-year ecumenical program designed to prepare you for lay ministry within the diverse contexts of contemporary life.

The curriculum is centered on theological reflection, which is the artful spiritual discipline of putting our life experiences into conversation with the living God of our faith. It's a practical skill that will provide a way for you to experience greater meaning in your day-to-day life and a more tangible sense of God's loving presence in the world.

This program is modeled on the seminary experience; students sign up one year at a time for the four-year program. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years and 18 Continuing Education Units for each year's work. There are EfM groups meeting currently throughout the diocese.

More details, including sample lessons, can be found on-line at: <http://www.sewane.edu/EFM/EFMContents.htm>

To register, or for more information, please email John Musco, the Diocesan Coordinator: johnmusco@gmail.com or visit the Mercer website www.mercerschool.org and click on Programs/EFM.

Scripture Study and Formation Offerings

See page 1 of this catalog for THE PATH: A Journey Through the Bible, a parish based experience.

See page 4 for School for Ministry Formation Saturdays at the Mercer School with courses open to lay students.

Godly Play® Memberships

[VISIT www.godlyplayfoundation.org]

The Diocese of Long Island through the Mercer School partners with the Godly Play Foundation to provide a blanket membership in the Foundation for our churches. Membership includes many benefits and discounts for trainings and supplies. Visit the Godly Play Foundation Membership page to register using Promotional code circle 2018. Register for a training session with special discount code **membersrock**.

Questions? Contact Teresa Phares at membership@godlyplayfoundation.org or (931) 636-3993.

THE REV. J. CLARENCE JONES LIBRARY

at the George Mercer, Jr. Memorial School of Theology

The Library

The Jones Library of Mercer holds 30,000 volumes, as well as access to a good collection of ebooks and eaudiobooks. Most of these circulate. While the collection focus understandably is on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, the library has significant holdings in other faith traditions to include Reformed, Lutheran, Orthodox, Jewish, and Roman Catholic. Primary patrons for the Jones Library are registered students in the School of Theology and students in the Clinical and Pastoral Education program of the diocese's St. John's Hospital. Reflecting this, the collections of the library are particularly strong in biblical exegesis, the theory and technique of sermon preparation, and resources for the study and practice of pastoral care and counseling.

Secondary patrons are the clergy and laity of the Diocese of Long Island, and the library is open to the public as an evangelical resource.

The Jones Library holds many books that are essential for the study of the history of the Episcopal Church on Long Island; nine of our churches date to the early 18th century and many others predate the formation of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island in 1868. There is an extensive collection of journals of convention from our mother diocese, the Diocese of New York, and there is a complete set of journals of convention of the Diocese of Long Island for the period 1869 to 2007. In addition, the library holds an extensive collection of Episcopal clerical directories, biographical resources for presbyters and deacons, stretching back to the early years of the twentieth century.

Archives of the Diocese

The library serves as the reading room for the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island Archives. Persons seeking information on parish history and biographical data on presbyters and deacons should consult with the librarian/archivist so as to make use of the many resources that have been produced as guides.

Important holdings in the Diocese of Long Island Archives are the prototype Episcopal Church flag that was approved by the General Convention in 1940, the notebooks of William Jay Bolton, and the diaries of architect Henry G. Harrison. Bolton was the first artist in the United States to design and manufacture figurative stained glass; his earliest windows are in Brooklyn's St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church, the current pro-cathedral. Harrison was a prominent architect in the late 19th century; his diaries detail the erection of the Cathedral of the Incarnation, one of the first Episcopal cathedrals in the United States. **Use of Special Collections and the Diocese of Long Island Archives are by appointment only, because of the need to gather and prepare materials for researchers.**

The Rev. Dr. James Clarence Jones, for whom the school's library was named, was ordained to the priesthood in 1889 by the Rt. Rev. Abram N. Littlejohn, the first bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island. Jones was the rector of St. Mary's Church, Brooklyn,



George Mercer, Jr. Memorial School of Theology

from 1899 to 1936 and held many titles during his lifetime. The Rt. Rev. James P. DeWolfe named the library for Jones in 1955 when he established the School of Theology, undoubtedly both because of Jones' interest in scholarship and his enthusiastic support for the education of clergy.

