



## Be An Agent Of Healing In Your Community...

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Global Ministries University

*I slept and dreamt  
that life was joy.  
I awoke and saw  
that life was service.  
I acted and behold, service was joy.*  
-Tagore

### Global Ministries University Certificate in Community Chaplaincy

The Certificate in Community is designed for any individual who desires to be an agent of healing in their local community. Community-based chaplaincy allows caring citizens to offer the gift of their skillful presence, authentic companionship and deep compassion to the places of need, hurt, loneliness and discord in their community.

After completing this **six-month program**, you will have the basic knowledge, skills, and experience to work confidently, effectively and ethically in care-giving situations where spiritual and emotional well-being is central to the task of healing. Most often these situations arise in the presence of illness, aging and dying. But they also arise in many other settings such as community programs dedicated to social service and activism.

Spiritual Caregiving is a skill that is not so much taught as it is cultivated through enhanced knowledge and refined self-awareness. Thus, the Community Chaplaincy Program offers a rich

mixture of knowledge-based instruction, readings, experiential exercises, supported reflection, and group/individual consultation about specific care-giving situations.

Those completing this six-month program will receive a Certificate of Completion in Community Chaplaincy from GMU.

This Program is offered in conjunction with the Pacific Institute for Essential Conversations (PIEC). PIEC is an accredited learning center for Clinical Pastoral Education and pastoral supervision.

Tuition for the Community Chaplaincy Program is \$3500. A non-refundable application fee of \$25.00 is required which will be deducted from the \$3500 tuition if one stays in the program. An additional commitment payment of \$475.00 is also necessary because this is a comprehensive certificate program requiring a commitment of six months and 40 supervised hours of service in clinical placement in collaboration with PIEC.

**Prompt remittance of the \$25.00 application fee and the remaining \$475 commitment payment will facilitate placement in the 2021 program. Your application cannot be processed without this retainer. We urge you to remit it as soon as possible.**



...Offer the gift of your

- skillful presence
- authentic companionship
- deep compassion

## **Entry Requirements:**

### Admission to GMU

1. A completed program application and payment of the \$25 application fee.
2. An admission interview with the intake counselor, Marita Grudzen via Zoom
3. Commitment payment of \$475.
4. Signed Tuition payment agreement.
5. GMU background check
6. Secure a volunteer placement providing spiritual care in the student's community.

## **General Requirements:**

1. Theologically, the applicant must exhibit a willingness to learn from and with individuals of other faith traditions and understand that this program embodies interfaith and interspiritual values.
2. The applicant needs to possess the emotional and mental energy to be of service to persons experiencing a variety of emotional states and complex social situations.
3. The perspective learner must be able to speak, write, and read English.
4. The applicant must have adequate time to be available for group seminars, readings, individual supervision, and 40 hours of voluntary service.
5. Demonstrate ability to learn by the process of experiential education which is a paradigm for an adult action/reflection process model of education. Learners must be open to working in consultation with a peer group, supervisor/instructor and staff at their volunteer service location.

## **Tuition and Payment Plan:**

Each student would be required to pay \$500 (\$25 application fee + \$475 commitment payment) to be officially registered for the Community Chaplaincy Program. An orientation will be provided by PIEC prior to the start of the program. Once the student takes the Orientation Program, there can be no refund of the \$500.

Students have the choice of paying the total tuition by the first week of December and receive a discount of \$250 thus making tuition \$3250. If the application fee of \$25 and the subsequent \$475 commitment payment have been made prior, then the remaining tuition would be \$2750.

If students choose a payment plan, they will need to pay the balance of \$3000 over six months at \$500 per month, due by the 5th of each month. In addition to checks and ACH bank payments, GMU accepts PayPal and credit card payments. GMU is notified the day the credit card payment begins to process. GMU's Financial director will send an email "Tuition Payment Info" on the 25th of each month as a reminder that tuition payment is due.

## **Withdrawal and Refunds:**

If a student drops the course and they have paid the full cost prior to the start of the course, the refund will be based on the percentage of the program that they did not complete times 60% of the amount that they paid less the \$500 deposit. For those students taking the payment plan, the maximum refund would be \$500 since they are only paying for their instruction on a monthly basis.



Cultivate Spiritual Caregiving through  
enhanced knowledge  
and refined self-awareness.

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## **Orientation and Volunteer Placement:**

The GMU Community Chaplaincy Program requires each student to have a volunteer service placement in his or her community. Over the six-month course, the program requires at least 40 hours of service. Just a few examples of placements could be:

- working as a volunteer chaplain in a senior residential facility,
- providing spiritual support and consult to staff of a community service nonprofit,
- working in a street ministry, food bank or homeless shelter,
- providing spiritual support to activism activities and participant groups related to social/environmental justice
- organizing and participating in peer support programs in churches, treatment centers, transitional housing, social justice program, etc.

