



BLACK THEOLOGY  
AND  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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2023

SEARCHING FOR THE SOUL  
OF BLACK PREACHING

July 16-21, 2023



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# WELCOME

Welcome to the **2023 Black Theology and Leadership Institute (BTLI)**. We are absolutely excited about your participation in this annual gathering of scholars, pastors, theologians, community leaders, influencers, and students. Over the years, BTLI has distinguished itself as a place of deep theological reflection for a rich diversity of individuals committed to the work of the Black church. Your presence here is evidence that we have again achieved this desired outcome. We anticipate our time together this week will be transformative and are confident that you will contribute uniquely and powerfully to this year's Institute.

Our theme this year is: Searching for the Soul of Black Preaching. While significant attention has been paid to the performative aspects of African American preaching, less time has been devoted to examine the substance of preaching for and to African American communities. This week, we will examine what is distinctive to proclaiming the gospel to the sons and daughters of African descent who strive to experience the freedom and liberty espoused in this nation's creed that yet remains out of reach for so many. We will grapple with the challenging consideration of the ways in which preaching at the intersection of the pain and hope of this community provides a glimpse of the true richness and possibility of the preached gospel. Even more importantly, we will consider what preaching can offer in light of the plethora of clouds that hover over the horizon of Black existence.

We hope that by the end of this week, you will examine not only what preaching in the African American tradition has to offer the communities you serve but also the ways African American preaching invites you (as a proclaimer) into a moment of re-imagination. How can your experiences of preaching invite you to consider the boundary-defying possibilities or explore how Black preaching challenges the assumptions of the dominant and governing rationality of the movement.

Our sincerest hope is that when you leave, you will be encouraged to live, preach, and serve the community in which you are placed not as it currently exists but as it can be! From the morning lectures, to the practitioner led panels, to your cohort meetings with BTLI fellows, may your every encounter inform and illuminate, excite and encourage your imagination for the work of ministry.

**Rev. David G. Latimore, PhD, DMin**

*Director – Black Theology and Leadership Institute*

*Director – Betsey Stockton Center for Black Church Studies*

*Princeton Theological Seminary*

# SCHEDULE



Daily Schedule	Sunday, July 16	Monday, July 17
8:00 a.m.		Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. <i>(Stuart 6)</i>		<b>Morning Lecture:</b> Rev. Dr. David Latimore
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.		<b>Panel:</b> Challenges of Preaching in the Contemporary Church <i>(Stuart 6)</i>
12:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.		Lunch
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration	<b>Cohort Meetings</b> Cohort 1 – <i>Coopers</i> Cohort 2 – <i>Clark</i> Cohort 3 – <i>Theron Room</i> Cohort 4 – <i>Library 1010</i> Cohort 5 – <i>Adams Dining Room</i> Cohort 6 – <i>Adams Living Room</i>
4:00 p.m.	Registration	Period of Personal Reflection
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Opening Dinner</b> – <i>MacKay Dining Room</i>	<b>Dinner</b> – On Your Own
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.		<b>Worship:</b> Rev. Dr. Bridgeman



Daily Schedule	Tuesday, July 18	Wednesday, July 19	Thursday, July 20	Friday, July 21
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. <i>(Stuart 6)</i>	<b>Morning Lecture:</b> Rev. Dr. Kenyatta Gilbert	<b>Betsey Stockton Lecture:</b> Rev. Dr. Frances Teabout	<b>Morning Lecture:</b> Rev. Dr. Frank Thomas	<b>Morning Lecture:</b> Rev. Dr. Willie Francois
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Cohort Meeting</b>	<b>Workshop:</b> Exploring Furthering Your Theological Education <i>(Stuart 6)</i>	<b>Pastor’s Panel:</b> <i>Fanning the Flames of Truth: Prophetic Preaching in the 21st Century</i> <i>(Stuart 6)</i>	Closing Luncheon <i>(Mackay Dining Room)</i>
12:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Black Church &amp; Climate Discussion</b>	<b>Book Club Conversation:</b> Rev. Dr. Keri Day <i>(Stuart 6)</i>	<b>Cohort Meetings</b> Cohort 1 – <i>Coopers</i> Cohort 2 – <i>Clark</i> Cohort 3 – <i>Theron Room</i> Cohort 4 – <i>Library 1010</i> Cohort 5 – <i>Adams Dining Room</i> Cohort 6 – <i>Adams Living Room</i>	
4:00 p.m.	Period of Personal Reflection	Period of Personal Reflection	Period of Personal Reflection	
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	<b>Dinner – On Your Own</b>	<b>Dinner – On Your Own</b>	<b>Dinner – On Your Own</b>	
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<b>Worship:</b> Rev. Dr. Bridgeman	<b>Worship:</b> Rev. Dr. Charles Goodman	<b>Worship:</b> Rev. Dr. Danielle Brown	

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# PANELS

## Challenges of Preaching in the Contemporary Church

A open discussion with leading pastors on the substance of preaching within the African American context. This panel will examine both the challenges and opportunities present within these contexts. Additionally, given the plethora of issues of critical importance to African American communities in this moment in history, the panel will discuss the challenges of extending the hope of the gospel while addressing social, political, and communal issues of relevance.

### Panelists



**Pastor Maria Crompton,**  
Elmwood United  
Presbyterian Church



**Pastor Christopher Jones,**  
First Baptist Church  
of Hillside



**Pastor Dante Quick,**  
First Baptist Church of  
Lincoln Gardens

### Not Pictured

**Pastor Arrington Medley,** First Baptist Princeton



## The Black Church & Climate Change

Climate crisis has intensified into the greatest threat faced by humanity. The planet, the only living space we have as human beings, is becoming increasingly hotter, with weather patterns become more and more unpredictable and destructive than ever before - all because of capitalism, consumption and insatiable use of fossil fuels. The devastating impacts of climate crisis are resulting in mass destruction and mass casualty events.

The climate crisis is also, arguably, the top priority challenge and issue for Black communities everywhere, especially in the United States. While Black communities in the United States are the hardest hit by climate crisis impacts, there is no real urgent response or conversation happening in our media or our churches. This panel will empower participants to go back to their congregations better equipped with research, resources and newfound relationships to help them deal with what once seemed like complex questions. Black churches will be able to start a new movement that won't only save our community, but will save the only planet we have to live on.

