

Pneuma is a two-year, ecumenical program in spiritual direction and spiritual leadership at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. It offers educational and supervised training of pastors and laity in the dynamics of the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius Loyola while engaging in Reformed, Catholic, and other diverse theological perspectives on growth in faith and the Christian life.

For almost 500 years the *Spiritual Exercises* have offered people of faith a uniquely personal encounter with the Triune God in and through Scripture. The *Exercises* provide both structure and flexibility for persons and groups to reflect upon, contemplate, and internalize the major themes of the Christian faith.

Graduates of the program will be prepared to guide persons, groups, parishes, and congregations to

- deepen their identity in Christ
- grow in Christian discipleship
- discern their unique gifts and call

so as to co-labor with Christ in all of life for the glory of God.

Pneuma
(πνεύμα)



Pneuma is...

"wind, breath, life, spirit"

Ancient Greek

"...the forceful movement of air that seizes us with elemental power and catches us up into tension or movement."

Kittel, *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*

"Now the Lord is the *Pneuma* (Spirit), and where the *Pneuma* of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the *Pneuma*."

2 Corinthians 3:17-18, NRSV

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 1438



616 North Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206



Spiritual Direction & Leadership Program

At Pittsburgh Theological Seminary



Program Overview

The program provides study, skill building, and practical integration focusing on:

scripture and theology as they relate to the *Spiritual Exercises* and the ministry of spiritual direction and spiritual leadership;

spirituality, particularly methods of prayer, personal, and corporate discernment, and models of growth in Christian maturity;

ministry design for creatively adapting the *Spiritual Exercises* to various contexts and for effective spiritual leadership.

Participants will select between two tracks: Spiritual Direction or Spiritual Leadership. Spiritual Direction emphasizes ministry with individuals and small groups while Spiritual Leadership emphasizes ministry with groups and larger institutions such as congregations, judicatories, non-profits, or corporations.

Certificates in Spiritual Direction or Spiritual Leadership will be given upon completion of all requirements. CEUs are available from the Office of Continuing Education. Doctor of Ministry students who complete the *Pneuma* Program may fulfill some elective courses toward their D.Min. with the approval of the Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program.

Schedule

The two-year program begins each year with a two-day retreat on the last weekend in August. From September through May, participants meet monthly on Friday, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, 8:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Specific dates can be found online.

Year One

Participants will meet for presentations, discussion of required reading, and small group practice of spiritual direction. Course material will be taught by the Director of the program. Guest lecturers, workshop leaders, and small group facilitators will provide additional instruction and resources for learning and skill building.

Year Two

As they begin Year Two, participants will select between the two tracks: Spiritual Direction or Spiritual Leadership. They will develop a plan for their internship in consultation with the Program Director and their supervisor and engage in evaluation during the year. In addition, participants meet monthly on campus for classes, workshops, and group practice.

Admission Requirements

Persons applying to this program should have:

- a bachelor's degree and some biblical and theological background.
- completed the full Ignatian *Spiritual Exercises* (either in the 30-day format or in the extended everyday life format) or are preparing to do so concurrently with application to the program.
- received ongoing spiritual direction.
- a demonstrated capacity for self awareness and critical reflection on the intersection of faith with one's life and ministry;
- support of one's faith community and indications of being called by others to this ministry; and,
- a willingness to engage in ongoing vocational discernment.

Admission Process

Application process and forms are available online or by calling 412-441-3304 ext. 2126.

For Further Information

Dr. Martha Robbins, Director of *Pneuma* Spiritual Direction and Leadership Program
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
616 North Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-3304 ext. 2126
mrobbins@pts.edu
www.pts.edu/pneuma