Lisa Withrow, an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church (1994), earned her Ph.D. in practical theology with a specialization in leadership studies from the University of Glasgow (1993), followed by 3 certificates in business leadership studies at Cornell University's Graduate School of Management (2018), and has taught in leadership disciplines at master's and doctoral levels (25+ years). She is certified for leadership coaching from three programs: International Coaching Federation (PCC), and the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland (GPCC™).

Withrow served 3 churches full-time, then taught full-time for 20 years in a United Methodist seminary where she directed the D.Min. program, the Field Education program, and served as Academic Dean. Currently, she is an affiliate professor of leadership at Bexley Seabury Seminary Federation in Chicago, on the coaching faculty for the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland, and directs the Doctor of Ministry program for Iliff School of Theology (Denver). She frequently coaches religious groups, staff teams, solo clergy, and administrative leaders; presents workshops and provides consultations on leadership development, change theory and practice, and conflict management for religious organizations, businesses, non-profits, and higher education, small businesses, and corporate middle management; and works with denominational conferences and organizations on emerging futures.

Her certification in professional mediation was awarded in 2023. Finally, Withrow also is co-founder of the Guild for Engaged Liminality and The Liminality Press, a niche publishing house. Lisa's own publications include numerous articles and 6 books on the topics of leadership, church development, and spirituality, with her most recent solo book published in 2020 on liminality and leadership, and two more contributions to books in 2022 and 2024. She is the Founder of Clear Transition Strategies, her current business to which she is appointed by the Bishop.