BRIDGING THE WORD
AND THE WORLD
our Mission
On a dynamic and challenging global stage, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary plays its part in God’s redemption of the world through Jesus Christ by preparing leaders who proclaim with great joy God’s message of good news in both word and deed.

In a city known for its bridges, Pittsburgh Seminary has been bridging the Word and the world for more than 200 years. We recognize that the most important question we have to ask is not, “What are we doing on this campus?” but rather, “What is God doing in the world, and how can we be a part of it?”

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary proudly calls more than 3,000 people alums. These pastor-theologians have spent their lives in ministry, some as pastors, counselors, and chaplains, others as mission workers, community organizers, church educators, professors, and lawyers. Still others are bi-vocational, serving in coffee-house, homebuilding, and gardening ministries. Our graduates serve Christ and communities creatively by planting new churches. On these pages you will meet a few of these alums and learn about their calls to ministry. We also encourage you to watch their stories online at www.pts.edu/admissions, where you will see firsthand our community of scholars and learners rejoicing at the opportunity to share in God’s redemptive work in the world.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is scripturally grounded, broadly Reformed, ecumenically minded, and culturally relevant.

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Huitt serves as the David E. Garland Professor of Preaching and Christian Scriptures and director of the Kyle Lake Center for Effective Preaching at Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary, and as visiting professor at Baylor Law School. Prior to serving at Baylor, he served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Corpus Christi.

Huitt has edited several books and authored two: As You Go: An Honest Look at Jesus’ First Disciples and An Exegetical and Theological Study of Paul’s Understanding of New Creations and Reconciliation in 2 Cor. 5:14-21.

I want to encourage new pastors to be courageous in doing something difficult, in learning the skills needed to make God’s mission possible,” says the Rev. Cynthia (Cyndi) Bloise ’06. Stepping out in faith is exactly what Cyndi herself has done. Pastor of Center Avenue United Methodist Church in Pitcairn, Pa., Cyndi also serves as executive director of Circles Initiative, a national program assisting those living in poverty.

“I felt God grabbing hold and telling me that I had been preparing for this work for years,” says Cyndi: “God made the vision and my part in it so concrete that I couldn’t walk away from it. I had to be obedient.”

Since Circles is not an inexpensive program, Cyndi has had to develop practical skills to fund the ministry. “Many of us as pastors stop when we see price tags instead of finding creative ways to fund the ministry that we are called to,” she notes. Last year Cyndi raised more than $88,000 for Circles. “When the church abandons the people in its community, it sends a message that Jesus has abandoned them too.”

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In addition to enrolling in the Seminary’s degree programs, students have the option to cross-register with several institutions in the Pittsburgh area, including Carnegie Mellon University, Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh, and others, thereby expanding their educational opportunities at a great value.

### Degree Programs

**Master of Divinity Degree (M.Div.)**

Nearly 90 percent of PTS alumni are still serving in ministry 10 years after graduation. The Master of Divinity degree is a professional program that prepares men and women for these ministries. With a bachelor’s degree as a prerequisite, the M.Div. curriculum of Pittsburgh Seminary is followed with these additions: a course in church planting; elective in evangelism, gospel and culture, and church leadership and ministry, a one-year supervised internship in church planting; and an overseas trip in which the student interacts with church planters in another region of the world.

**Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.)**

This program is designed for those who wish to engage seriously in theological studies at the graduate level. Students normally complete the degree program in two years of full-time academic work and conclude with either an integrative essay or a thesis. The S.T.M. allows students to focus on a particular area of emphasis that can be drawn from any of the core areas of study or the areas of special disciplines. For example, former students have focused their degree on biblical archaeology, theology and ethics, church history, missiology, biblical studies, and theology and media, to name a few.

**Master of Arts Degree (M.A.)**

This program is designed to provide continued academic work beyond the M.Div. degree. The M.A. has a twofold purpose:

- to provide a fuller mastery of one area of theological study, and
- to increase research proficiency and the ability to formulate questions for intellectual exploration.

