



PAYNE THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

Payne Theological Seminary

presents

The Black Church and Domestic Violence

A Doctor of Ministry Focus Group

led by

Rev. Dr. Damali Smith-Pollard, Mentor

Rev. Dr. Velma Union, Mentor

Spring Semester 2018



The Doctor of Ministry Program at Payne Theological Seminary

THE PTS DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

The Doctor of Ministry program at Payne Theological Seminary is a process model of adult continuing education that is heavily influenced by Transformative Learning¹ and Action Research². The educational philosophy undergirding the program is a student-centered approach to transformative learning defined with a dialogical approach to a problem-posing curriculum as suggested by Paulo Freire³. The process uses Social Constructivism⁴ so that learning takes place best as students are actively engaged in a perpetual movement of discovery and invention.

The epistemological assumptions underlying the PTS Doctor of Ministry Program are that learning takes place through experience in context, through action/reflection within a peer group of learners, and also through theoretical understanding. For this reason, the PTS student will engage in collaborative learning with a Program Learning Committee from within the context of ministry, through action/reflection with members of the Peer Focus Group seminars and through readings and discussion from the academy. To implement this approach to learning, the PTS DMin program uses a three-tier curriculum for the DMin program.

The PTS DMin Peer Focus Group

A Focus Group⁵ is generally thought of as a qualitative research technique whereby a small (normally 6 to 12) group of participants are led by a moderator to explore the success of a particular commodity. The moderator would guide the participants through a series of questions to explore nuances of the commodity. Payne Theological Seminary will use this technique in exploring ministry issues in *Domestic Violence*. The mentors of the cohort, Dr. Damali Smith-Pollard and Dr. Velma Union, both of whom have been actively involved in Domestic Violence issues, will serve as moderators of the focus group and the DMin students will serve as the participants. Each participant will approach his or her context through a Domestic Violence lens to

¹ Edward Taylor, Patricia Cranton, and Associates, *Handbook on Transformative Learning Theory, Research, and Practice*, (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2012).

² Peter Reason and Hilary Bradbury, eds., *The Sage Handbook on Action Research: Participative Inquiry and Practice, 2nd Edition*, (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2008).

³ Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (New York: Continuum, 1993).

⁴ Vivien Burr, *Social Constructivism, 2nd Edition*, (New York: Routledge, 2003).

⁵ David L. Morgan, *Focus Groups as Qualitative Research, 2nd ed.*, (Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1997).



address ministry issues within the context. It is therefore anticipated that the DMin projects the students will work on will fall under the aegis of *The Black Church and Domestic Violence* but approached through different context and from different perspectives. In this way, the student will be able to explore his or her passion while at the same time, providing new and different perspectives on transformation through reconciliation.

At the end of the three-year program, it is expected that a book on *The Black Church and Domestic Violence* will be published with Dr. Damali Smith-Pollard and Dr. Velma Union serving as the editors and the DMin students serving as contributors to the book. This, of course, means that the work of the student must be of publishable quality. It also means students will be published when completing this program.

The Black Church and Domestic Violence

The objective of this cohort is to develop a greater Awareness and Competency on Domestic Violence and the Black Church, develop strategies to cultivate a "safe" environment within the congregational space, and develop a theological framework for addressing Domestic Violence within their local church, that can be shared and replicated. To that end, participants will 1) examine key identifiers of Domestic Violence (that may be taking place within the congregational space and/or home), 2) examine the theological imperative for Pastoral/Congregational address to Domestic Violence, 3) examine/test a Best Practices model for congregational ministries that will serve the abused/abuser, and 4) examine/confront personal biases, prejudices and knowledge base on the issue of Domestic Violence.

The Focus Group Elective courses for this cohort are:

- Fundamentals of Domestic Violence
- Faith Communities Engaged in Ending Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Developing a Hermeneutic to address Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Safe and Health Churches



Who should be in this Group?