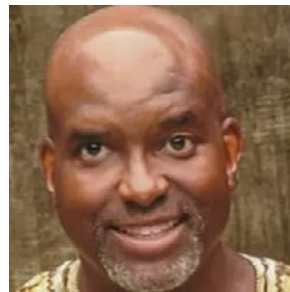
### Panelists



**Charles Ellison,**  
Publisher of  
theBEnote.com  
& 2023 Emerson  
Collective Fellow  
charles@strategybe.com



**Rev. William Lamar,**  
*Head Pastor,*  
Metropolitan  
A.M.E. Church  
william.lamar@  
metropolitanamec.org



**Rev. Jon Robinson,**  
*Program Director,*  
Smart Surfaces Coalition  
at Metropolitan  
AME Church  
jon.robinson71@gmail.com



**Sarita Turner,**  
*Senior Fellow,*  
Prosperity Now  
sturner@prosperitynow.org

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# PANELS, cont.

## Exploring Furthering Your Theological Education

For anyone considering additional theological study or who may have individuals in the organizations you represent who may be looking at options for further study, this discussion will offer an introduction to the wealth of formal residential/hybrid programs offered by the Seminary's degree granting programs. Equally important, for those who may be seeking additional theological education options but are not in a position to consider our more formal residential programs, you will be introduced to the breath of options available through the Continuing Education programs offered by the Seminary.

### Panelists



**Abigail Russert,**  
Associate Dean of  
Continuing Education  
abigail.rusert@ptsem.edu



**Lydia Tembo,**  
Director of Admissions  
lydia.tembo@ptsem.edu



## Book Club Discussion – Dr. Keri Day

We are blessed to have the incomparably gifted Dr. Keri Day who was recently promoted to Full Professor of Constructive Theology and African American Religion and Princeton Theological Seminary. This comes on the heels of our most recent published work, *Azusa Reimagined: A Radical Vision of Religious and Democratic Belonging*, which is the focus of this afternoon discussion. In *Azusa Reimagined*, Dr. Day offers a vital consideration of the intersectionality of race and gender with theological and economic concerns. However, what truly sets this work apart is the centering of the 1906 Azusa Revival, an event critical to the growth of Pentecostalism in the United States, as a revolutionary example of Black religion and an authentic explication of Pentecost, both interpretive postures rarely taken by white or black religious scholars. For those who share Dr. Day's interest in the radical instincts of Pentecostalism, its consequence on racial capitalism, or the intersection of the white Pentecostal vision, this will be vital and vibrant discussion.



**Rev. Dr. Keri Day**

## Fanning the Flames of Truth: Prophetic Preaching in the 21st Century

This thought-provoking and insightful panel discussion will bring together renowned religious scholars, theologians, and dynamic preachers to delve into the power and relevance of prophetic preaching in today's ever-evolving world. Our panelists will examine the role of prophetic preaching in shedding light on social justice, human rights, equality, and other urgent concerns. Our esteemed panelists will share their experiences, perspectives, and wisdom gained from years of engaging with diverse communities, inspiring positive change, and fostering spiritual growth.

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# HOSPITALITY & ACCESSIBILITY

## Hospitality



QUIET  
SPACE

Need some space to breathe?  
Enjoy the prayer garden  
(next to the chapel on left).



INTERNET  
ACCESS

WiFi is available at  
*Seminary-Guests*  
Password is  
*SeminaryInternet1812*



DIETARY  
NEEDS

Group meals and snacks are provided based on allergen and special diet information collected through registration. If you need assistance with a food concern, please don't hesitate to make a special request.

## Building Accessibility

### Mackay Campus Center

- Accessible entry ramp with rails located at the right exterior wall. Motorized door with button.
- Accessible parking available in the lot adjacent to and behind building along College road, with incline to building.
- Accessible, all-gender restroom located in the front lobby.
- Motorized lift available for access to auditorium. See student for assistance.
- Accessible restrooms in left Entry Hallway.
- Lactation room available next to lower level restroom along right interior wall.
- All gender bathrooms – 2nd floor  
*When exiting the elevator or stairs, turn left and proceed to the end of the short hallway, then take an immediate left into a long hallway.* These private, all-gender restrooms are located in this area on each floor of the building.

### Seminary Chapel

- Accessible entrance with motorized lift behind left exterior staircase. Balcony has stair-only access.
- Limited accessible parking available along main Seminary quadrangle.
- Accessible restrooms on basement level across from motorized lift.
- In worship, chapel assistants can provide assisted-hearing devices, seat cushions.

### Wright Library

- Accessible front main entrance facing Mercer Street, with motorized door button at far left.
- Accessible parking adjacent to library along right exterior wall.

### Stuart Hall

- Accessible entry ramp with rails located at right exterior wall, with motorized door button.
- Accessible parking along street in front of building.
- Accessible, all-gender restroom in basement level, along entry corridor.
- Elevator located to the left of central staircase (access to all levels).

### Scheide Hall

- Accessible front main entrance with motorized door button on right hand wall.
- Accessible, all-gender restrooms adjacent to elevator (first and second floors).
- Elevator located on left wall past foyer (access to first and second floors).

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# LECTURERS



Rev. Dr. David Latimore

Dr. Latimore brings to our community both pastoral experience and scholarly insight. His teaching and research interests focus on the intersection of religion, race, and economic justice through the examination of how economic ideological pre-suppositions underlie many of the disparities and inequalities witnessed in African American communities and their impact on the theology of the Black church.

Latimore comes to Princeton Seminary from Tennessee, where he served as senior pastor at Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville, taught at Belmont University, acted as a minority student mentor, and was associate director for the Academy of Preachers. He earned his PhD from the University of Chicago, his DMin from McCormick Theological Seminary, his MDiv from Duke Divinity School, and his AB from Harvard University. He has served as pastor at three other congregations, Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Joliet, Illinois; Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Gainesville, Florida; and Southern Union Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. Before attending seminary, Latimore had a successful career in investment management and economic development.

In his role as director of the Center, Latimore will provide leadership for academic programming, direct research initiatives pertaining to the history of enslavement in the U.S. and its ongoing implications, mentor and provide vocational and pastoral care for Princeton Seminary students, and cultivate strategic relationships and partnerships with the African American community.



