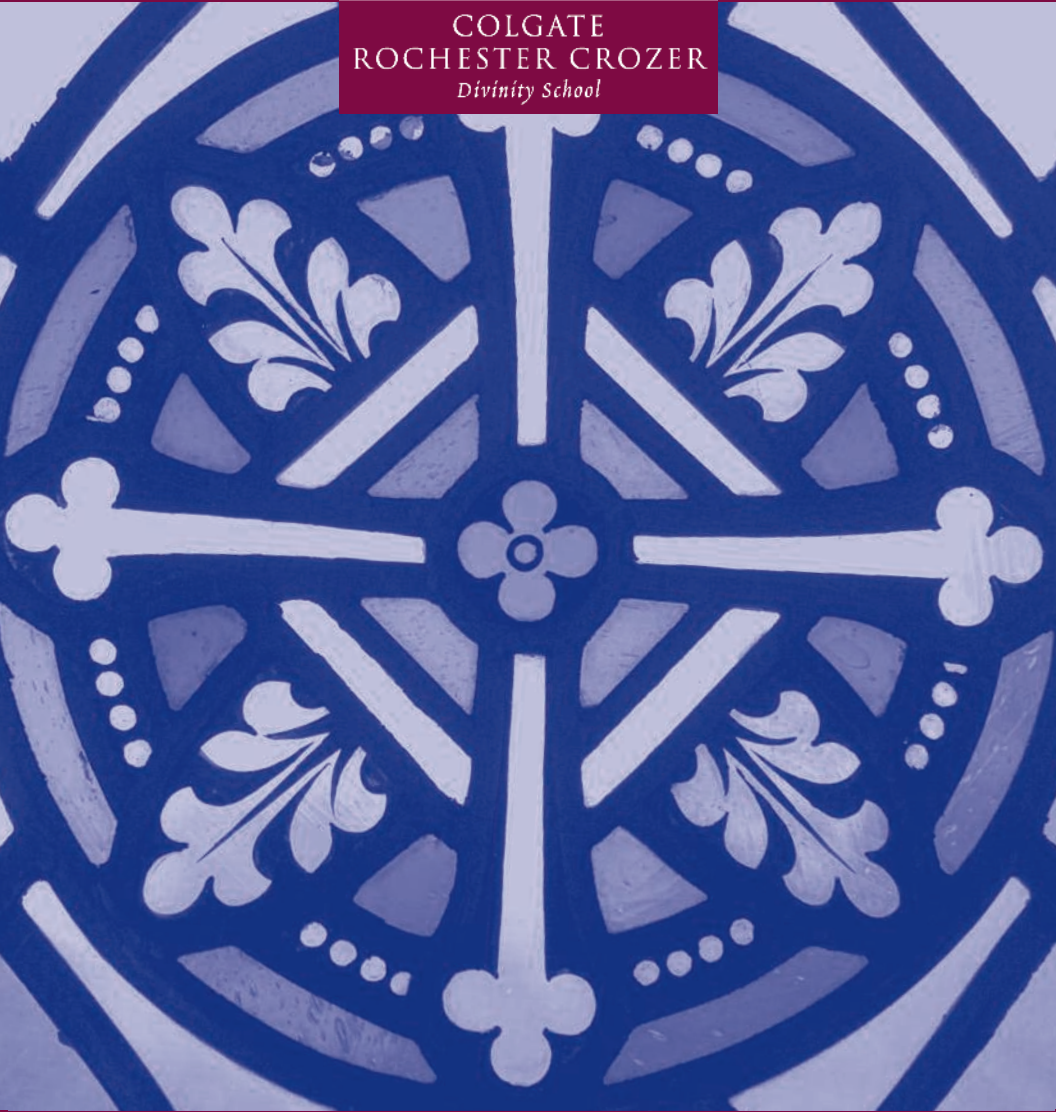


The Gene Bennett Program for Life Long Learning  
*School for Christian Leadership*



COLGATE  
ROCHESTER CROZER  
*Divinity School*



# The School for Christian Leadership

The School for Christian Leadership is a collaborative program sponsored by CRCDS, The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, The American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region, The Presbytery of the Genesee Valley, and the United Methodist Church. The program is designed to prepare persons for various kinds of parish ministry in the sponsoring denominations such as deacons and/or locally ordained priests in the Episcopal Church, Commissioned Lay Pastors, Lay Preachers or other designated titles.

Those who take the full three year cycle will be awarded a Certificate by CRCDS at Commencement in May of the third year of the program and will be granted 9 CEU's per year for satisfactory participation. Each denomination may require additional formation activities such as CPE, field education or supervised ministry.

The program will meet one weekend per month, beginning September 17/18, 2010. Sessions run from 7 PM on Friday evening until 5 PM on Saturday.

The classes will meet at the Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, NY and will be taught by CRCDS Faculty and Faculty Associates. Room with breakfast and lunch on Saturday is included in the tuition.

