

**The Stevenson School for Ministry Annual Report
October 2024 - September 2025**

Purpose of The Stevenson School for Ministry: To support theological education and formation for the current and future leadership needs of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. Leadership formation for lay and ordered ministry continues while expanding our welcome to others, such as the Dioceses of West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Bethlehem, and Delaware, and creating opportunities for collaborative learning. To offer alternative options for congregations and leadership to engage in formation of God's action in the world using the best of technology.

2024-2025 Vocational Term Enrollments

Semester	Dates	Total Enrollments
Spring 2025	January 21 - May 9, 2025	87
Summer 2025	May 19 - August 22, 2025	69
Fall 2025	August 25 - December 15, 2025	64

Program/Cohort Enrollment in Fall Semester 2025* as of September 8th, 2025

Program Track	Enrolled	Dioceses and Denominations Represented	
Priesthood Training	3	Bethlehem	6
Diaconate Training	10	Central Pennsylvania	15
Lay Preacher	3	Connecticut	1
Lay Worship Leader	6	Delaware	7
Lay Preacher and Worship Leader	3	Easton	1
Continuing Ed	26	ELCA	1
Personalized Learning Path	7	Georgia	1
Discernment	3	Iowa	1
Discernment, Lay Preacher and/or Worship Leader	3	Maryland	8
		New Jersey	3
		Northwestern Pennsylvania	1
		Pennsylvania	8
		Pittsburgh	5

United Church of Christ	1
West Missouri	1
West Virginia	2
Western Michigan	1
Western New York	1

Office of the Dean Transitions

Dr. Sarah Stonesifer Boylan concluded her tenure as Dean of the Stevenson School on December 31, 2024. The Rev. Dr. Luke Zerra began serving as Interim Dean on a 1/2 time basis on January 1, 2025, having previously served as Associate Dean since August 2022. In January 2025, the Rev. Dr. Kevin Lowe began serving as Associate Dean.

Anglican Studies Certificate Program with Moravian-Lancaster Theological Seminary and Anglican Studies Seminar with United Lutheran Seminary:

The Anglican Studies certificate partnership continues to be a program offered by Moravian-Lancaster Theological Seminary. The last two Anglican Studies graduates finished in May 2023. There are currently no Anglican Studies students in the seminary's M.Div program. SSFM and M-LTS signed a revised memorandum of understanding in May 2025. Since the August 2025 departure of the Rev. Dr. Vanessa Lovelace, SSFM is working with Dr. Christian Rice, who serves as the Dean and Vice President of the School of Theology at Moravian University.

In the 2022-23 academic year, the experiment of an Anglican Studies Seminar with United Lutheran Seminary was completed. In the 2024-2025 year, two ULS students were enrolled at SSFM through their Anglican Studies program. There are no ULS students currently enrolled in SSFM courses in Fall 2025. Since the July 2024 departure of the ULS Anglican Studies coordinator, Rev. Reed Carlson, PhD., SSFM is working with the new dean and the Anglican Advisory group to facilitate ease of student access and advising.

Community and Continuing Education

SSFM is committed to providing continuing education and community-focused courses. All vocational courses can always be taken for not-for-credit learning. Here is a sampling of the previous year's continuing education offerings:

December 2024: *Cinematology - Advent Themes in the Movies*, a 4 Advent series led by the Rev. Greg Millikin. 19 people registered for this presentation and corresponding discussion about pre-selected film clips from the history of cinema, as they pertain to these themes that are found in the season of Advent.

December 2024: *Grounded in Advent*, a 3-week group spiritual direction opportunity led by the Rev. Erin Jean Warde. 5 people registered for this workshop.

December 2024: *Advent Prayer Retreat*, 17 people registered for a 1 day online retreat led by the Rev. Scott Gunn and Miriam McKenney of Forward Movement.

February 2025: *Leading Weddings and Funerals in the Late 2020s*, 5 people registered for this three-session workshop, taught by the Rev. Adam Trambley.

March-April 2025: *Hymns and Music of Lent*. 20 people registered for this six-session interdisciplinary, high-energy romp through the history of Lenten liturgy, music and spirituality led by the Rev. Becky Zartman.

March-April 2025: *Y'all Means All: A Lenten Cohort for LGBTQ+ Folks and Allies*. 14 people registered for this 5-week cohort to explore how congregations can welcome and embrace LGBTQ+ people and families. The cohort was led by the Rev. Margie Baker and the Rev. Scott Rieker.

May-June 2025: *Spanish for Ministry 101*. 7 people registered for this class covering key phrases, cultural insights, ministry vocabulary, and Episcopal worship in Spanish. The course was caught by the Rev. Wilson Colón.

May-July 2025: *Jesus Church and Powers*. 6 people registered for this ten-week course, taught by Dr. Joshua Davis. Ephesians 6:12 tells us that “our struggle is . . . against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness.” But what or who are these rulers, authorities, and powers? This course explored various ways of answering that question with the help of contemporary biblical scholars, theologians, and Christian ethicists.

SSFM Advisory Board:

There have been four Stevenson School for Ministry Board Meetings, with the Rev. Canon David Lovelace as Chair. The meetings were held in December 2024; and March, June, and September 2025.

The Advisory Board membership: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey Scanlan, the Rev. Canon David Lovelace, the Rev. Michael Nailor, the Rev. Bradley Mattson, Mr. Rob Box, the Rev. Canon Marianne Ell, the Rev. Canon Kristofer Lindh-Payne, the Rev. Dr. Shawn Strout, Dr. Vanessa Lovelace (resigned due to new position at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary), Ms. Tracy Robinson, and the Rev. Kristin Waskowicz.

SSFM Financials Overview:

- 2026 Budget has been approved by Council of Trustees
- SSFM is ahead of budget for calendar year 2025
 - Higher average class sizes and continuing education led to increased course education
 - Direct cost and expenses largely matched with grants and endowment helping cover administrative costs
 - Lower than budgeted costs for staffing, learning weekends, and other costs
 - Higher than budgeted technology costs
- SSFM continues trajectory of breaking even, excluding the Dean's compensation

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Dr. Luke Zerra, Interim Dean of the Stevenson School for Ministry, lzerra@diocesecpa.org

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Lowe, Associate Dean of the Stevenson School for Ministry, klowe@diocesecpa.org

The Rev. Canon David Lovelace, chair, SSFM Advisory Board