

CONVENTION REPORT

2019 began the new **Trimester Design:**

Spring Term February 18, to May 11, 2019 Fall Term August 9, to October 19th, 2019

November 1, to February 22nd with winter break Dec. 15- January 9, 2020 Winter Term

Enrollment Spring Semester 2019---Present enrollment including Diocese of Bethlehem and Diocese of Pittsburgh students.

Certificate for the ministry of deacon: 3 students Certificate for the ministry of Priest: 9 students Lay Worship Leader 3 Students 20 students Continuing education

Field Placements 5 students; two are Lay Pastors

Anglican Studies Joint Certificate Program with Lancaster Theological Seminary 5 students for Fall 2019 term. Each of 6 Anglican studies Stevenson School For Ministry courses are now worth 2 graduate credits.

New Collaborative Mission Center for Lay Ministry

The vision of an innovative and collaborative mission center that offers online and face-to-face hybrid learning experiences with the Lower Susquehanna Synod and The Stevenson School for Ministry is intentionally in support of Lay Ministry and the Ministry of all the Baptized. It is designed to serve leadership training and formation needs, especially in understaffed congregations. The purpose of the CMC is to share and expand resources for clergy and congregations through five-week shaped by faith course modules, coaching, training, and mentoring. the Collaborative Mission Center is being developed in collaboration with the Lower Susquehanna Synod. Because of this new collaboration The Stevenson School for Ministry returns to its foundational roots that is to equip and strengthen the ways we serve the laity in their baptismal call. John Roberto and Vibrant Faith participation continued in 2019—SSFM has two students participating in the lay catechist program.

To support and enhance the continuing education needs of clergy and laity, we are launching new certificate programs in specific ministry competency areas such as: Missional Preaching, Evangelism, and Spiritual Leadership. Course offerings from the Collaborative Mission Center; LSS and SSFM include:

1- Certificate programs for:

- a. Lay Worship Leader
- b. Lay Preacher
- c. Lay Catechist
- 2- New Evangelism Certificate and Missional Preaching Certificate developed through collaboration with Lower Susquehanna Synod Staff: Deacon Marsha Roscoe and The Rev. Richard Jorgensen.
- 3- Shaped by Faith Courses: Discovery of Gifts, Ways to Pray, Ways to tell our Story, Stewardship, Evangelism, Prayer Practices, Ministry in Smaller Congregations, Celtic Spirituality, Vestry leadership, and Parish Administration, Creative use of Space and others designated for each term.

The CMC is operational thanks to the partnership of the Lower Susquehanna Synod that contributes \$15,000.00 per year to SSFM and whose faculty asked not to receive a stipend, and a Roanridge Grant of \$15,000.00 for the year August 2019- August 2020.



CONVENTION REPORT

Events: Learning Weekends:

- **February:** Doing Theology; Naming, Claiming, Proclaiming God ---25 in attendance
- * May: Christ Centered Communications with Chris Sikkema, Canon Alexis, and Canon Dan, 28 in attendance
- ❖ August: Healing A Broken World: Social Justice with The Rev. Beccas Stevens 50 in attendance
- ❖ October: How to Pray for Healing A Broken World with the Rev. Dr. Allison St. Louis, The Rev. Marsha Roscoe and The Rev. Richard Jorgensen.
- * April 6: Discovery Day, members of the COM and SSFM faculty and dean gathered with Bishop Scanlan and folks interested in understanding "call". They gathered, bringing their discernment questions and academic standards questions from all those who are considering a call or are inquiring (for lay and ordained vocations).

Fall of 2019 updates:

Shawn Strout, our Associate Dean for Academic Affairs accepted a full-time position with Virginia Theological Seminary and resigned as Associate Dean. He remains on Stevenson School For Ministry faculty, particularly teaching the Anglican Studies courses. We welcomed on Sept. 1st The Rev. Marsha Roscoe, who has accepted the position as SSFM part time (12 hours per week) Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Marsha comes to us from the Lower Susquehanna Synod, and is Director for Mission Interpretation.

Vital and Effective Leadership Institute for newly ordained and new clergy to the diocese We are expanding the Vital and Effective Leadership Institute to foster collaborative learning and missional development for Lutheran-Episcopal and other newly ordained clergy beginning their cure.

Presently there are 12 participants for this two-year opportunity for continuing education. This colleague and learning cohort are offered at no cost to the clergy and is coordinated by The Rev. Canon David Lovelace and The Rev. Dr. David Zwifka.

SSFM Advisory Board: We held three Stevenson School for Ministry Board Meetings, with The Rev. Canon David Lovelace as Chair.

The Stevenson School for Ministry Advisory Board continues to work with a strategic plan developed by an initial task force chaired by The Rev. Canon David Lovelace, that places intentionality upon the need for formational growth in parish life and for financial growth for the school as well as. We focus on four teams: Financial, Marketing, Curriculum and Cross Generational. This year the Advisory Board completed the competencies for the ministry of Deacon and Priest and is working on the competencies necessary for certification in Lay Canonical Ministries. The Board participated in three retreats with the Commission on Ministry, The Standing Committee, The Bishop and Diocesan Staff. The Board is also looking at ways to communicate our "Shaped by Faith Courses" and on boarding all the formation opportunities for SSFM. The Cross Generational Team will be included in a separate report.

Stevenson School For Ministry also welcomed a new Treasurer, Mr. Rob Box, who has worked with our Canon for Finance Chad Linder to develop a budget and budget trajectory to stabilize SSFM.

Check out our web page for more information www.diocesecpa.org

Fall Semester 2019- Winter 2020 preparation includes

1. We began the development of a new podcast course for Spring Semester 2020. And a new Christian-Islam course.



CONVENTION REPORT

- We have met with and are looking for ways of collaboration with Virginia Theological Seminary and Bexley-Seabury Seminary.
- 3. We are discerning collaboration with Dr. Joshua Davis, Dean of the diocesan school for ministry in the Diocese of Alabama.
- 4. We are so blessed to have Alexis Guszick who works with Deacon Marsha Roscoe to brand all new SSFM materials.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Very Rev. Robyn Szoke-Coolidge, Dean of the Stevenson School for Ministry