Rev. Dr. Kenyatta Gilbert

The Rev. Dr. Kenyatta Gilbert — professor of homiletics at Howard University School of Divinity—is a nationally recognized expert on African American preaching. After graduating from Baylor University with a bachelor’s degree in political science in 1996, Gilbert enrolled in Princeton Theological Seminary, where he earned his M.Div. and Ph.D. in practical theology (homiletics). As an ordained Baptist minister, he served congregations in Texas, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Kenya before landing at Howard University in 2006. A prolific writer and oft-featured expert on Black preaching, civil rights, and social justice, Gilbert has authored countless sermons and classroom lectures, as well as four books: *Exodus Preaching: Crafting Sermons about Justice and Hope*; *A Pursued Justice: Black Preaching from the Great Migration to Civil Rights*; *The Journey and Promise of African American Preaching*; and *Just Living: Meditations for Engaging our Life and Times*. His writing has also been featured by such outlets as PBS NewsHour, Sojourners, Word & Way, and The Conversation.

In 2011, Dr. Gilbert launched The Preaching Project, a ministry aimed at equipping ministers to better serve African American churches and communities. Dr. Gilbert is Director of the Equipping the Saints: Black Congregations Online Resource Center at Howard University; General Editor of the forthcoming *Preaching, Theology, and Culture* book series (Fortress Press); a member of the editorial board of *Homiletic*, a peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Academy of Homiletics; and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. In 2022, Dr. Gilbert was inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. International Collegium of Scholars at Morehouse College. Dr. Gilbert is married to Dr. Allison Blow Gilbert, a pediatrician. The Gilberts have three daughters: Olivia, Ella, and Ava.



## Rev. Dr. Frances Teabout

Reverend Frances Snelling Teabout is a dedicated servant of Jesus Christ who considers her call to ministry an “undeserved honor.” She joyfully serves the people of God as a pastor, teacher and counselor.

At a young age, Frances was baptized and became a dedicated member of Saint John’s Baptist Church where she faithfully served on a number of ministries including the youth choir and usher ministry. Reverend Teabout matriculated at Caldwell College and New Jersey City University earning a BA in psychology and an MA in Counseling Psychology respectively. She was ordained by Reverend Anthony Wilcots in May 2005 at Liberty Baptist Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

In 2007, Frances earned the Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary. She became an Associate Minister at Saint John’s Baptist Church in Scotch Plains, NJ in 2009 under the leadership of the late, Bishop Kelmo C. Porter. With his support and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in May of 2011, Reverend Teabout planted Open Door Worship Center, a church in her hometown of Jersey City where she continues to serve as its Pastor.

In January of 2021, Dr. Teabout humbly accepted the called to pastor St. John’s Baptist Church, the church of her youth. Also in 2021, Dr. Teabout earned the Doctorate of Ministry from Drew University in Madison, NJ.

Reverend Teabout is the mother of five children and the grandmother of four grandsons She has a very strong family network from which she receives tremendous encouragement and support. She strives to stand on the Word of God and draws strength from the Holy Scriptures. One that has been a source of encourage for her over the years is Isaiah 40:31.

*But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*



Rev. Dr. Frank Anthony Thomas

Frank A. Thomas, PhD, currently serves as the Director of the PhD Program in African American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric and the Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana. A revised and updated version of *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God: The Role of Celebration In Preaching* was released in August 2013. To complement this classic preaching book, Thomas published, in 2014, *Preaching as Celebration Digital Lecture Series and Workbook*. For many years, Thomas has also taught preaching to Doctoral and Masters level students at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee, and United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. He is the CEO of Hope For Life International, Inc., which formerly published *The African American Pulpit*. Thomas also serves as a member of the International Board of *Societas Homiletica*, an international society of teachers of preaching.

Thomas is the author of *The God of the Dangerous Sermon* (Fall, 2021), *Surviving a Dangerous Sermon*, *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon* and *Introduction to the Practice of African American Preaching*, released by Abingdon Press respectively, April 2020, February, 2018, and November 2016. He also co-edited *Preaching With Sacred Fire: An Anthology of African American Sermons 1750 to the Present* with Martha Simmons, published by W. W. Norton & Company in 2010. This critically acclaimed book offers a rare view of the unheralded role of the African American preacher in American history. Thomas is also the author of several other books on subjects from matters of prayer to spiritual maturity.

Thomas served with distinction as the senior pastor for two remarkable congregations: New Faith Baptist Church of Matteson, Illinois, and Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church of Memphis, Tennessee, for eighteen years and thirteen years, respectively.

Thomas holds a PhD in Communications (Rhetoric) from the University of Memphis, a Doctor of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, Doctor of Ministry degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary and United Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary, and a Master of Arts in African-Caribbean Studies from Northeastern Illinois University.

Thomas and his wife Joyce Scott Thomas have two adult children, Anthony William and Rachel Dickerson (Milton) and one granddaughter, August Elise Dickerson.





## Rev. Dr. Willie Dwayne Francois III

Called to empower people through transformative preaching, teaching, and organizing, Willie Dwayne Francois III serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville, NJ, which is the fastest growing Black Church in Atlantic County. He is a 2009 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Religion, named the ranking scholar in both departments. While at Morehouse, he was named the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar. Francois received the Master of Divinity from Harvard University's Divinity School, where he received the Hopkins Shareholders Award—the school's highest academic recognition—and served as the class of 2012 commencement speaker. In 2020, Francois earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from Emory University, where his research met at intersection of antiracism, theology and anti-incarceration policy advocacy. From 2013 to 2015, Francois served as the Associate Pastor of First Corinthian Baptist Church (FCBC) in Harlem, New York, where Pastor Michael A. Walrond, Jr. is the pastor.

Francois gives oversight to the Master of Professional Studies Program, which operates at Sing Sing Prison, and is Assistant Professor of Liberation Theology at New York Theological Seminary. In addition to publishing various articles and sermons, Francois previously served as a member of the Young Preachers' Leadership Team of the Academy of Preachers, the director of the Young Ministers' Corner of the African American Lectionary, and a Civil Rights Scholar for the imaging of the King Paper collection through the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (in Atlanta).

