

**New York School of Ministry
Supply Preacher Certificate Program
2020-2021**

This nine-month program is for lay people who want to learn how to preach and lead worship, in order to become supply preachers (able to fill in when authorized ministers are ill or away) in their congregations or in their Associations. This program does not prepare participants for authorized ministry.

The program, which runs from September through June, consists of sixteen 1½ hour video conferenced classes offered twice each month and two 3 ½ hour practicum sessions at the end of the program. Zoom is the platform we use, so that the class sessions can be recorded and a link to the recordings sent out to the participants. There are reading/writing components for each session. The writing assignment for each session is generally a 4-5 page sermon that is due one week after the class session. Assignments receive written comments from the instructor and a grade. Our teaching team consists of six instructors, so participants receive a variety of perspectives throughout the year. At the end of the program, the participant, the participant's pastor, and the Committee on Ministry of the participant's Association will receive a narrative final assessment. Committees on Ministry can use that final assessment to decide whether to put the participant on their supply list.

Pre-Requisite: Recommendation from home church
Maximum enrollment: 15 participants
Registration Deadline: September 1
Minimum enrollment: 8 participants. If we do not have the minimum number on September 1, the program will be cancelled.

2020-2021 Program Costs:

For NY Conference participants: \$575, plus books. For participants outside the New York Conference: \$575, plus the Distance Learning Support fee of \$150, plus books.

Distance Learning Support fee: distance learning requires technological support. For video-conferenced programs, participants outside the New York Conference are welcome. The NY Conference subsidizes distance learning for participants in the Conference; we encourage participants outside the New York Conference to ask their Conferences or participating denominations to provide that support (otherwise, the fee is the participant's responsibility). All participants are expected to have webcams (which can be purchased for less than \$30 at stores like Target).

Schedule of Sessions

**Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 pm (Eastern)
(except for 9/15 and 9/29, which will run 6:30-8:45)**

Sixteen 90 Minute Classes:

September 15: Introductions, Part I (6:30-7:15), Marjorie Purnine, and Communicating with a Congregation: Sermon Structure and Delivery (7:15-8:45), Quinn Caldwell, instructor (assignment due September 22)

September 29: Introductions, Part II (6:30-7:15), and Preaching from the Lectionary: Exegesis for Preaching, Marjorie Purnine, instructor (assignment due October 6)

October 13: Preaching the Old Testament - year A, Jonathan Lawrence, instructor (assignment due October 20)

October 27: Preaching the New Testament – year A, David Kaden, instructor (assignment due November 3)

November 10: Preaching the Old Testament – year B, Jonathan Lawrence, instructor (assignment due November 17)

November 24: Preaching the New Testament – year B, David Kaden, instructor (assignment due December 1)

December 8: Preaching the Old Testament – year C, Jonathan Lawrence, instructor (assignment due December 15)

January 12: Preaching the New Testament – year C, David Kaden, instructor (assignment due January 19)

January 26: Planning and Leading Worship, Quinn Caldwell, instructor (assignment due February 2)

February 9: Christology, Steven Johnson, instructor (assignment due February 16)

February 23: Theological Reflection (Methods), Steven Johnson, instructor (assignment due March 2)

March 9: Trinity, Steven Johnson, instructor (assignment due March 16)

March 23: Ecclesiology, Steven Johnson, instructor (assignment due March 30)

April 13: UCC Identity (theology, history, and polity), Steven Johnson, instructor (assignment due April 20)

April 27: The Ethics of Supply Preaching, Marsha Williams, instructor (assignment due May 4)

May 11: More Planning and Leading Worship, Marjorie Purnine, instructor (assignment due May 18)

Two 3 ½ hour Preaching Practicum Sessions:

Each includes preaching by all participants and feedback offered by all participants

May 25, 6-9:30 pm: Preaching Practicum 1, Marjorie Purnine, instructor (revised sermon due June 8)

June 22 6-9:30 pm: Preaching Practicum 2, Marjorie Purnine, instructor (revised sermon due July 6)

Required Texts:

Finding Words for Worship, by Ruth Duck

Doing the Deed: The Mechanics of 21st Century Preaching, by Martha J. Simmons

Daily Life in Biblical Times, by Oded Borowski

The Old Testament: A Very Short Introduction, by Michael Coogan

The New Testament: A Very Short Introduction, by Luke Timothy Johnson

Preaching the Gospels without Blaming the Jews - A Lectionary Commentary, by Ronald J. Allen and Clark M. Williamson

Understanding Christian Doctrine, by Ian S. Markham

Other assigned material (web articles/videos or pdfs)

We know books can be expensive, so we encourage the buying of used books at sites like: abebooks.com, amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com

Questions: Contact Rev. Marjorie Purnine, Ph.D, Dean of the New York School of Ministry, at mpurnine@uccny.org or 315-446-3073x9. The New York School of Ministry (NYSOM) is an educational and formational program of the New York Conference, United Church of Christ.