**Doctor of Ministry Degree (D.Min.)**

Ministry requires competency and compassion, care of self, and care of others. The Doctor of Ministry degree is designed to hold these necessary tensions while providing opportunities for disciplined study, support, and renewal. It is an ideal program for pastors and those in specialized ministry. Students complete the program in cohort groups.

**Master of Divinity Joint Degree Programs**

The Seminary offers several joint degree programs in cooperation with world-renowned local universities, including:

- Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work (M.Div./M.S.W.) with the University of Pittsburgh;
- Master of Divinity/Legis Doctor (M.Div./J.D.) with Duquesne University;
- Master of Divinity/Master of Science in Public Policy and Management (M.Div./MSPFM) with Carnegie Mellon University.

Typically the joint degree programs can be completed in one year less than would be required to receive the two degrees independently. Candidates must apply for admission to the Seminary and the cooperating university.

**Master of Arts Joint Degree Programs**

- Master of Divinity/Master of Science in Public Policy and Management (M.Div./MSPFM) with Carnegie Mellon University.

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Although he had no intentions of starting a new congregation when he first came to seminary, the Rev. Chris Brown ‘08 now serves as co-pastor of The Upper Room, a church plant in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

Through weekly prayer, discussions with PTS faculty, and a conversation with Pittsburgh Presbytery’s director of New Church Development, Chris and his co-pastor, Michael Gehrling ‘08, were called to new church development. Chris explains, “I accepted the call because I knew this was a way to live out the ‘missional’ calling of the church. With people in our culture increasingly claiming no religious affiliation, church planting is thought to be one of the best ways to reach out to the unchurched and call them into new relationships with Christ.”

New congregations are important for the future of the church because they provide laboratories in which we can experiment with new ideas. Can a new congregation be started on a small budget with two part-time co-pastors? Let’s try it. Can we worship in nontraditional spaces, such as living rooms and storefronts? Let’s try it. Can we experiment with different styles of music and liturgy? Let’s try it.

“In this sense, new church development is like the ‘research and development’ arm of the church,” says Chris. “We try new things and discover what works for effectively and authentically bringing new disciples to Christ, thus providing lessons from which the broader church can learn.”

To hear more from Chris, scan the QR code.

The Lower Church

The Rev. Christopher Brown ‘08
Master of Divinity
Co-Pastor
The Upper Room

When considering his call to church planting, Chris Brown ‘08 quipped with professors, “If this doesn’t work, you’d better change what you’re teaching, because this is everything that you taught us!”

“The faculty—the heart of the educational experience at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary—continues in a tradition of academic strength, publication, and commitment to the church. A low student-to-faculty ratio encourages interaction that provides for mentoring relationships with professors. In their teaching, writing, and in their spiritual lives, the faculty bear witness to the joy of the gospel.

Our faculty members are regular contributors to the church’s and the world’s scholarly knowledge through publications and participation in learned societies in the Americas, Asia, and Europe. In this way, the faculty at Pittsburgh Seminary contributes to the learning opportunities of students on the campus and far away. Our faculty frequently preach and teach in congregations and universities both here and abroad. A recent trip led Dr. Edith Humphrey to China to further relationships with Chinese seminaries. Professor Timothy Son has led numerous trips to Korea to learn firsthand about Christianity and culture in his homeland, where the church is growing by leaps and bounds. The Rev. Dr. Ron Cole-Turner attended a conference in Romania dealing with cloning and stem cell research. Professor John Burgess recently spent a year teaching and researching at St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University in Moscow as a Fulbright Scholar and Luce Fellow. Dr. Ron Tappy spent part of each year doing research in Israel on his excavation at Tel Zayit/Gethsemani.