Francois' pastoral activism is organized around racial equity, economic justice and radical criminal justice and education reforms. Through the Bill Lucy Fellowship, Francois represented the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference in a global conversation on mass incarceration at the Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race at the University of London-Birkbeck in London, England. He currently serves on the board of Trustees for the Proctor Conference. For 2014-2015, Francois was named a Beatitudes Society Fellow, focusing on congregational responses to Mass Incarceration and empowering returning citizens. In 2018, Community Change named Pastor Willie an Economic Justice Fellow. In 2019, Governor Phillip Murphy appointed Willie to the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission of the New Jersey State Department.

Francois attributes his love of life and dedication to doing the so-called impossible to his close-knit family. He is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

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# WORSHIP LEADERS



Rev. Dr. Valerie Bridgeman, PhD

Dr. Valerie Bridgeman is Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs, as well as Associate Professor of Homiletics and Hebrew Bible at Methodist Theological School of Ohio. She also is founding president and CEO of WomanPreach! Inc. —the premiere non-profit organization that brings preachers to full prophetic voice. Dr. Bridgeman has lectured or taught in some of the nation’s premier seminaries and divinity schools. She has been in licensed or ordained ministry since 1977. Some of her publications include “Interpreting the Bible in the Age of #BlackLivesMatter: The Gideon Story and Scholarly Commitments,” in *Second Wave Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible*, published in 2019; “‘A Long Ways from Home’: Displacement, Lament, and Singing Protest in Psalm 137,” in *Perspectives in Religious Studies*, 2017; and “‘I Will Make Boys Their Princes’: A Womanist Reading of Children in the Book of Isaiah,” 311-327, in *Womanist Interpretations of the Bible: Expanding the Discourse*, 2016. She is a regular contributor to [workingpreacher.org](http://workingpreacher.org) and writes regularly for the *Journal for Preachers*. She currently is completing a commentary on Hosea with Dr. Cheryl Kirk-Duggan and will write the commentary on Job, both in the *Wisdom Commentary* series. She also is co-editor of a volume on Womanist methodologies, with Dr. Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder, under Fortress Press.

Dr. Bridgeman is active on several boards, including the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, the editorial board for *Homiletic*, and the College of Affirming Bishops and Faith Leaders of the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. She was inducted into the Society for the Study of Black Religion in 2007 and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Collegium of Scholars and Preachers at Morehouse College in 2010. She also is an active member of the Society for Biblical Literature, where she currently serves on the Committee for Women in the Profession. Her other professional guilds include the American Academy of Religion, the Black Religious Scholars Group, the Academy of Homiletics, and the Society for the Arts in Religious and Theological Studies.

Dr. Bridgeman is a graduate of Baylor University, with a Ph.D. in biblical studies (Hebrew Bible concentration) and secondary studies in ethics. She received her Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and her BA in Communication and Religion from Trinity University (San Antonio). She is a peace activist and advocate for human rights.



**Rev. Dr. Charles E. Goodman, Jr.\***

The Reverend Dr. Charles E. Goodman, Jr. celebrates 16 years as the Senior Pastor/Teacher of The Historic Tabernacle Baptist Church of Augusta, Georgia. Under his dynamic leadership and vision “one church in multiple locations” was birthed which now encompasses over 12,000 partners with multiple weekly services, virtually and in-person. Prior to his kingdom assignment at Tabernacle, he shepherded the Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church in Salem, Alabama for three and a half years.

Dr. Goodman received his undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University in Winston Salem, NC, with honors. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga and his Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. An avid learner and pupil of excellence, he also earned a Master of Management with a concentration in Organizational Leadership from Cambridge College and was a practitioner of the Clergy Scholars Program hosted by Yale University. He has completed an Executive Coaching Certification in Diversity from the collaboration between CoachDiversity and Howard University Business School and has recently completed his doctorate degree in the PhD in Leadership program at Anderson University in Anderson, SC. He serves on many community boards and as an adjunct professor/mentor at institutions of higher learning. He is also a content contributor to many ministry publications concerning ministry methodologies and contemporary preaching.

Dr. Goodman has preached and studied in the Holy Land. He has authored 4 books: *You Can't Run from Purpose*, *Road to Recovery*, *The Flip Side of Favor* and *It's Complicated*.

A native of Greensboro, NC, Pastor Goodman comes from a faith-built foundation demonstrated to him by his grandparents, Deacon Ernest and Mrs. Charlotte Swann, who raised him. Affectionately known as “PG” by his congregation, he is well respected in his community as one who lives to serve. A sports enthusiast, he is a diehard Philadelphia Eagles fan and a member of Omega Psi Phi and Sigma Pi Phi fraternities.

Amazed by His grace and love, Dr. Charles E. Goodman, Jr., is a most sought-after speaker, revivalist and lecturer, who is called upon to empower and encourage the people of God as he travels the world proclaiming the Word of God in practical and applicable ways.

*“Created to Worship, Called to Preach, Chosen to Lead”*



**Rev. Dr. Danielle L. Brown\***

Educated in the Perth Amboy Public Schools, Rev. Dr. Brown went on to attend Virginia State University where she was a Provost Scholar and three-sport athlete. After teaching in the Richmond Public Schools, Rev. Brown responded to God's call to return to her hometown and the church of her rearing where she served faithfully on the Pastoral Staff for 15 years. On August 7, 2021, Dr. Brown was elected the tenth Senior Pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church in Plainfield, New Jersey. She is the first woman to hold this position since the church's founding in 1908.

A natural leader, Rev. Dr. Brown has served in various capacities where she has worked to develop and implement ministry programs and strategies. She has a passion for mentoring and assisting in the development of faith and community leaders. As such, she is a site supervisor in the Princeton Theological Seminary, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and Pillar College Field Education Programs, has taught on the adjunct faculty of New York Theological Seminary, and served two terms on the Board of Trustees of New Brunswick Theological Seminary. She has also been active in the Raritan Association of the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey as past Moderator and on the Ordination Committee. Dr. Brown is currently a co-mentor to the Pointer/Brown/Goodman Doctoral Fellows at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. She has the honor of serving on the Advisory Board of the Women in Ministry Conference, Inc. convened by The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale in Atlanta, GA, and as the Assistant Secretary of the Hampton University Minister's Conference.