The Doctor of Ministry program represents formal preparation for and enrichment of the practice of ministry. It presupposes a Master of Divinity with three years of ministry experience. The goal of the Doctor of Ministry degree is to provide a level of knowledge, theoretical clarity, and competence of practice commensurate with the highest earned degree for the profession and practice of ministry. Persons seeking to enter into a Doctor of Ministry program must have a clearly definable context of ministry. The degree is designed to deepen the basic knowledge, skill, and research in ministry, so that one can engage in the practice of ministry with increasing professional, intellectual, and spiritual integrity. The Doctor of Ministry degree at Payne is designed to train leaders for the Church in various areas of ministry. The expected time of study is three years or six semesters. Students attend the one week Intensives and peer seminars. Additionally, web support is a part of the program. Through Blackboard and webinars, students are allowed to remain in their context of ministry on a full time basis while earning their degree.

Cost

Application Fee

non-refundable (\$50)

Semester Fee

Intensive Registration (\$375)

Tuition (\$4350)

Technology (\$160)

Other Fees

Candidacy Review (\$250)

Graduation (\$750)

DMin Project Continuation (\$2500)

Matriculation Maintenance (\$550)

Deadline

The cut-off date for spring 2018 applicants is **December 15, 2017**



About the Mentors



Rev. Dr. Najuma Smith-Pollard

Dr. Najuma Smith-Pollard is a Pastor, Community Activist, Author, Sexual Violence Awareness Advocate/Trainer and “Purpose” Pusher.

In 1994, Damali Najuma Smith accepted her call to ministry, while serving under the phenomenal tutelage of Dr. Cecil L. “Chip” Murray, her father in ministry. Dr. Najuma says, “Going into ministry was just the next level of service for me.” She was ordained as a Deacon in 1996 and as an Itinerant Elder in 2000. Since that time, Dr. Najuma has served as Assistant Pastor and Pastor of Family Ministries at Christ Our Redeemer AME Church in Irvine, California; Pastor of A.K. Quinn AME Church in Moreno Valley, California; Pastor of St. James AME Church, in Los

Angeles, California and in 2014 launched Word of Encouragement Community Church, in Los Angeles, Ca. (WOECC.ORG). Dr. Najuma is a frequent speaker at churches and conferences, and welcomes the opportunity to share the good news of the Gospel, her gifts, time and talent with ministries abroad and secular events. In line with her call to ministry, Dr. Najuma, leads the ‘...And She Can Preach!’ gathering, a network committed to supporting emerging preaching women.

In addition, Dr. Najuma is Program Manager for the USC Cecil Murray Center for Community Engagement at USC, and the Executive Director for the Southern California School of Ministry. She works closely with the vast Faith community in Los Angeles, on community development and civic engagement work. In connection to her social justice work, Dr. Najuma founded a Sexual Violence Awareness & Training Program, named “It’s Not Okay” [www.itsnotokay.org]. The purpose of this program is to equip faith leaders with the tools to engage and address the issue of sexual violence within the local church and community.

Dr. Najuma is a certified as a Speaker, Trainer and Coach with the John Maxwell Team; and pushes the message that “We are all created for the Purpose of fulfilling a Godly assignment and We must be unapologetic about Living On Assignment!” She loves serving and helping people overcome their barriers to personal success and live fully into their Life Assignment. You can tune-in to her weekly broadcast, Living On Assignment Radio Show, for on-air inspiration and free live coaching, each Sunday at 9:00 pm PST, on www.acceleratedradio.net. Dr. Najuma has the drive and spirit of an entrepreneur, which is the fuel behind her budding urban apparel company, Chocolate Tee’s.

As a writer, Dr. Najuma has authored five books, with many more to come. Her three favorites are The Prayer Makeover: Developing a Prayer Life That Avails Much; More Than a Sermon and Sunday Hymn (Practical Tools for Singles Saved); and her latest release Breaking Broke: Change Ur mind flow, U can change Ur Cash Flow! Her other books can be found on her website. In terms of education, Dr. Najuma holds a Bachelor of Science in Management from Pepperdine University, a Bachelor of Theology from the Southern California School of Ministry, a Masters of Business Administration from Woodbury University and a Doctorate in



Ministry, from United Theological Seminary. In addition, she has received Certification in Civic Engagement from the “Passing the Mantle” Civic Engagement and Community Development Institute from USC.

The best advice Dr. Najuma ever received came from her mother, who told her: “You can do anything you want to!” This invaluable advice always guides her as she strives to complete each task, knowing that all things are possible through Christ.

