



Office of African American Leadership Development
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July 28, 2020

Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

Yes, dreams do come true! We have listened during the Black Ministers retreat, hallway conversations at National Convocation and General Assembly. You dream of an educational program tailored for persons who realized that a Master of Divinity Degree just might be out of reach. We watched as you stood in affirmation as Dr. Stephanie Crowder opened fresh revelation in the New Testament at our retreat in Alexandria, Virginia. We watched and listened in Nashville, Tennessee, as you dreamed alongside Dr. Yolanda Norton as she helped you gain a better understanding of the Hebrew Bible. We dreamed as you dreamed, and we now announce that dreams do come true.

The Office of African American Clergy Leadership Development, in partnership with Lexington Theological Seminary, invites you to be part of the inaugural cohort for the Certificate of African American Ministry (CAAM) program this fall. We have assembled a stellar faculty of African American scholars and pastors who are sensitive to the needs of African American clergy. The courses within the Certificate of African American Ministry Program are organized around the 16 areas of ministerial practice of The General Commission on the Order of Ministry. The program is part of the Institute of Bi-vocational Ministry at LTS and its *Thriving in Ministry* Project.

The enclosed brochure provides an outline of the requirements for the program and how to begin the application process. We are launching the Certificate program this fall and we invite you to be a student in the inaugural class as we declare that dreams do come true.

Sincerely,

William L. Lee

Rev. Dr. William L. Lee
Director
Office of African American Leadership Development