Dr. Brown is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. In addition to her ecclesiastical work, she is active in her local community as a member of the Perth Amboy Area NAACP, serving on the Mayor's Strategic Planning Team and 100 Days Committee in the City of Perth Amboy. She is also a member of the Perth Amboy Board of Education. Through the years, Dr. Brown has been the recipient of multiple awards and recognitions for her work in the church and community.

Both servant and scholar, Rev. Dr. Brown holds Master of Education and Bachelor of Science Degrees from Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia, and both a Master of Divinity Degree and Master of Arts Degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She also holds an earned Doctor of Ministry Degree from Palmer Theological Seminary in St. David's Pennsylvania, where she studied Leadership and Church Renewal.

Rev. Dr. Brown loves God, God's Church, and God's people. She counts it an honor and a privilege to serve.

*\*Also serving as a Theologian in Residence*

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# THEOLOGIAN-IN-RESIDENCE



Rev. Dr. Carlton David Johnson

Carlton David Johnson is a native of Atlanta GA.

He received his undergraduate degree from Emory University in English with a concentration in literature from the African diaspora. Following a 25-year career in Project, Operation and Client Services Management, Carlton returned to the academy to receive the Master of Divinity at Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary and, more recently, the Master of Theology (Homiletics) from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. His area of research is the impact of African American preaching on grief and mourning.

Throughout his life, he has maintained an intimate concern for the disenfranchised, especially young African-American males. He has worked in the outreach ministries of the church and given himself to mentorship with such organizations as the United States National Guard Youth Challenge Academy and his beloved Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Carlton serves as the Associate Director of Theology, Formation and Evangelism for the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). Carlton also serves as a Chaplain for both Children's Hospital of Atlanta and Grady Health Systems. At Grady, he developed a specialty in Emergency and Trauma Initiated Palliative Pastoral Care. He previously served as Chief Operations Officer for Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary.

Carlton is an associate minister at the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church in Lithonia, GA. There he works with the Ujima Men's Fellowship, Kijana Boys Rites of Passage, Fawohodie Ministry to the Incarcerated and their families and serves in Music Ministry. He is a board member of the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church Community Development Corporation, the Presbyterian Pastoral Care Network and NEXT CHURCH (Strategic Planning Team). He is a regular contributor to the Presbyterian Outlook monthly magazine.

Carlton and his wife Cara split their time between Atlanta, GA and Louisville, KY.



Dr. Teddy Reeves, PhD

Teddy is a multifaceted, award-winning producer and curator that uses his many strengths to capture and curate cultural moments. While transitioning industries might challenge some, it sparks joy for a creative like Teddy.

As a curator of religion at the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture (NMAAHC), Teddy has created innovative projects that have highlighted the influence of digital technologies in capturing and preserving Black spiritual and religious life in the Americas. Some of these influential, inaugural projects include the “Black religion in the age of COVID-19 collections” project, capturing Black religious and spiritual communities digital response to COVID-19, and producing the upcoming featured documentary film, *gOD-Talk*, releasing in 2023. The film explores the lives of seven Black millennials (Atheist, Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, and Spiritualist, and African Traditional Religion) and their challenges and discoveries with faith in the 21st century.

Most recently, Teddy’s forthcoming essay “Moments” will be featured in the nmaahc’s publication, *Movement, Motion, Moments: Photographs of Religion & Spirituality from the National Museum of African American History & Culture*.

Sought after as a cultural expert on Black spirituality and faith, Teddy helped to establish the Betsey Stockton Center for Black Church Studies at one of the oldest theological institutions in the United States. It was during this time that he co-curated his first exhibition, “Touching the Sacred: the Black Church and Material Religion,” which explored the sacred objects of the Black Church tradition. Teddy’s commitment to community led him to create the reeves group to help educational, cultural, and faith-based non-profit organizations reach their fundraising and board goals. His work contributed to over \$70 million in philanthropic revenue. Alongside these efforts, Teddy has also served as an English instructor; theologian; and teaching assistant at Princeton university pace center for civic engagement. Teddy’s work has been featured on The Root, CBS news, Washington Post, NPR, Religion News Service, Revolt TV, and other outlets. Enriched from his educational experience, he earned his BA from Hampton University, MDiv. from Princeton Seminary, and PhD from Fordham University. His loves expand to being in nature, attending exhibitions, researching new artists and collecting Black art, and most of all making new memories with his life-partner, actress Briana Gibson Reeves. Teddy hails from Winston-Salem, North Carolina and now calls Baltimore and Brooklyn home.





## Rev. Dr. Dominique A. Robinson

The Rev. Dr. Dominique A. Robinson, a New Jersey native, is a millennial Womanist homiletician and justice advocate. Reared in the Pentecostal tradition, she answered her call to ministry at the age of 13. Dominique earned her Bachelor of Arts in Government from Georgetown University, Master of Divinity concentrating in Biblical Interpretation, and Master of Theology concentrating in Homiletics, both from Candler School of Theology. She earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Gospel and Culture. Her dissertation, “iHomiletic™: Preaching that Clicks,” is groundbreaking research and consulting services to assist faith leaders with developing impactful ministry that employs technology and social media linguistics. She currently is a Ph.D. student at Christian Theological Seminary in the world’s first African American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric Ph.D. program.

Dr. Robinson is the new John Hines Assistant Professor of Preaching at the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, TX. She takes great pride in being the former inaugural Dean of Chapel and Assistant Professor of Religion at Wiley College in Marshall, TX.

Dr. Robinson is an ordained itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church and a member of the illustrious Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

She is continuously humbled by opportunities to share God’s Word and desires to march to the drumbeat of God’s heart.



**Rev. Dr. Oscar Williams, EdD**

Ordained Elder, Entrepreneur, Producer, Artist, Writer, Public Speaker, Musician, Composer, Teacher and a born Leader – these are but a few adjectives that describe the multi-faceted Oscar Williams Jr. Born and raised in St. Louis, MO, Oscar began his formal music training at the age of 8. He did his undergraduate studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Music with an emphasis in Piano. He later went on to obtain a Masters of Music degree in Music Composition from Southern Methodist University and a Doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Management from Dallas Baptist University, maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

His professional career spans over 2 decades of touring, recording, writing, producing and performing both domestically and internationally. Oscar has served with the U.S. States department as a Music Ambassador in collaboration with programs such as Rhythm Road and American Music Abroad since 2010. These responsibilities require him to tour several times a year with the assistance of government contracts and the U.S. Embassy's around the world promoting American music values and culture.

