



the Center for Faith and Service



SEMINARIES

that **CHANGE** *the* **WORLD**

Profiles of Service & Justice

COMMUNITY • ADVOCACY • ENGAGEMENT • SERVICE • SOCIAL JUSTICE

Wake Forest University School of Divinity



Located in Winston-Salem, NC, Wake Forest University School of Divinity prepares leaders informed by a theological understanding of vocation. Through imaginative courses and diverse programs of community engagement, students are equipped to be agents of justice, reconciliation, and compassion in Christian churches and other ministries.

SERVICE-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

The School of Divinity offers a number of scholarships for individuals dedicated to service-oriented ministries.

The largest of these is the The Carpenter Fellowship, which provides full tuition and a \$5,000 annual stipend for candidates who plan to pursue meaningful paths in service and ministry.

In addition to scholarships, the School of Divinity offers Student Academic Conference Grants for students to engage in areas of interest that can supplement their theological education or vocational passions. Support is provided toward registration, travel, and lodging to assistant students in making various conference opportunities affordable.

DEGREES INTEGRATING FAITH & SERVICE

In addition to the MDiv, the School of Divinity offers several joint degrees with other schools and programs of the University, including:

- The **MDiv/Master of Arts in Counseling** is offered for students interested in pursuing vocations that combine theological, ministerial and counseling skills.
- The **MDiv/Juris Doctor** prepares students for vocations in ethics and law. Students interested in nonprofits or public policy will benefit from such a program.
- The **MDiv/Master of Arts in Bioethics** facilitates an interdisciplinary conversation between theology and bioethics and provides resources for students whose vocational aims require knowledge and/or competence in both disciplines.
- The **MDiv/MA in Education** promotes interdisciplinary conversation between theological education, public education, and community engagement. The degree also provides students

pathways for developing skills and acquiring competencies necessary for achieving excellence in careers where religious leadership and education intersect.

- The **MDiv/MA in Sustainability** acknowledges the growing demand for professionals in religious leadership venues who have the knowledge and skills to lead communities in responding to critical ecological and social issues.
- The **MDiv/MA in Management Dual-Degree Pathway** targets students interested in ministry and religious leadership, and in gaining business knowledge and expertise needed to turn passion into a meaningful profession. Graduates work as non-profit leaders and ministry leaders at humanitarian agencies, church and parachurch organizations, or in the marketplace.

FIELD EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Students have completed internships in a broad range of settings related to community engagement issues, including anti-racism, healthcare access, ecological justice, LGBTQ activism, food justice, urban poverty, etc. Examples of placements focused on social justice include:

Green Street United Methodist Church—A progressive congregation in Winston-Salem with whom Wake Divinity has had an ongoing partnership. There are both a large number and great variety of leadership roles for students, which allow for involvement with the church's many ministries. The building also houses several non-profits that partner with the church, like The Shalom Project and the Institute for Dismantling Racism, which was founded by Rev. Willard Bass ('03).

City With Dwellings - Designed as a community-first response to the needs of people in the Winston-Salem and Forsyth County area, it operates as a network of winter overflow shelters at various churches in the city.



It is run largely by ex-offenders and Wake Forest School of Divinity students.

Peace Haven Farm - An intentional community where adults with intellectual disabilities live independently within the embrace of the community, both disabled and non-disabled persons find community here. The area includes a farm used for sustainability purposes, and other community organizations are invited to work the land.

Salem College – This has been a great partnership with the School of Divinity for students to help with the needs of students on a college campus. Students work in a variety of capacities in and around spiritual life.

FaithHealthNC - A dynamic partnership between faith communities, health systems and other health care providers focused on improving health. The partnerships are built on webs of trust and combine the caring strengths of congregations, the clinical expertise of health providers, and a network of community resources.

ISSUE INTEGRATED ACADEMIC COURSES

In addition to offering a broad array of courses relating to mission, prophetic witness, congregational leadership, and social justice, the School of Divinity offers co-curricular programs designed to integrate classroom learning with practical experience. The following are a sampling of many courses that address the intersection of community and classroom:

- **Christian Ministry and Public Leadership in American Life** explores the role of minister as public leader, examining the theme of urban poverty throughout four areas of concern, which include Christian ministry, making morally relevant meaning of social and political life, models of ministry leadership in broader publics, and in theological reflection.
- **Faith, Food Justice and Local Communities** explores issues of food access, food justice and faith through site visits and using insights and tools, both from research sciences and theology. Offered in partnership with the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

- **Formational and Transformational Practices in Christian Education** explores the interaction between faith and culture in congregations, schools, community agencies and public forums.
- **Ministry in Nonprofit Settings: Leadership Theory and Practice** explores the theory and practice of nonprofit leadership.
- **Religion and the Civil Rights Struggle** assesses the ways in which faith communities, organizations, and individuals have fueled or been reinforced by African American protests and demands for equal rights.
- **Urban Ministry: Ministering to Urban Churches** exposes students to aspects of spiritual, congregational and servant ministry in cities.

