



New Trends in Supervised Ministry

The Association for Theological Field Education (ATFE) held its 30th Biennial Consultation, in Atlanta, Georgia, January 21 – 25, 2009. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, our keynote speaker argued that, prophetic poetics live in the creative tension of walking with God in the midst of “bodily realities” and helping people survive during that void between “amen” and “thank you Jesus.” We are

the ones called by God to transform the rough places, offer an alternative reality and tell people how God’s story is their story. The classroom teaches you what such a task entails. Supervised Ministry teaches you how to INTEGRATE classroom lessons into your daily functioning as a prophetic poet in the context of your ministry. As supervised ministry educators gathered from all around the world, we were challenged

to wrestle with the following questions:
 -How do we know God?
 -What seductions do practical theologians and their students face?
 -How are we schooled in holiness?
 -What happens if boundary-crossing is taken as a pivot point in the journey to mature faith?
 -What has truth to do with suffering?
 -What does it mean to be a “witness” in the context of theological education?
 -Much of our talk is now anemic. What does that mean for our walk? Can frightened people bear witness?
 -How should we be a pastor to Nehemiah?

-What do students learn from our ethos?
 -What obstacles do supervised ministry educators face in cultivating an ethos responsive to God and church?
 How we engage in supervised ministry for the 21st century will change. We are on a new journey of discovery and praxis. Supervised Ministry is under construction. Please continue to be patient as we discern the answers to the questions listed above and create a new way to engage in supervised ministry.

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 -Dr. Willard Ashley, Sr.
 Director of Supervised
 Ministry at NBTS.

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

Want to do CPE this summer? Log on to www.nbts.edu under academics and scroll down to SM sites for a list of current sites for CPE and Supervised Ministry. CPE is worth 2 units of Supervised Ministry & 6 elective credits. Be sure to submit an evaluation from your CPE supervisor to the Office of Supervised Ministry (OSM) to be granted 2 units for supervised ministry. You also need to submit your evaluation to Professor Raynard Smith to be granted elective credits.

	2
<i>Important Reminders</i>	2
<i>My People Perish</i>	3
<i>Foundations in Supervision</i>	3
<i>Relying on Holy Spirit</i>	4
<i>My People Perish (con’t)</i>	4
<i>The Writing Lab</i>	4

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 Reverend Dr. Willard Ashley, Sr.
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Supervised Ministry: A Good Experience

The Korean Community Church of NJ in Englewood is my supervised ministry site. I was the children's pastor and a director of the school for children about three years ago. However, I became the sacrificial lamb after my husband was hired as a full time minister. I was fired from my church. After that, I started supervised ministry in my church. My senior pastor, Rev. Koo Yong Na willingly accepted me as a supervised ministry student. Whenever I started and finished the units, I learned many things about ministry. I became the worship director of a newly established service for members in their 30s and 40s

at my church. Also, I was the PR person when my church started a campaign called the purpose driven. Now, I have moved from the children's ministry to adult education. I have since been hired as director of the Korean school. I have had many good experiences through supervised ministry. When I was fired my position as pastor of the children's ministry, I had a wounded heart, but God healed me when I taught the Bible class. I experienced God's touch and healing by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, through the Ministerium, I found that sharing my supervised ministry

experience was very helpful.

Ministerium was a time for confirming my calling and checking my theological and spiritual health. Now, I already finished five units. I will be done with the last unit this semester. I thank God for giving me a chance to devote myself to God's ministry and to study theology in the United States.



**+Eun Kyeong Kim Shin,
Graduating Senior**

Some Important Reminders

**A Word about Supervised
Ministry Registration**

Students who are in full time ministry qualify to register for 2 units in one semester. If you register for two units of supervised ministry in a single semester, please make sure the following criterion is met:

- 2 Units in one semester = 40 hours per week;

Please note that you must register each semester if you are doing an extended unit.

- 2 Extended Units = September—May (Fall and Spring); 8-12 hours a week.

A Word about Covenants

If you do not submit your Learning Serving Covenant by the due date, the Finance Office will assess you a late fee of \$100.

A Word about Evaluations

If you do not submit your evaluations, or OSM does not receive your supervisor's evaluation, an N/C (no credit) will appear on your transcript until the required documents are submitted. Students who fall into this category will receive a personal e-mail reminder.

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“MY PEOPLE PERISH FOR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE”

HOSEA 4:6A

‘HIV/AIDS more than any other disease, in modern history is threatening the health of nations and the very fabric of societies by causing the death of millions of predominantly young people. Many factors complicate the issue and prevent widespread behavior change. Among them are socio-economic conditions of poverty, gender roles, violence, lack of information and unequal access to quality health services.’