On the lighter side, she is affectionately known as “Rev Juju”, has several hobbies including reading, going to movies, skiing, snowboarding, and writing and traveling. Her travels outside of the country have taken her to Canada, Spain, Morocco, Turkey, Belgium, France, St. Lucia, Lesotho (South Africa), China, Egypt and Israel.

She is wonderfully married to Felix Pollard and they have three sons and a daughter: Daniel, Dillon, Dorian and Zuri.



About the Mentors



Rev. Dr. Velma Union

Present

CEO, One Light International	Community
Development Non Profit	
Los Angeles, CA	
Pastor the Lord's	Spiritual
Development- Ministry	
Church International 2.0	
Inglewood, Ca 90305	

Personal Data:

Birthdate: August 15, 1948
 Birthplace: Chattanooga, TN
 Marital Status: Divorced and mother of
 Address Walker and Juan
 Walker (deceased)
 Address 6030 S Crenshaw Blvd 216

Los Angeles, Ca 90043
 Office: (323) 531.0630
 Non-denominational
 Ordained: January 19, 1997

Phones:
 Denomination:
 Ordained:

Education:

B.S. (Accounting)	Tennessee State University, 1971
M A Finance (8) Credits	West Coast University, 1976
Specialized Training IRS*	Internal Revenue Service 1973-1978
Real Estate Finance (Cert)	University Southern California, 1999
Economic Dev (Cert)	Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2000
M.A. Theology	Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, 2003
Doctor of Ministry	Fuller Theological Seminary, June 2005

Professional Experience:

11/90 to present	One Light International -Founder and Executive Director CA
09-2017 to Present	The Lord's Church International 2.0-Co Pastor
6/2013-6-2015	Tuoro University- Instructor Comparative Religions (online)
9/1997-8/2015	The Lord's Church L A CA- Organizer -Pastoral Team
3/2009-3/2015	Christ Our Redeemer AME Church -Interactive Bible Study Instructor
12/2012-9-2015	Passing the Mantle-Mentor (USC)



3/2009-3/2015 University Of Laverne- Adjunct Faculty
4/2005-6-2007 Fuller Theological Seminary -Adjunct Faculty

01/79 to 12/95 CEO, Accent Financial Group Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

10/73 to 9/78 Internal Revenue Service
Los Angeles, CA
Revenue Agent,
*Tax Auditing Skills, Insurance Industry, Banks and Savings and Loan
Auditing, Payroll Tax, Computer Auditing, Large Case Auditing.

Professional Affiliations and Honors:

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.,
Los Angeles Women's Donor Circle
"Inspiring Speaker" National Black Public Relations Society, Los Angeles 1997
The *Most Inspiring Urban Leader* 2004 – OASIS USA
Delegate, Women's Global Peace Conference, Geneva, Switzerland, 2002
United Nations, Delegate, New York 2006 Iraqi Women Conference, 2006
Mayor's Task Force on Education.
Enrolled Agent License to Practice at Internal Revenue Service

Professional Accomplishment Seminars and Education Experience:

Instructor Christ Our Redeemer AME Church Irvine, Ca Interactive Bible Study
Urban Network Conference (Recording Industry) seminar: *Business Skills for Independent Retailers*.
Fuller Seminary:
 "*Business the other Side of Ministry*" (a seminar for church leaders and pastors)
 Church Management and Administration, (Masters Level course)
Capital Compassion Fund, Washington D. C., Reviewer
Radio Show Host-*About My Father's Business* KGFJ and KTYM radio station(s)
Television Show host *Business as Usual*- Television show featuring community business shows owners
and their success stories and significance of lessons learned.
Pacific Coast Regional Development Corporation-Instructor *Business Development and Management
Training Course*.
Los Angeles Urban League (sponsored by Microsoft) *Making the Business IT: Youth Challenge,
Competitive (Business development course using the internet)*, Los Angeles team was first runner up in
the national competition.

From a Borrower to a Lender, (a course for Consumers in financial literacy)

Are you a "***PastorPreneur***"? - (*A course providing basic business skills for pastors*)

Publication: "***Is the Church the Church?***" (Shared Leadership in the
Body of Christ) Released December 2009.