Christian leaders who do not wish to enroll for the full Certificate program may choose to enroll for individual weekends. Weekend students are not required to write papers or take examinations, but are expected to do the reading assigned for the weekend in order to participate fully in the class. Individual weekend participation is on a space available basis and subject to permission of the instructor. Single weekend participation by any individual may not exceed 5 weekends per academic year. Single weekend participants will not be included in denominational activities during the midday break period.

For further information contact The Rev. Dr. C. Denise Yarbrough at [dyarbrough@crcds.edu](mailto:dyarbrough@crcds.edu) For an application contact Life Long Learning at [lll@crcds.edu](mailto:lll@crcds.edu).

## Dates for the 2010-2011 Academic Year:

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September 17-18, 2010	October 15-16, 2010	November 19-20, 2010
December 10-11, 2010	January 7-8, 2011	February 18-19, 2011
March 18-19, 2011	April 15-16, 2011	May 13-14, 2011
June 17-18, 2011		



## Three Year Course Cycle

Each year, the educational weekends will cover material in four areas of practical concentrations:

- 1—Foundational Texts
- 2—Engaged Ministry: Personal, Professional and Pastoral Development
- 3—Worship and Liturgy
- 4—The Church Encounters the World

## Year One

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### *Weekend One—Foundational Texts—Scripture: The Gospels*

This course is designed to introduce the four canonical gospels and to explore how these early Christian gospels were generated and circulated before being written down by different faith communities. Throughout the course we will critically examine the literary, historical, social, cultural, political, and religious contexts of each gospel so that the distinctive voices of the gospel writers can be heard.

### *Weekend Two—Foundational Texts—Scripture: Genesis and Exodus*

This course offers a close reading of the first two books of the Christian Old Testament. Genesis and Exodus contain the key narratives of creation, flood, the call of Abraham, and the escape from Egypt via the Red Sea. They shall be read in their historical context as literature from the ancient Near East before their context as scripture is addressed.

### *Weekend Three—Worship: Introduction to Christian Worship*

This course will introduce students to the history of Christian worship focusing on the development of the Eucharistic liturgy, and basic pastoral liturgies such as baptisms, funerals, weddings. Liturgical differences between and among denominations emerging during the period of the Reformation will also be discussed.

### *Weekend Four—Worship: Introduction to Preaching*

What distinguishes preaching that is pastoral, communicative of the Gospel, scripturally rooted and spiritually liberating? Exploring these questions, the course will address sermon preparation and delivery. Attention will be given to the use of language, metaphor and imagination, and responsible encounter with the biblical text.

### *Weekend Five & Six — The Church Encounters the World:*

#### Introduction to Christian Theology: Parts One & Two

This course, in two weekends, provides a brief overview of the discipline of systematic theology, introducing basic themes such as God, Christ, Holy Spirit, sin, creation, salvation, grace, the kingdom of God and the Church. The course will also explore how scripture, tradition, reason, and praxis have influenced the development of these basic theological themes.

### *Weekend Seven—Engaged Ministry:*

#### Managing Change and Conflict in Congregational Life

This course will introduce students to contemporary theory on leading congregations through change and transition and provide practical, hands-on strategies for negotiating the challenges of ministering to congregations facing change and conflict, with particular focus on how to maintain boundaries and self care in the midst of conflict and transition.

### *Weekend Eight—The Church Encounters the World:*

#### Leading Emerging and Missional Churches in the 21st Century

Church planting and innovative ways of leading “non-traditional” church organizations and missions. An introduction to the Emerging Church phenomenon and other “new ways of being church” in the 21st Century.

### *Weekend Nine—The Church Encounters the World:*

#### Stewardship and Financial Administration

This course will introduce students to appropriate business and accounting practices for church administration. It will also cover stewardship and how churches are finding creative ways to finance ministry.

## Year Two


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### *Weekend One — Foundational Texts—Scripture: Prophets and Wisdom Traditions of the Hebrew Scriptures*

This course provides an overview of two major categories of literature in the Christian Old Testament. The student will i) learn to recognize key prophetic genres to make this considerable but not always easy collection of texts a little more accessible, and ii) learn to identify the distinct world view of biblical wisdom literature.

### *Weekend Two—Foundational Texts—Scripture: Paul and the Pauline Tradition*

This course will introduce the students to the Apostle Paul and the three generations of Pauline literature found in the New Testament. The students will examine Paul’s theology and ethics, and the Hellenistic and Jewish influences



that informed his letters. In addition to this, the students will have an opportunity to learn more about the literary and rhetorical conventions that shaped Paul's writings and the implications of this material for contemporary Christian leadership and ministry.

*Weekend Three—The Church Encounters the World: The Church Encounters Multi Cultural Diversity*

This theology course provides a basic intro to liberation theology, feminist theology and other theologies that emerge from a variety of cultural contexts and conflicts in various parts of the world.

*Weekend Four—The Church Encounters the World: The Modern Church (Church History)*

This introductory course will cover church history from the period of the Reformation to the present day, focusing on the various European reformations and their trajectory in American religious history.