Additionally, the faculty is well published. Professor Dale Allison has written 10 books in the same number of years on topics such as the Historical Christ, Matthew, and the art and spirituality of Beatle George Harrison. In addition to his books, the Rev. Dr. Craig Barnes serves as editor-at-large of The Christian Century magazine. Professor Angela Dienhart Hancock’s next project extends her work on Karl Barth and rhetoric to the North American context.

Our faculty is devoted to the scholarly, professional, and personal preparation of men and women for Christian service in the church. To hear faculty members further discuss their fields of expertise, visit www.pts.edu/Faculty_Videos or scan the quick-response code.

“Through their wealth of experience, resources, and wisdom, the faculty have helped me to navigate the leap from academics to the parish and beyond. I am grateful for these very personal and real conversations. These mentoring relationships have been a blessing.”

Melanie Kim ‘12
While the degree programs of the Seminary are the cornerstone of who we are and what we do, a variety of exciting special programs and opportunities allow students to extend their preparation for ministry.

**World Mission Initiative (WMI)**

The World Mission Initiative is a fellowship of pastors, missionaries, church leaders, seminary personnel, and students who seek to nurture mission vision, vocations, and missional congregations. Through WMI, about 70 percent of seminary students participate in cross-cultural mission trips and experience the global reach of the church’s ministry. Students describe these experiences as transformative to their personal lives, faith, and future ministries. Additionally, WMI hosts a biennial mission conference and special lectures by missions leaders throughout the academic year, all of which students can attend.

**Metro-Urban Institute (MUI)**

The Metro-Urban Institute was established to provide education and support for church leaders concerned about “the welfare of the city.” In addition to offering graduate-level courses and field placements to seminarians, MUI is a member of the Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education (SCUPE)—one of the nation’s oldest seminary-based urban collaborations—which allows students to take joint classes and urban internships designed for the urban context. MUI also offers an annual urban intensive weekend seminar that involves participants in dialogue on particular public issues in urban ministry. Students can attend this seminar for credit.

**Kelso Bible Lands Museum**

The Kelso Museum has its roots in a PTS program of archaeological field work in the Near East that began in 1924 and continues today through The Zeitah Excavations. The Museum is a living laboratory containing a significant collection of ancient Near Eastern artifacts. Exhibits offer glimpses into life from prehistoric times into the Middle Ages and provide an opportunity for students and visitors to explore changes in form and function over 4,000 years.

**Zeitah Excavations**

Located in southern Israel, this archaeological project expands the understanding of life in an ancient Israelite setting. The excavations incorporate a full-scale program of field exploration and study. In addition to daily on-site work with renowned archaeologists, students and volunteers participate in a for-credit educational curriculum on specific aspects of archaeological work and general themes related to life in ancient Israel. Lectures supplement practical fieldwork, and guided field trips to major regions of the country illuminate the world of the Bible.

**Continuing Education**

The Continuing Education Program offers more than 40 annual events, lectures, and workshops bringing more than 3,000 participants to campus each year. Many of these events are offered at no cost to students. Designed for clergy and laity, the programs are for those who understand the importance of lifelong learning and growth. Event themes include pastoral care, interfaith dialogue, church education, and mission, among others. Students may also earn a certificate in spiritual formation, which offers a community-organized, structured study experience for those interested in deepening their own spiritual understanding and assisting others along their spiritual journey.

**Miller Summer Youth Institute**

The Miller Summer Youth Institute provides an opportunity for high school scholars to experience theological education during a two-week summer program in which students live on campus and study with PTS faculty. SYI encourages the students to grow in faith while also exploring ministry as a possible vocation. Each year the program is run in part by seminary students who serve as resident directors.

**Center for Business, Religion and Public Life**

The Center for Business, Religion and Public Life provides symposia that allow persons from many professional, civic, academic, and religious backgrounds to reflect critically on issues of faith and values. It fosters public awareness and understanding of diverse issues in contemporary society.
More than 300 students from 30+ states and several international locations enroll at the Seminary. The student body is denominationally diverse as well. While our seminary is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our student community is comprised of Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Orthodox, and more than 20 other traditions.

