



Youth ministry is a calling. Those who answer the call to serve the church as youth leaders — as volunteers, as staff members, as clergy — find their calls strengthened and their

ministry supported through participation in lifelong learning events. Acknowledging the need for dynamic, relevant programs that support excellence in youth ministry, the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and Columbia Theological Seminary designed a non-degree program, the **Youth Ministry Leadership Initiative (YMLI)**, for pastors and lay leaders who are committed to developing strong church youth programs.

Why enroll in YMLI?

Participants in YMLI courses will gain a deeper understanding of their personal call to youth ministry and how that call can faithfully serve the life of the church. Courses provide the opportunity to network with others who are passionate about working with young people. Persons making the commitment to YMLI, as they learn from one another and the program, will gain practical knowledge of how to work within the church to create theologically sound, enjoyable, innovative ministries for youth.

How does YMLI work?

The YMLI curriculum includes two weekend retreats and six weekend courses, all held at Columbia Theological Seminary, in Decatur, GA. Leadership will include seminary faculty and staff, members of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta staff, and other experienced youth leaders and professionals. You may enroll in as many courses as you want. If you complete all eight courses you will be awarded a certificate of Training and Development in Youth Ministry.

YMLI Roundtable Courses

- Soul Tending
- Know Where to Turn When Youth Turn to You (Youth Development and Pastoral Care)
- Because the Bible Tells Me So: Biblical Interpretation
- Programming with a Plan: Intentional Youth Ministry
- How Presbyterians Talk About God: Theology & Polity
- The Big Three: Worship, Mission and Fellowship

YMLI Certification Format

Beginning Retreat/Discernment Weekend

led by Rodger Nishioka *and* Neema Cyrus-Franklin

Roundtable Courses

6 weekend courses

Capstone Retreat Weekend

led by Rodger Nishioka *and* Neema Cyrus-Franklin

About the Retreat Leaders

Rodger Nishioka is associate professor of Christian education at CTS. Nishioka received his M.A.T.S. from McCormick Seminary and Ph.D. from Georgia State University. He is a nationally recognized keynote speaker, preacher and expert in youth and young adult ministry.

Neema Cyrus-Franklin is director of youth ministries for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Cyrus-Franklin received M.Div. and M.C.E. degrees from Johnson C. Smith Seminary of the Interdenominational Theological Center. She has extensive experience in camp and conference ministries; she serves as a member of the General Assembly task force to develop a strategy for African American evangelism and church growth and the Caribbean and North American Area Council for the PC (USA).

What does YMLI cost?

The cost is \$165 per course or retreat, including meals. For the entire program, the cost is approximately \$1320. Housing on the seminary campus is based on availability. \$49 per night, single occupancy; \$32 per night, double occupancy. (Rates current 7/2010)

How do I register?

Online: www.ctsnet.edu.

Go to Lifelong Learning. Click on Courses and Events, then the date of the event. A non-refundable deposit is required at registration.

Phone: 404-687-4587

E-mail: lifelonglearning@ctsnet.edu

More information

Neema Cyrus-Franklin: 678-638-1473

ncyrusfranklin@presbyteryofgreateratl.org

Sarah Erickson: 404-687-4526

ericksons@ctsnet.edu



Program Schedule

2010-2011

Participants must register before each event. See registration information below.

Opening Retreat: October 10-12, 2008

Discerning Your Call to Youth Ministry

The opening retreat and discernment weekend is designed to allow you to take time out to ask the important questions about your individual ministry and youth ministry as a whole. You will interact with others who understand the importance of youth ministry, as you work toward bringing to light specific challenges, opportunities, and issues surrounding youth ministry in today's church.

Leaders for this retreat are Rodger Nishioka, associate professor of Christian education at Columbia Theological Seminary, and Neema Cyrus-Franklin, director of youth ministries for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

During the weekend, you will discuss these topics:

- Why you feel called to youth ministry
- What it means to be called to work with young people
- What is unique about your call to youth ministry
- What specific gifts and limitations you have in dealing with youth

Registration

You must register for each event and for housing.