The catalogue of the library is available on the Internet: <http://mercercdcdelivers.com:8080>. Circulation is only to registered patrons.

The main floor of the Jones Library also serves an event space for the diocese. Because of this readers should contact the librarian (516-248-4800, ext. 139) or the Mercer Office (ext. 140) before coming to the library to make sure that the space is available for their use.

WORSHIP AND STUDY

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd lies at the heart of the Mercer School. Attendance at Chapel services is a vital expression of the corporate life of the Mercer community as well as a means of assisting each individual in his or her spiritual formation. It is hoped that all who study at Mercer will avail themselves of the Chapel and its services and will assist in their conduct. The Chapel of the Good Shepherd is always available for quiet meditation and prayer and is open to groups wishing to gather together to pray morning/evening or other prayer services.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Since instructors and students at Mercer come from many locations throughout the Diocese, occasions when the weather is hazardous will vary within the area.

Instructors have the responsibility of deciding whether or not to cancel class in the event of inclement weather and will make every effort possible to contact students in the event that such a cancellation takes place.

Note that whenever the Bishop's Office is closed due to poor weather, Mercer School will close as well. When cancellation becomes necessary Mercer School will make every attempt to communicate the news to all those registered for any affected gathering. Please assure that in registering, your contact information is provided and is correct and up to date.

**Check the Mercer School website calendar for updated info and events.
www.mercerschool.org**

CALENDAR FALL/WINTER 2019-20

September

- 9/10 First Tuesday Clergy Education Day
9/14 Ordination to the Priesthood - Adam Bucko/Anthony Jones
9/15 - 11/17 First section of *The Path*
9/28 *School for Ministry*
Fall semester classes begin
9/27-28 *Buscando del Rostro de Dios*
Latino Ministries Event
9/28-29 DCDI Diocesan Congregational Development Institute - Rev Elisabeth Tunney

October

- 10/1 Fall Clergy Day - Richard Blackburn, Presenter
10/2 Lecture: *The Gothic Imagination* - Very Rev Dr M Sniffen, presenter
10/4-6 Recovery Weekend - Rev Dr Stuart Hoke
10/12 Safe Church Training @ Mercer
10/19 *School for Ministry*
10/19 Diakonia - Rev Canon Patricia Mitchell
10/23 Pre-Convention Meeting
Live streamed broadcast
10/26 Safe Church Training en Espanol @ St Mark's Church Jackson Hts
10/26 THE PATH Women's Event - Rev Lindsay Harden Freeman, presenter

November

- 11/1-2 REDIL *Liderazgo Ecumenico*
Latino Ministries Event
11/5 First Tuesday Clergy Education day
11/6 Cathedral Conversations: Dietrich Bonhoeffer Series [3 sessions through 11/20]
11/9 Racism Awareness Program @ Mercer
11/15 & 16 Diocesan Convention in Melville, NY
11/23 *School for Ministry*
11/28 - 12/1 CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- Dec 1 ADVENT BEGINS
12/3 First Tuesday Clergy Education Day
12/4 Advent Series: *Richard Rohr Book* – Very Rev Dr Michael Sniffen, presenter [3 sessions through 12/18]
12/6-7 DCDI Diocesan Congregational Development Institute
12/7 Safe Church Training @ Mercer
12/14 Altar Guild Advent Quiet Day
12/21 *School for Ministry*
12/24 – 1/1/2020 CLOSED for Christmas Holiday

January 2020

- 1/7 First Tuesday Clergy Education Day
1/8 Cathedral Conversations in Scripture [4 sessions through 1/29]
1/11 Eucharistic Visitor Training @Mercer
1/12 – 3/1 Second section of *The Path*
1/18 *School for Ministry*
1/25 Ordination to Diaconate
1/31- 2/1 DCDI Diocesan Congregational Development Institute

February

- 2/1 Postulancy Conference
2/4 Winter Clergy Day
2/8 Absalom Jones Celebration in Brooklyn
2/15 *School for Ministry*
Spring semester classes begin
2/22 Safe Church Training @ Mercer
2/26 Ash Wednesday Masses @ Cathedral
2/28-29 REVIVE Event with Dawn Davis (2/28 @ Mercer; 2/29 @ East End)

Visit www.mercerschool.org
and our new website congsupport.info!