Worship is an integral part of the life of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. In addition to mid-day worship services, a number of prayer and Bible study groups meet regularly on campus. The vibrancy of our community worship complements the excellence of our academic program.

All master's-level students are members of the Student Association, which conducts student social and extracurricular activities. A number of student organizations enrich student life, including NIA (for Pan-American and international seminarians), Evangelical Student Fellowship, Peace and Justice Fellowship, the Preaching Association, Spouse2Spouse, Sports and Recreation, and several denominational fellowships.

Athletic events and other recreational activities are available. An on-campus fitness center provides workout space for student use. Recently christened with a tennis match, the new sport court gives the PTS community another avenue for physical activity, Highland Park, within walking and biking distance, provides trails, open fields, and playgrounds. Recent campus activities have also included tournaments in Ping-Pong, bocce, and Ultimate Frisbee.

Worship, fellowship, and play—common life—are at the heart of the educational experience at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This life shared together lays the foundation for lasting friendships, which in turn build bridges of collegiality and mutual support among pastors and church leaders.

Raised in the church, Maxine Garrett ’08 has long had a love for the Bible. She likewise finds joy in teaching. Looking to combine the two, Maxine enrolled in Pittsburgh Seminary’s Master of Arts program. “There is no better way to assure an informed call than by seminary education,” says Maxine. Today Maxine serves as evangelist at Greater Allen AME Church in Pittsburgh.

Through family and friends, Maxine first learned of Pittsburgh Seminary. Discerning her call, Maxine explains, “I wanted to attend a seminary that was respectful of diversity and openness.” She then enrolled at PTS because of the faculty’s excellence. “They are well prepared, excited to teach, interesting, knowledgeable, and faithful to their call as teachers and preachers of the word of God,” she says. Whether teaching children or preaching on Sundays, or simply discussing biblical ideas and concepts with family, co-workers, and friends, Maxine draws upon their teaching. “It is a well that is deep, and I use it often.”

Like most M.A. students at the Seminary, Maxine wrote a thesis. “It was the culmination of my seminary experience in written form. The experience, while hair-raising at times, was exhilarating and exciting because it forced me to think about what matters most in my spiritual journey and put it to paper. I loved it!”

“Through Pittsburgh Seminary, I matured both academically and spiritually,” says Maxine. “Because I understand God better, I am a better teacher, and my students are better students.”

To hear more from Maxine, scan the QR code.

“As a Christian Education director, I am proud and confident of my calling; it is rooted not only in the Holy Spirit, but also in informed biblical tradition.”

Maxine Garrett ’08
By worshipping together on a regular basis, PTS students and faculty grow in community. The communion we experience at the Lord’s Table in chapel overflows into the classrooms, the cafeteria, and the apartments residence hall. The Seminary’s Clifford E. Barbour Library is the largest theological library in the three-state region. Its 299,000 volumes and more than 840 periodical subscriptions place it among the larger stand-alone seminary libraries in the country. An extensive array of new materials is added each year in various formats and languages and includes a growing number of electronic resources. The open-stack areas include 90 desk carrels for student use. The library houses an instruction classroom as well as casual reading areas with comfortable chairs and couches. Book signings, displays, workshops, and tutorials are offered here throughout the year.

The Seminary offers apartments and a residence hall on campus, all of which include free parking and wireless Internet access. The Calum Residence Hall offers single living quarters with private baths. A physical fitness center, lounge spaces, and a student kitchen are available there. Four buildings—Fulton, Highlander, Anderson, and McMahan—offer apartments ranging from efficiencies to family-oriented three- and four-bedroom units. A playroom/childcare facility located within the apartment complex offers low-cost, high-quality, and loving childcare for the children of seminarians and employees.

Pittsburgh has an astounding 446 bridges. This fact officially makes Pittsburgh the world’s city with the most bridges—three more than the other global leader, Venice, Italy.