In 2014, Oscar started Speak Life, LLC – global music, leadership and production company that specializes in creating avenues of positive communication through music. The "Speak Life Tour" was created to influence the way people communicate around the world. Some countries to host the tour have been: Chile, Argentina, Haiti, Venezuela, Brazil, Prague, Italy, Germany, Switzerland. In 2016, Oscar established the Speak Life Academy of Arts and Music, INC., a 501 (c)(3) company formed to hold a charter for the future Speak Life Academy of Arts and Music Charter School in Dallas, TX.

Oscar's recording career began in 2004 with his debut release, "Unstoppable," on Aleho/Ryko/Warner label. This record produced chart-topping hits such as "Safety," "You mean

the world to me" and "You are the One." Some other noted writing credits include: "Forever More" – Gospel Heritage; "All to Thee" – Tamela Mann; "You Rescued Me" – The Mississippi Mass Choir; "The Best is Yet to Come" – Karen Clark Sheard; "Your Latter" – Smokie Norful/Meaghan Williams; "I am Healed" – Bishop TD Jakes; "Heal our Land" – Joyous Celebration/Potters House Choir; Today, Oscar is heavily sought after as a worship leader, speaker, clinician, producer and writer.

He serves as the Executive Director of Arts and Music at the Potters House Church in Dallas, TX – T.D. Jakes Ministries. He is currently working on his first book entitled "10 Things Every Young Leader Should Know"

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# PARTICIPANTS



**Isis Agyei**



**Carolyn Anderson**



**Cindricka Arrington**



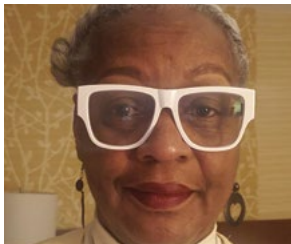
**Jay Augustine**



**Albert Bailey**



**Patrice Butler**



**Paula Cooper**



**Wayne Croft**



**Ashley DeTar Birt**



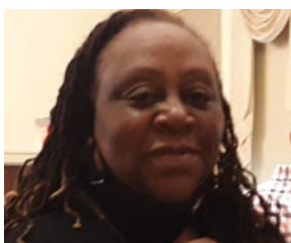
**Omar L. Dykes**



**Cornell Edmonds**



**Renai Ellison**



**Doris Evans**



**Shatada Floyd-White**



**Patrice Fowler-Searcy**

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# PARTICIPANTS, cont.



**T. Devan Franklin**



**Charles Galbreat**



**Walter Gardner**



**Phyllis Givens**



**Eric Goode**



**Adrienne Gowens**



**Donna A. Graves**



**Winterbourne Harrison-Jones**



**Sherman Helton Jr**



**Brian C. Henderson**



**Erika Hendrix**



**Anthony Hill**



**Deborah Hollaway**



**Crystal Jennings**



**Angela Johnson**





**Tremayne Johnson**



**Stanley Kimble**



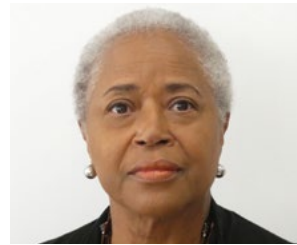
**Suzanne Kershaw**



**Kevin Leonard**



**Will Lee**



**Mary Lloyd**



**LaWonder McDowell**



**Keith McGee**



**Daryl Moore**



**Mary Moss**



**Owar Ojulu**



**Mark Onginjo**



**Reginald Pitts**



**Althelia Pond**



**Darryl Powell**

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# PARTICIPANTS, cont.



**Kenneth Rioland Jr**



**Natarsha Sanders**



**Brooke Scott**



**Edward Scott Jr.**



**William Scott**



**David Seymour Jr**



**Fred Smith**



**Jacquie Smith**



**Paris Lee Smith**



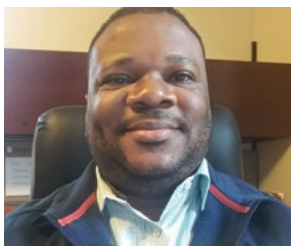
**Keesha Speight**



**Tashidia Steverson**



**JuQuan Stewart**



**Kevin Taylor**



**Terrance Thomas**



**William Thomas**





**Siera Grace Toney**



**Billy Washington**



**Demetrius K. Williams**



**Arnelle Woods**



**Dawn Wright**

# WHAT TO DO in Princeton



**1. Downtown Princeton**—A quaint, vibrant downtown with popular stores and independent shops, local restaurants, and coffee & dessert shops.

**2. Historic Princeton**—Visit one of the many historic buildings in town: The Bainbridge House, Nassau Presbyterian Church, Drumthwacket, Morven Museum & Gardens, and more. Visit [www.princetonhistory.org](http://www.princetonhistory.org).

**3. Princeton Battlefield & Clarke House Museum**—The site of the American Revolutionary War Battle of Princeton, this park has hiking trails and a museum. Walking distance from Seminary along Mercer Street.

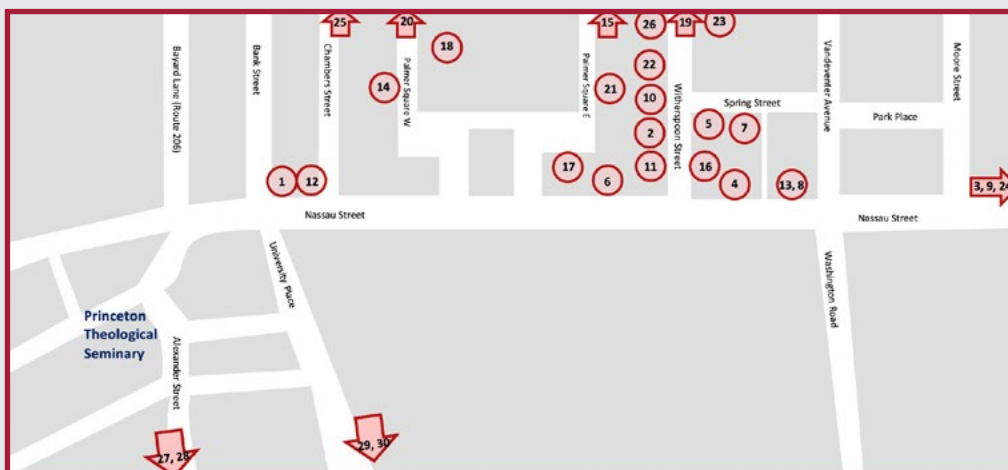
**4. Princeton University**—Located a block away from the Seminary, explore the rich history of this famous Ivy League institution. Visit Nassau Hall, the gothic University Chapel, and the free University Art Museum.

