

FE 604D Pastoral Identity
Wednesdays, 11:40am – 12:15pm

Instructor: Rev. Thomas L. Carver
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Course Description:

Part of the class time will be devoted to issues related to the student's experiences in a supervised practice setting.

Another part of each class session will focus on a theological integration of the various pastoral duties in order to help form a faithful pastoral identity.

All students must make arrangements with the Field Education Office to ensure their placement in an approved setting prior to enrollment in this integrative seminar.

Required text:

Doughty, Steve. *To Walk in Integrity: Spiritual Leadership in Times of Crisis*, Nashville, Upper Room, 2004.

This course is intended to assist students on their journey to a healthy sense of personal and professional identity:

- as a child of God in relationship with the Divine;
- as a family and community member in relationship with others;
- as a pastor in relation with a congregation. .

Examples of situations where personal and pastoral identity can become an issue:

- When a friend, (but not a church member) asks you to baptize their child.
- When your son or daughter wants to get married in your church.
- When a long time church member becomes an employee of the church but does not perform their responsibilities satisfactorily.
- When you are in need of counsel in order to face a personal, ethical or spiritual challenge.
- When a stranger sitting next to you on an airplane asks, "What do you do for a living?"