The numerous rivers, valleys, and hills common to Western Pennsylvania divide Pittsburgh into a large number of neighborhoods. Pittsburgh Seminary is located between two such neighborhoods. To the north is a residential area of substantial homes, Highland Park, which takes its name from the city’s large park less than one mile from the Seminary. As one of Pittsburgh’s finest, Highland Park offers woods, picnic areas, paths for biking and walking, and tennis courts. Its large outdoor pool is available during the summer months. At the heart of the park is the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, much of which was built at the turn of the century and which has undergone a large-scale program of modernization. To the south is the downtown area of East Liberty, a business and residential district undergoing substantial renewal. In the last 15 years, East Liberty has become home to a new, Target, Whole Foods, Walgreens, Petsmart, and Home Depot; a hotel and convention center; and numerous restaurants and bakeries among other retail shops. A converted Nabisco bakery has landed Google as an anchor tenant with a student kitchen as well as casual reading areas with comfortable chairs and couches. Book signings, displays, workshops, and tutorials are offered here throughout the year.

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God’s people need someone to proclaim the Word to them; they need someone to pray with them; they need to know that someone cares for them; and they need someone who will declare to them again and again: “Your sins are forgiven.” The Rev. Tom Moore ’07/’10, pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church, has been ministering in these areas for five years and can still say, “I love my job and I could never imagine doing anything else.”

Tom first came to the Seminary anticipating that he’d go on to pursue his Ph.D. He enjoyed a rigorous academic life and did not see a place for it in pastoral ministry. However, he says after completing his field education requirement, “I realized that I placed a false separation between being academically minded while also being a pastor. I soon discovered that pursuing the life of the mind enhanced my pastoral identity.”

At the time of his graduation, Tom felt well-prepared for ministry; he had gained lessons inside and outside the classroom. “Pittsburgh Seminary faculty are theologians, scholars, and historians who are both experts in their fields of study as well as deeply faithful Christians,” says Tom. “To have professors who encourage you to stop by their office or eat lunch with you is truly transformative and provides an extension from the classroom to everyday life.” Beyond the classroom Tom found spaces for ministry within the city. “The Seminary’s urban location provides a wonderful, missionary immersion experience with many opportunities on hand,” says Tom.

To hear more from Tom, scan the QR code.

How often in a job can you focus on only one area? You may want to be a chaplain, campus minister, pastor, or missionary. Or you may want to minister in a single area—pastoral care, counseling, preaching, administration, evangelism, or teaching. Life, however, is rarely so neat. To prepare for your multifaceted ministry, Elizabeth Trexler ’05 earned her joint Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work degrees from Pittsburgh Seminary and the University of Pittsburgh. “Strategic planning is key when working with any organization, and the M.S.W. program prepared me for that in so many ways,” says Elizabeth. “Add that to a theological background, and you have a great combination.”

Following her call to Seminary, Elizabeth explains that she did not choose Pittsburgh Seminary; God did. Elizabeth says, “I listened to His call and for more than a year didn’t know why I was here. Then I went on a mission trip through the Seminary’s World Mission Initiative and found my calling as a missionary. I saw God move mountains in people, saw prayers answered immediately, and saw that our God is a global God and cannot be fit into a box.” After graduation, Elizabeth became a full-time missionary in Southeast Asia. She now serves as Associate Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Bloomsburg University.

As a Catholic at a predominantly Protestant seminary, Elizabeth worked with faculty to personalize her education. “I was able to do many independent studies, find alternative books for class, and dive into my own faith while learning Protestant theology,” she says. “Professors were invested in my education and took time to foster it.”