MULTICULTURAL CONTEXTS FOR MINISTRY

All students are required to complete one course focused on experiencing diverse religious perspectives and regional contexts. The following courses have been offered in the past:

Nicaragua: Nicaragua provides a compelling context to consider the role of legal, medical, clergy, and business professions, both within their individual disciplines, and as they intersect through development efforts in the community. This course utilizes a partnership between WFU and AMOS Health and Hope, a faith-based NGO that does health-focused community development.

Appalachia: Students complete studies in rural church and community ministry through a partnership with Appalachian Ministries Educational Resources Center (AMERC) in Berea, Kentucky. Particular attention is given to traditional communities amid the changing face of the Appalachian region.

Egypt: Students directly experience a vibrant Muslim society within which minority Christian communities practice their faith. The class explores numerous pagan, Christian, Muslim and (historically) Jewish places of worship in the greater Cairo area and in Egypt's stunning archaeological sites around Luxor.

ALUMNI PROFILES



Andrew Gardner

Andrew Gardner now lives in Tallahassee, Florida, pursuing doctoral studies in American Religious History. After Divinity School, he published his first book, *Reimagining Zion: A History of the Alliance of Baptists*. The work recounts the history and identity of the Alliance of Baptists, an organization that seeks justice, reconciliation, and compassion through supporting LGBTQ rights to funding religious education in Zimbabwe and more. For Andrew, the art of history—the art of storytelling—is ministry. Wake Forest School of Divinity served as a testing ground where Andrew honed his craft—his ministry—of storytelling.



Patti Parker

Rev. Patti Parker is the founder and Executive Director of Peace Café, Inc., a pay-what-you-can café in Winston-Salem, NC. After graduating with the first Food and Faith concentration, she was encouraged to open Peace Café. Rev. Parker has always been passionate about cooking and serving food, especially healthy food. She is frustrated with the lack of access to food, and the café will help to address this need through its “Everyone Eats” motto. The concept of the café is ingenious; there is a set donated price for each meal. Guests who can pay this usually pay more, knowing that they are helping to feed someone who would have otherwise gone without food. Guests who cannot pay the set price, pay what they can. Guests who cannot pay, volunteer for an hour in the café. Peace Café will serve healthy, local, organic (when possible) food. Rev. Parker credits Wake Forest School of Divinity for the support she has received to start and move forward with this venture.



Brittani Chavious-Hunt

Mrs. Brittani Chavious Hunt assumed that upon graduation from the Wake Forest University School of Divinity, her days on a college campus would be over. However, immediately following graduation, she found herself back on a college campus as Manager of Chapel Programs at High Point University. She pursued her Master’s of Divinity to help answer her call to ministry in a general sense, but also because of her commitment to the development of youth and young adults. She collaborates with and supports the Minister to the University in planning, coordinating and overseeing religious life operations.

For more information about Wake Forest University School of Divinity, or to apply, contact:
divinity.wfu.edu • divinity@wfu.edu • 336.758.3748 • Winston-Salem, NC

about SEMINARIES that CHANGE the WORLD

Each year, The Center for Faith and Service identifies a number of seminary and divinity schools that have demonstrated outstanding innovation in theological education. These seminaries and divinity schools offer degree programs for a generation of idealists, activists, volunteers and servant-leaders who are committed to community service and social justice. By equipping their graduates for jobs as leaders in their churches and communities, these schools are truly helping to change the world.

Schools selected to be part of Seminaries that Change the World invest in students through service-based scholarships. They are committed to reimagining theological education by integrating issues of service and justice into their curricula, and they provide students with critical opportunities for community-based learning through field placement internships or other extra-curricular opportunities. They are committed to educating diverse student bodies and equipping graduates to create systemic social change.



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Profiles of Service and Justice is a publication of The Center for Faith and Service, which manages Seminaries that Change the World.
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