- **By phone** 404-687-4587
- **Online** www.ctsnet.edu.
Go to Lifelong Learning, then Events and Courses. Click on the date of the YMLI event you plan to attend.

YMLI Retreats and Roundtable Courses

- 1) **Because the Bible Tells Me So: Putting the Bible in Bible Study**
Aug. 27-28, 2010
- 2) **Beginning Retreat: Discerning Your Call to Youth Ministry**
October 22-24, 2010 and TBA Oct. 2011
- 3) **How Presbyterians Talk About God: Theology and Polity**
Dec. 3-4, 2010
- 4) **Know Where to Turn When the Youth Turn to You**
Feb. 18-19, 2011
- 5) **The Big Three: Worship, Mission and Fellowship**
May 6-7, 2011
- 6) **Programming with a Plan: Intentional Youth Ministry**
August 26-27, 2011
- 7) **Soul Tending: Finding Spirituality in Your Ministry**
December 2-3, 2011
- 8) **Capstone Retreat**
TBA (early-mid 2011)

YMLI Course Leaders

Ann H. K. Apple, Parish Associate & Jim Apple, Deacon
Idlewild Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN

Troy Bronsink, Pastor, community organizer, artist, songwriter
Church of St. Andrews, Atlanta, GA

Anna Brown, Christian Educator
Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church, Duluth, GA

Victor Cyrus-Franklin, Associate Pastor
East Point First Mallalieu UMC, East Point, GA

Eric Dillenbeck, Associate Pastor
Fairmount Presbyterian, Cleveland Heights, OH

Neema Cyrus-Franklin, Director of Youth Ministries
Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

Morgan Morse Hay, Associate Pastor
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Tucker, GA

Martha Moore-Keish, Assistant Professor of Theology
Columbia Theological Seminary

Rodger Nishioka, Associate Professor of Christian Education
Columbia Theological Seminary

Skip Johnson, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care
Columbia Theological Seminary



COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Lifelong Learning Registration Form
Youth Ministry Leadership Initiative

A Partnership between the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and Columbia Theological Seminary

Preferred Title: Ms. ___ Rev. ___ Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Gender: Male___ Female___

CTS Faculty___ CTS Staff___ CTS Student___ Spouse of CTS faculty, staff, or student___

Name_____ Job Title_____

Preferred Name (nametag)_____

Address_____ Home_____ Office_____

City_____ State_____ ZIP_____

Phone (day)_____ (evening)_____

E-mail_____ Church Membership_____

NO, do not include my contact information on the roster to be given to course participants_____

Event Title_____ Dates_____

Tuition \$_____ Location_____

A non-refundable \$50 deposit (applied to your \$165 program fee) must accompany your registration form.

Seminary Housing \$32 per person, per night double occupancy. Single room, \$49 per night.

___ Person(s) Arrival date_____ Departure date_____

___ Double room ___ Single room (if available)

Roommate preference_____

Special Needs_____

Housing Reservation Cancellation Policy: If you must cancel your housing reservation, please notify Miguel Chavez (404-687-4510) at least 48 hours before your scheduled arrival to avoid a one-night penalty charge.

Credit Card Payment: Visa___ MasterCard___ Discover___

Name (as it appears on card)_____

Full billing address_____

Credit card number_____ Expiration date_____

Amount \$_____

Meals. Friday dinner and Saturday lunch are provided in the registration fee. Other refectory meals are charged per item.

More Information

Neema Cyrus Franklin, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta (404-638-1473) or ncyrusfranklin@presbyteryofgreateratl.org or Sarah Erickson, CTS Center for Lifelong Learning (404-687-4526) or ericksons@ctsnet.edu.

Return registration to: Registrar, Center for Lifelong Learning
Columbia Theological Seminary
P.O. Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031
Fax: 404-687-4591