To hear more from Elizabeth, scan the QR code.
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is committed to providing generous financial support to students who qualify for financial assistance. The Seminary awards more than $1.2 million annually in merit and need-based scholarships, tuition grants, rent rebates, and work-support to full-time master's students. On average, two out of three full-time master's students receive need-based aid. Doctor of Ministry students are also eligible for need-based tuition. Additionally, the Seminary recognizes current students with monetary prizes for academic and community accomplishments. The Honors Scholarship program is one way Pittsburgh Seminary encourages the enrollment of students of the highest academic ability in our master's programs. Honors scholars must have a minimum 3.5 GPA from their undergraduate institution and demonstrate potential for outstanding Christian leadership. These scholarships are awarded without consideration of financial need and are renewable. Applicants may qualify for both merit and need-based aid. When master's students have exhausted all possibilities for other forms of financial aid and still need funds, loans are available through the Federal Direct Loan Program, the Federal Graduate PLUS Program, some denominational agencies, and other sources.

Visit Campus

A visit to campus is very important in your decision-making process; therefore, each year we provide several opportunities for prospective students to make visits to the Seminary. Three such annual events provide opportunities to see the campus, hear from faculty, meet with admissions and financial aid staff, and share in fellowship with current students.

Visitors are also welcome on an individual basis. Upon your request, the Admissions Office is happy to arrange a schedule that includes an opportunity to sit in on a class, have an interview, meet with the Financial Aid Director, and tour the campus. Please contact the Admissions Office to arrange for such a visit.

admissions@pts.edu
1-800-451-4194
www.pts.edu/admissions

Admission Process

Master's Degree Programs

An applicant for admission to any master’s-level program of study must have completed a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum 2.7 GPA. Applicants are also required to submit all transcripts, letters of reference, personal statement, and background check, and are required to have an interview with a member of the admissions staff. In addition, M.Div. applicants must complete the church endorsement form, and S.T.M. applicants must submit a proposal and a sample of their writing in the form of a research project or paper.

Doctor of Ministry

A Master of Divinity from an accredited seminary or divinity school is required for admission to the D.Min. program along with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Applicants are required to have completed a minimum of three years in active ministry following the receipt of the M.Div. Students must be serving in a recognized ministerial position while pursuing the degree. Applicants must also supply transcripts, letters of reference, essays, and a church endorsement.

Applications for all degree programs are accepted online at www.pts.edu/admissions.
**THE SEMINARY**
- Founded in 1794
- Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- President the Rev. William J. Carl III, Ph.D.
- 299,000 books and periodicals in Barbour Library
- 21 full-time faculty
- 3,000 living alums

**DEGREE PROGRAMS**
- Master of Divinity
- Master of Divinity with Church Planting Emphasis
- Master of Divinity with Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministry
- Master of Divinity/Master of Social Work with the University of Pittsburgh
- Master of Divinity/Doctor with Duquesne University
- Master of Divinity/Doctor of Science in Public Policy and Management with Carnegie Mellon University
- Doctor of Arts
- Master of Sacred Theology

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**
- World Mission Initiative
- Metro-Urban Institute
- Kelso Bible Lands Museum
- The Jerash Excavations
- Continuing Education
- Miller Summer Youth Institute
- Center for Business, Religion and Public Life

**FINANCIAL AID**
- More than $1.2 million annually awarded in aid
- On average, two out of three full-time master’s students qualify for need-based aid.
- Academic and need-based scholarships

**PITTSBURGH AND THE REGION**
- Surrounding neighborhood represents a healthy racial and ethnic cross-section of urban America
- Location offers ministry opportunities in inner-city, suburban, small-town, rural, traditional, and emergent churches
- Pittsburgh named “most livable city,” “one of the best places in the world to experience,” and “only city with an entrance”
- Commitment to the arts
- Professional sports teams
- World-class health care
- Cluster of higher educational institutions

**CAMPUS COMMUNITY**
- On-campus residents and commuters from the three-state area
- Students from 30 states and several countries
- Full-time and part-time students
- Day and evening classes
- Fitness center and sport court open to the Seminary community
- Worship services held four times weekly
- Food services offered daily
- Playroom for children of students and employees

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**ACTIVITIES**
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- Academic and need-based scholarships