**5. Libraries**—Looking for a quiet place? Visit the Princeton Public Library or tour the Seminary Library.

**6. Tow Path Walking Trail**—Down Alexander Street, a walking path for miles along the local canal provides a relaxing afternoon near Lake Carnegie.

**7. Movie Theaters**—Princeton Garden Theatre (local, independent), & AMC Market Fair (off Route 1).

# WHERE TO EAT in Princeton



## Yummy Cheap Eats (Avg. \$5–25)

1. Jammin' Crêpes, 20 Nassau St.
2. Mamoun's Falafel, 20 Witherspoon St.
3. Hoagie Haven, 242 Nassau St.
4. Tacoria, 110 Nassau St.
5. Tico's Juice Bar, 33 Witherspoon St.
6. Proof Pizzeria, 84 Nassau St.
7. Planted Plate Vegan, 15 Spring St.
8. PJ's Pancake House, 154 Nassau Street
9. Tiger Noodles, 252 Nassau St.
10. Olive's Deli, 22 Witherspoon St.

11. Small World Coffee, 14 Witherspoon St.
12. Sakrid Coffee, 20 Nassau Street
13. Fresca Bowl & Poke Mahi, 142 Nassau St.
14. The Bent Spoon, 35 Palmer Square W.
15. Halo Pub Ice Cream, 9 Hulfish St.

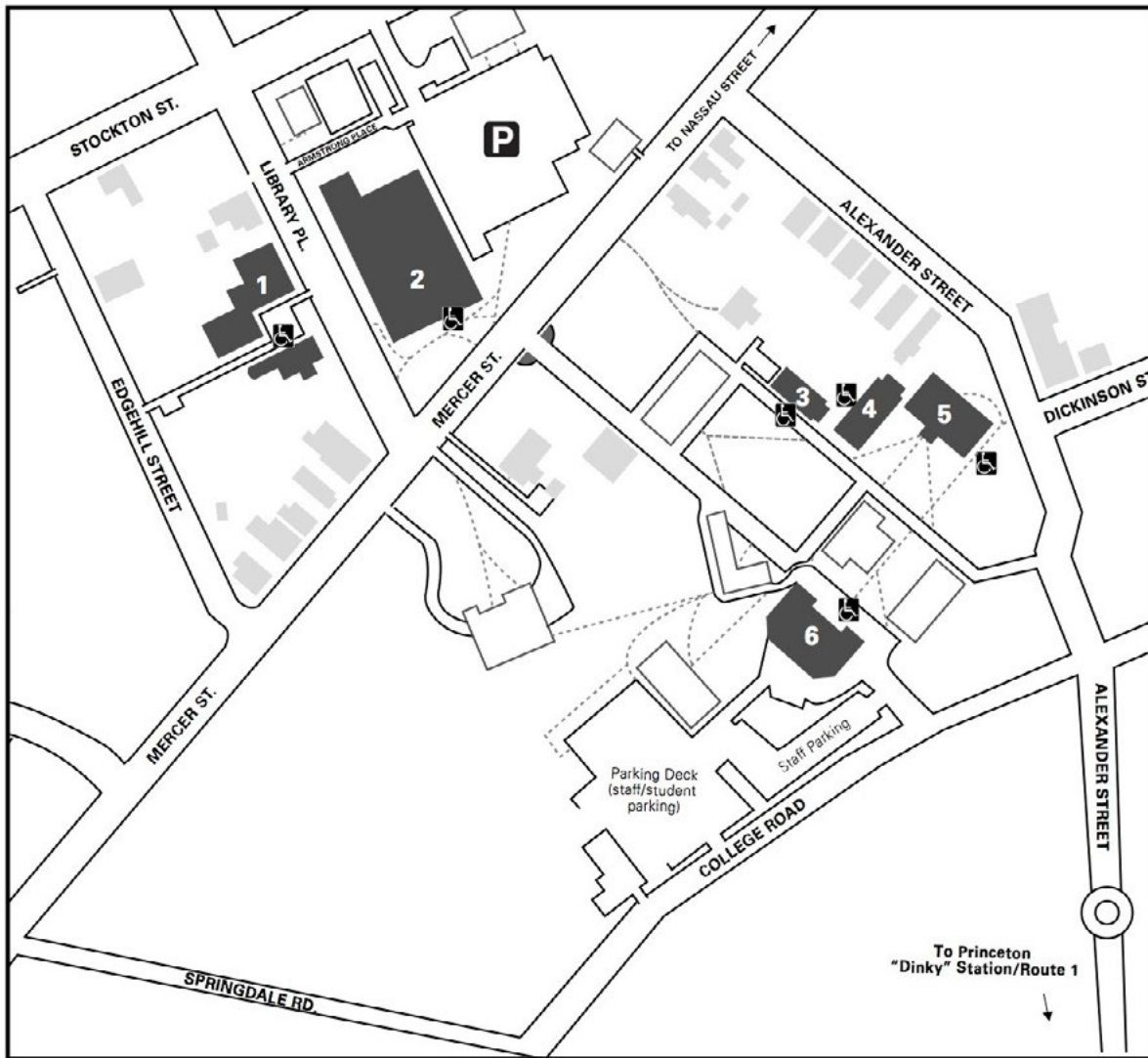
## Worthy Splurges (Ave. \$25–50)

16. Agricola Eatery, 11 Witherspoon St.
17. Winberies Restaurant & Bar, 1 Palmer Square E.
18. Yankee Doodle Tap Room, Palmer Square
19. Mistral, 66 Witherspoon St.