Students are also encouraged to develop their own personalized and creative ministries for community chaplaincy in response to the hurts, sorrows and needs of their community. The Community Chaplaincy Program instructors are available to work 1:1

with students in formulating and implementing volunteer placements. Special attention will be given to distance chaplaincy opportunities due to COVID-19

After admission to the program, an orientation session will be scheduled to prepare each student for their field placement, arrange details of Zoom meeting format and ensure student readiness to begin the program.

## **Curriculum:**

### **Course One: Cultivating Presence**

**Five ZOOM Sessions:** Topics Include:

Introduction to Program • Spiritual Care and Community Chaplaincy • Group Formation• Orientation to volunteer service sites • Core Precepts of Spiritual Caregiving • ‘Use of Self’ in Spiritual Caregiving • Deep Listening • We Never Meet Anyone New • Ethics • Interspirituality • Parallel Processing • Collusion • Healing relationships • Introduction to spiritual assessment

The zoom meetings will be interactive and limited in size so the participants can interact effectively with the instructor and one another. Cohorts are limited to 5-8 persons. Each cohort will have an instructor.

### **Informational Discussions and Interviews with Community Chaplains**

#### **Established Placement in a Community Chaplaincy**

**Three 1:1 Supervision Sessions:** Support and consultation in Community Chaplaincy

### **Course Two: Enhancing Skills**

**Five Zoom Sessions:** Topics Include

Grief • Anxiety • Trauma • Dementia • Relationships • Advance Directives • Belief Systems • Social/Restorative Justice • Ecological Justice/Eco-chaplaincy • End of Life Spiritual Care • Addiction • Relational and Cultural Dynamics • Helping v Serving • Case Conference methodology

### **One Case Conference Presentation**

**Three 1:1 Supervision Sessions:** Case discussions, sticky situations, problematic encounters

### **Course Three: Fostering Depth**

**Five ZOOM Sessions: Topics Include:**

Anger & Conflict • Compassion fatigue v Burnout • Mystery • Not Knowing •  
Forgiveness • Suffering • Wisdom • Intuition • Letting Go • Bearing Witness •  
Confrontation • Social and Political Activism • Life-long peer support

## Two Case Conference Presentations

**Three 1:1 Supervision Sessions:** Case consultations, feedback, and questions

## Instructors:



**John Jeffery**

Director,  
Pacific Institute for Essential Conversations

For over 40 years, John Jeffery has been an Interfaith pastoral provider. He has worked in hospitals, trauma centers, hospices and palliative clinics and has accompanied hundreds of individuals and families through their dying journey and has served at the bedside of countless individuals in the midst of their trauma, uncertainty and despair. John began his journey as a Methodist minister and has served as a professional clinical chaplain, pastoral counselor, spiritual director and end of life care practitioner. He is a graduate of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, and is a Board Certified Clinical Chaplain & Pastoral Counselor. John is a former Director of Spiritual Care Services for Kaiser Permanente. He holds a doctoral degree in Ecological Theology.

For the past twenty years John has been a clinical supervisor of chaplains, spiritual directors and pastoral counselors and often provides training in end of life care for physicians, nurses, therapists and hospice staff. He is a graduate of the Metta Institute for End of Life Care, a Fellow with the Association for Death Education and Counseling and a Fellow in Palliative and Hospice Care. John has been a student of Zen for the past 30 years. John offers pastoral counseling and spiritual direction to individuals both locally and nationwide.

John is a fully credentialed CPE Supervisor with the Center for Spiritual Care and Pastoral Formation (CSCPf).

John can be reached at: [john@pacinstitute.org](mailto:john@pacinstitute.org)



**Susan Shannon**

Susan Shannon, M. Div., BCC is a seeker, educator, earth and animal steward, and devotee of the heart. She has worked in the fields of Emotional Literacy and Restorative Justice for over 20 years, serving various communities including Tibetan Refugees, the homeless, the differently-abled, at-risk youth, and most recently, a Buddhist Chaplain to the men in San Quentin State Prison and Death Row. Susan incorporates over 45 years of Buddhist practice and study from the Tibetan tradition through an interfaith lens. She currently resides in the San Juan Islands where she writes, supervises Clinical Pastoral Education through the Center for Spiritual Care and Pastoral Formation/Pacific Institute, provides spiritual coaching, and stewards her land.

*“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.” — Mahatma Gandhi*

Connect.  
Become a volunteer chaplain.

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