

Lay Ministry Pathways | *Pastoral Care*



Course Objectives:

This course aims to...

- Deepen your faith and your relationship with Jesus.
- Develop confidence in using your gifts to serve your congregation and the wider church.
- Equip you with tools to do pastoral care in partnership and collaboration with your clergy.
- Develop sustainable structures and practices for pastoral care that meets the needs of all in the community.
- Reflect theologically on the work and ministry of providing pastoral care.

Expectations:

This course requires use of Google Classroom, where all of our course materials and assignments will be kept, and where we will meet most often for our course instruction and discussion. Each participant is expected to attend the online and in-person cohort meetings, as well as to engage in discussion on Google Classroom in between sessions. Instructions on how to use Google Classroom can be found at tinyurl.com/2waznxrd.

Participants in this course are expected to attend all of the synchronous (online or in-person) gatherings, though exceptions will be granted on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Canon for Vocations.

Participants also must demonstrate adequate proficiency in engaging with the material and assignments in order to be licensed by the Bishop. Please remember that sole discretion for licensure rests with the Bishop, and that participation in this ministry cohort does not guarantee automatic licensure.

Topics Covered:

- Incarnational Ministry : Forming a Theological Foundation for Pastoral Care
- Confidentiality/Boundaries
- What We Bring into the Room: Being Fully Present with Others
- Cultivating Spiritual Practices for Self-Care
- Processing Grief and Loss; End of Life Issues
- Bringing Communion to Parishioners
- The Prayer Book as Pastoral Resource
- Collects and Prayers
- How to Work Effectively With Your Rector/Head of Congregation

- How to Build Sustainable Structures for Pastoral Care in Your Parish
- Questions About the Future: Is AI Possible of Providing Pastoral Care?

Texts:

Required:

Doehring, Carrie. *The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach* (Revised and Expanded Edition). Westminster John Knox, 2015.

The Book of Common Prayer 1979

Wells, Samuel. *Incarnational Ministry: Being With the Church*. Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2017.

Recommended:

Kelley, Melissa M. *Grief: Contemporary Theory and the Practice of Ministry*. Fortress Press, 2010.

Long, Thomas G. *What Shall We Say?: Evil, Suffering, and the Crisis of Faith*. Eerdmans, 2014.

Wells, Samuel. *Crafting Prayers for Public Worship: The Art of Intercession*. Canterbury Press, 2013.

Please note: Additional articles, videos, and resources will be posted to Google Classroom throughout the course.