20. Mediterra Restaurant, 29 Hulfish St.
21. Teresa's Pizza & Wine Bar, 23 Palmer Square E.
22. Alchemist & Barrister, 28 Witherspoon St.
23. Witherspoon Grill, 57 Witherspoon St.
24. Blue Point Grill, 258 Nassau St.
25. Tortuga's Mexican Village, 41 Leigh Ave.
26. Lan Ramen, 4 Hulfish St.
27. Metro North, 378 Alexander St.
28. Soonja's Cuisine, 244 Alexander St.
29. The Dinky Bar & Kitchen, 94 University Place
30. Roots Ocean Prime, 98 University Place

# CAMPUS MAP

Princeton Theological Seminary  
Main Campus 64 Mercer Street Princeton, NJ 08542



## BUILDING KEY

- 1 Erdman Center
- 2 Wright Library
- 3 Scheide Hall
- 4 Seminary Chapel
- 5 Stuart Hall
- 6 Mackay Campus Center

## SYMBOLS KEY

-  Event Building
-  Public Parking
-  Accessible Entrance
-  Walkway



**BETSEY STOCKTON  
CENTER FOR BLACK  
CHURCH STUDIES**  
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## About Betsey Stockton Center for Black Church Studies

The Betsey Stockton Center for Black Church Studies exists to highlight the theological and religious witness, which arises out of the African American and African Diaspora Christian experience. The Center helps to prepare men and women for vocational ministry or scholarly pursuits shaped by a wider knowledge and deeper appreciation of Black life within American and global Christianity.



The Betsey Stockton Center aspires to be a national leader in research on the Black church through the collaborative creation of scholarship with leading scholars, community leaders, and pastors to address the critical issues confronting clergy, congregants, and communities served by the Black church.

← Scan for more information



**BLACK THEOLOGY  
AND  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**  
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## What is the Black Theology Leadership Institute?

BTLI is a weeklong intensive continuing education event for clergy and laity for training, worship, and fellowship. The institute is designed for clergy and lay leaders who would like to deepen their thinking and preaching by learning from preeminent scholars of theology and religion. In 2023, Searching for the Soul of Black Preaching.

### HOW CAN YOU BECOME A BTLI FELLOW?

All interested leaders are urged to apply, including those who may not have formal theological training. BTLI is limited to 50 fellows. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

BTLI fellows, faculty, and staff gather on the Princeton Theological Seminary campus to think deeply about theology and leadership through robust academics and thoughtful discernment. BTLI is known for its thoughtful and inspiring daily worship.



BTLI begins on Sunday, July 16, 2023 and concludes on Friday, July 21, 2023.

← Scan for more information

## 2024 Black Theology Leadership Institute – July 14–19 2024

### New Fire in New Places: Reconceptualizing Pentecostalism and the Black Church

This conference examines the full diversity, complexity and evolution of pentecostalism and the African American religious experience seeking to explore existing and revolutionary manifestations of pentecostalism. We will explore the boundaries of pentecostalism and how it is infused in new places and new ways within traditional African American religious experience and African, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latinx churches, and creative ministry expressions unexplored in the history of the independent sanctified church traditions, or mainline black churches that are not always included in Pentecostal discourse.

Learn more and apply for BTLI beginning August 2023, by visiting [btli.ptsem.edu/btli-2024/](https://btli.ptsem.edu/btli-2024/).



← Scan for more information

Black Theology and Leadership Institute

## New Fire in New Places: Reconceptualizing Pentecostalism and the Black Church

This conference examines the full diversity, complexity and evolution of pentecostalism and the African American religious experience seeking to explore existing and revolutionary manifestations of pentecostalism.

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY | *JULY 14-19, 2024*



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# THANK YOU



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**

## Presbyterian Mission Agency

We are incredibly grateful to the financial support of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Their gracious grant of twenty-five thousand dollars enabled several of our participants to attend this year's conference and underwrote essential elements of this year's gathering. Through the leadership of Rev. Dr. Carlton Johnson, Associate Director for Theology, Formation and Evangelism and Coordinator for the Office of Vital Congregations of the Presbyterian Mission Agency and Laura Bryant, Coordinator, Financial Aid for Service Theology, Formation, and Evangelism, the Presbyterian Church has made an invaluable investment in their clergy, leaders and this Institute.

## Institutional Partners

Hopefully, if you are attending this year's Institute, you have experienced our profound appreciation for your presence in your every encounter. We are truly blessed to have you here! However, I hope you also know how absolutely invaluable so many of our staff, institutional partners, and volunteers have been to this experience. Please join me in expressing our profound appreciation to those whose service, while sometimes invisible, has been essential to this Institute.

**Cheryl Ali**, Senior Director of Advancement

**Chrissy Asterito**, Director of Hospitality and Event Services

**Maiia Avelino**, Hospitality and Events Business Service Coordinator

**Amy Ehlin**, Senior Director of Auxiliary Services

**Joel Estes**, Associate Vice President for External Relations

**Melissa Haupt**, Assistant Director of Worship

**Vince Papp**, Director of Hospitality and Dining Services

**Abigail Rusert**, Associate Dean of Continuing Education

**Lydia Tembo**, Director of Admissions

## Staff and Volunteers



**Julia Feacher,**  
Administrative Assistant  
for the Centers

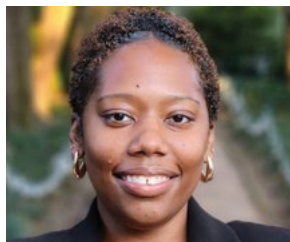


**Deja Wilson,**  
BTLI Program Manager,  
Graduate Student

## Graduate Student Assistants



**LaPhone Flood-Francis,**  
Graduate Student



**Angela Pearson,**  
Graduate Student

**“Fitz” Henry Fitzgerald  
Robertson II,**  
Graduate Student



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# STAY IN TOUCH



BLACK THEOLOGY  
AND  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

**Princeton Theological Seminary**

Betsy Stockton Center for  
Black Church Studies

64 Mercer Street | Princeton, NJ  
08542-0803

**615-542-7348** | [bsc.ptsem.edu](http://bsc.ptsem.edu)

