



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, Columbia Theological Seminary offers courses in a series entitled **Youth Ministry Leadership Initiative (YMLI)**, for pastors and lay leaders who are committed to developing strong church youth programs. The

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 held at Columbia Theological Seminary, in Decatur, GA. Leadership includes seminary faculty and staff and other experienced youth leaders and professionals. You may enroll in as many courses as you want. Persons completing all eight courses and assignments receive 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
- Worship, Mission and Fellowship

YMLI Certification Format

Beginning Retreat/Discernment Weekend

led by Rodger Nishioka; currently not being offered pending program revision

Roundtable Courses

6 weekend courses

Capstone Retreat Weekend

led by Rodger Nishioka

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.

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, plus tax; \$32 per night, double occupancy, plus tax. (Rates current 5/2011)

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

Sarah Erickson: 404-687-4526

ericksons@ctsnet.edu



Program Schedule 2011-12

Soul Tending:
Finding Spirituality in Your Ministry
Aug. 26-27, 2011

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

Because the Bible Tells Me So:
Putting the Bible Back in Bible Study
October 14-15, 2011

Andy Acton, Associate Pastor
Anna Brown, Christian Educator
Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church, Duluth, GA

Programming with a Plan:
Intentional Youth Ministry
February 2-3, 2012

Rebekah Abel Lamar
Director of Christian Education
Decatur Presbyterian Church, Decatur, GA

John Ryan
Director of Youth Ministries
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA

Capstone Retreat
April 13-14, 2012

Sarah Erickson
Director of Lifelong Learning

Rodger Nishioka
Benton Family Associate Professor of
Christian Education
Columbia Theological Seminary

Registration

Please register at least two weeks ahead of the course start date in order to complete pre-course reading and assignments. Housing requires a separate registration if staying on campus.

By phone 404-687-4587

By email lifelonglearning@ctsnet.edu

Online www.ctsnet.edu.

Go to Lifelong Learning, then Events and Courses. Click on the date of the YMLI event you plan to attend.



COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Lifelong Learning Registration Form

Title: Ms. ___ Rev. ___ Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Gender: Male ___ Female ___

IF 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. (plus tax)

____ 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 Lifelong Learning (404-687-4587) 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, continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday are provided in the registration fee.

More Information

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