I did my Supervised Ministry last semester at the Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (HAF) in New Brunswick. It is an organization established to help people infected with HIV/AIDS and those affected by it to negotiate their way through the myriad of laws and processes that benefit their well being. The foundation’s main aim is to educate people about the disease and their rights to health care and other social needs. It also aims to empower individuals who have no voice on how to effectively speak up for themselves and others. Though it is a very secular organization, it also recognizes that there is a spiritual component to healing and well being and as such they also have a pastoral care department to help those who need the help. I was assigned

to the Pastoral Care department and charged with among other things to observe and lead a spiritual support group, participate in ‘One Conversation’ with other church groups, and at the end of it all assist in developing an HIV ministry manual as a resource for the Pastoral Care division of HAF. The process of developing the manual meant that I had to do some research into HIV/AIDS. The research process was eye opening, because I not only learned a lot about HIV/AIDS, but also the toll it takes on each of us. Yes, each of us; we are all affected directly or indirectly by the disease. I was also disabused of some of my ignorance and long held assumptions. I went into the exercise thinking I know a lot about HIV and AIDS; I soon realized that I did not. I also went in with an open mind

and was prepared to come out of it better educated and more spiritually attuned to what God wanted me to learn about myself and the world around me. Thankfully, my supervisors were very patient and open with me and helped me to understand the workings of HAF. My immediate supervisor, Rev. Gerald Bailey, exposed me to the ‘ugly’ side of HIV: the sort of things ‘church people’ don’t talk about, sex and who is doing it with whom and to whom and the how of it; sex abuse, sexual orientation, drug abuse and how to engage with people on any of these topics and also how to cope with the unplanned incidents that come up so often.

I visited the sick and dying of AIDS, and participated in a funeral for someone I did not know. →

Foundations in Supervision

“Foundations in Supervision” is a unique continuing education opportunity for pastors or ministers who are currently supervising or intend to supervise a ministerial intern from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. There are only six class meetings. Classes meet only on the first Monday of every month from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the Fall semester.

Students, please inform your current or prospective supervisors of this marvelous opportunity, and have her/him contact the OSM : washley@nbts.edu; jnoel@nbts.edu.

Supervised Ministry Opportunities

+Fair Lawn Community Church is looking for a youth director; call Rev. Pamela Ennis at 201-962-6443 for more information.

+Rockaway Reformed Church is looking for a student pastor. Call Rev. David Ruisard at 908-534-4351 for more information.

+Calvary Baptist Church is looking for a youth minister. Call Rev. Joseph Oniyama at 973-676-6467 for more information.

The Writing Lab

Need help with writing your Learning Serving Covenant? Contact Writing Lab Instructor, Rev. Joanne Noel

Relying on the Holy Spirit

What a valuable experience of completing my first unit of Supervised Ministry at First Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in Newark, NJ where the Senior Pastor is Reverend Antonio Porter. My experience of Outreach/Evangelism with the *God First After-school Outreach Program* and Sunday school has been rewarding and priceless beyond measure. I rely on the Holy Spirit to direct me to that is to openly engage and meet the needs of the students and the needs of the community (Mark 10:14-16). Sometimes it is necessary to be transparent about life experiences so that the students understand that in the midst of our issues and struggles that God is ever present in our everyday decisions and everyday lives. God's Word of hope teaches the students to make positive choices when negative choices in the community are staring them in the face. The *God First After-school Outreach Program's* main purpose is to teach children the gospel of Jesus Christ so that the Word is a central part of their everyday-decision-making; to teach them to make positive decisions; to inspire and encourage them through educational programs, and Christian films. Supervised Ministry for me is an opportunity to be a servant-leader through Outreach and Evangelism. This assignment has strengthened my faith and understanding that the Holy Spirit works through every believer and stretches us, challenges us, and teaches us to be committed to the gospel and work of Jesus Christ. +Student Minister, **Kim Irby**

“My People Perish for Lack of Knowledge”

(con't from page 3)

He died because of the effects of the disease. I also learned through conversations with other people who are at HAF and my participation in 'One Conversations' about the other things that affect our well being that we usually are reluctant to bring out in the open because they are cultural taboos and socially embarrassing. I learnt that some people in our societies are falling victims to such preventable diseases as obesity, diabetes, heart diseases and strokes, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)

because of ignorance, cultural taboos and spiritual misconceptions. A lack of understanding of these and lot of other factors multiply the incidence of HIV infections, injection drug use etc. which are prevalent in particular sectors of the community. Hyacinth's 'One Conversations' in conjunction with local churches, is trying to bring awareness of these in our society and also trying to boost the spiritual well being by educating people on some very basic things to bring about change in their lives. I

realize that in all these ways God's hand is at work to bring about comfort and knowledge to God's people, even in the secular setting of HAF.

I am in the process of editing the manual and hope that what I end up with will be a beginning for the religious communities that are in HAF's future to continue to build on doing the work that Christ charged us all to do. It is my first attempt at writing any sort of manual, and I am most grateful to Dr. Warren Dennis and a host of clergy for their valuable advice and input. + Pastor **Mina Opoku**