*Weekend Five—Worship: Preaching through the Liturgical Year*

This course will introduce students to the demands of preaching in various liturgical seasons, using the Revised Common Lectionary or a lectionary of their own choosing.

*Episcopal Diaconal Candidates: Diakonia and the Diaconate*

This course will examine the history of the diaconal order and study the theology of diaconal ministry. We will explore what is unique about the diaconate and what diaconal ministry means in the Episcopal Church of the 21st Century.

*Weekend Six—Worship: Intro to Liturgy in Denominational Groups*

A basic introduction to the worship traditions of each denomination. Students will become familiar with the prayer books, books of worship or order within their own traditions and with the musical resources available in their denomination.

*Weekend Seven—Engaged Ministry: Pastoral Care in Congregational Life: Crisis, Family, Addiction, mental health, illness and sexuality.*

This course focuses on the most common emotional and spiritual issues that pastoral ministers are likely to encounter as they journey with others in congregational ministry. We will look at the unique role of the pastor in the life of the faith community.

*Weekend Eight—Engaged Ministry: Life Long Christian Formation: Education, Spiritual Development, Discipling*

This course will focus on how we form people for Christian life through education, spiritual direction and formation and engagement with the world in which Christians live and work.



### *Weekend Nine*—*The Church Encounters the World: Applied Ethics and Moral Theology.*

This course attends to the classical traditions of ethical thinking as well as contemporary ethical reflection on significant issues facing the church and the world in the 21st century.

## Year Three

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### *Weekend One*—*Foundational Texts: Apocalyptic Literature in Hebrew Scriptures and The Book of Revelation*

This course will equip students to recognize and engage those religious and political movements in our contemporary culture that operate out of an apocalyptic worldview, from Christians who believe in the rapture, to “extremists” of various religious traditions.

### *Weekend Two*—*The Church Encounters the World: Theologies of the Religions and Comparative Theology*

This course will introduce students to the various theological responses within the Christian tradition to the existence of other world religions. It will encourage students to articulate their own theological position and to reflect on how they will live into that theological stance from the pulpit, in pastoral encounters and in community ministries.

### *Weekend Three*—*The Church Encounters the World: Denominational Church History*

This course will divide the students by denomination. They will study the history of their own denomination in its early beginnings in Europe and as it has developed in the United States.

### *Weekend Four* — *The Church Encounters the World: Introduction to World Religions and Interfaith Dialogue*

This course will prepare students to engage in ministry in this pluralistic and multi-cultural society. They will learn the basics about the beliefs and practices of major world religions and the fundamental principles of respectful interfaith dialogue.

### *Weekend Five*—*Worship—Preaching for Pastoral Occasions: Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms.*

This course will prepare students to preach effectively at the critical pastoral events in the lives of their parishioners.

### **Episcopal Diaconal Candidates:** *Deacons in the Liturgy*

This course will examine the history and theology of the diaconal role in the Eucharistic liturgy. Candidates will gain practical experience in their diaconal



roles of proclaiming the gospel, setting the table and sending forth the congregation (dismissal.)

**Weekend Six**— *Worship–Pastoral Liturgy: Denominational Groups* (Eucharist, Baptism, Funerals, Weddings in each tradition)

This course will cover liturgical theology and praxis for the central celebrations in Christian life. This course will be divided into denominational groups.

**Episcopal Diaconal Candidates:** *The Prophetic Call of the Deacon*

This course will examine what the prophetic call of the deacon looks like in our contemporary church. How do deacons live into their role as “interpreters” of the needs of the church and the world?

**Weekend Seven**— *The Church Encounters the World: Telling the Church’s Stories: Early and Medieval Church History.*

A brief survey of the history of Christianity from its inception through the Middle Ages up to the time of the Reformations. Attention will be given to major persons and movements as well as major doctrinal controversies.

**Weekend Eight**— *Engaged Ministry: The Church in the Public Square* (*this course will cover mission, evangelism, outreach to local communities.*)

This course will encourage students to think creatively and critically about how their particular congregation can most effectively engage its community. We will discuss how to engage in strategic thinking as a faith community, how to prepare a vision statement and how to equip laity to move into the community in which their congregation lives to do the mission of God in that place.

**Weekend Nine**— *Foundational Texts: Denominational Polity*

In denominational groups students will study their denomination’s legal and canonical documents, confessions, laws, regulations, ethical codes and responsibilities.

*Each denomination will supplement this academic curriculum with practical and/or formation events as they deem appropriate. Some may require a modified form of CPE, supervised ministry, and spiritual formation processes appropriate to their tradition.*

Interested students who are not seeking licensing or ordination may take this program in single weekend units.

## Tuition:

\$1500 per year which includes housing and food at Notre Dame Retreat center for the 9 program weekends.

Single weekend participation: \$185 if space available at retreat house.  
\$150 for course and lunch on Saturday.

COLGATE ROCHESTER CROZER DIVINITY SCHOOL

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