



# Selah

CERTIFICATE IN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

*Trinitarian Contemplative Biblical*

A Spiritual Direction Certificate Program for Ministry Leaders

2021-2023 Program

## Two Geographic Options: Selah-West and Selah-East.

**Selah:** A biblical word connoting a reflective pause, a listening attentiveness in the word-crafted space of our salvation life. It suggests that the conversation going on in this space has value, and meaning, and reveals God's work in us.

At LTI we like to think of this as describing what goes on in spiritual direction as, with and on behalf of another, we are prayerfully attentive to God in this wide open space of his ongoing salvation work, where we are being shaped, by the Holy Spirit, ever more fully into the image of Christ!

## Program Intent

Selah is intentionally Trinitarian in theology—spiritual direction is paying attention to how God the Father is actively shaping a person's life through the Holy Spirit in ways that form them ever more deeply into the image of Christ.

Selah is intentionally contemplative in style—characterized by an attentive resting in Christ's presence in the direction time, noticing the movement and activity of the Holy Spirit.

Selah is intentionally biblical in grounding—drawing our understanding of God and his ways from the Scriptures.

In this threefold context, we grow from the wisdom and experience of the Church, through readings in the historical and contemporary classics of spiritual formation, and through the learned practice of spiritual direction together in a residency-style format (17 overnights in 2 years).

## Curriculum

Spiritual direction occurs in community—the community of the Trinity, as expressed in the community of direction. Likewise, our learning of spiritual direction is a communal learning, in the context of which we bring together classic content with lived experience. For this reason we keep our cohorts small, welcoming approximately 12 interns each year into a newly formed Year 1 cohort who gather for their Orientation Residency in June. At the second residency, they then combine with another cohort of 12 for a shared learning community of 24 total for the remaining 4 residencies.

*“Let your love, God, shape my life with  
salvation, exactly as you promised...  
And I'll stride freely through wide open spaces  
as I look for your truth and your wisdom”*

*Psalm 119:41,45 (The Message)*

Selah's instructional content will cover the theology and history of spiritual direction; the practice of spiritual direction, particularly in the contemplative and evocative model; the language, goals, and models of spiritual formation and direction, the use of Scripture in spiritual direction; prayer; discernment; spiritual disciplines; rhythms of the spiritual life; group spiritual direction; spiritual direction in the local church; spiritual direction in the contexts of retreats and quiet days; holistic life contexts for spiritual direction, including its relationship with ministry in society; issues of gender, sexuality, stages of life, and woundedness/healing; ethics of the spiritual direction relationship; and the ongoing spiritual formation of the spiritual director.

Selah's Reading List is a compilation of classic and contemporary writings on the spiritual life in general, as well as on spiritual direction in particular. The Reading List is not given out in advance of the first Residency; however, if you wish to get a flavor of the types of books we read, and some of the actual titles that may be on Selah's syllabus, you may visit Leadership Transformations' Online Store: [www.spiritualformationstore.com](http://www.spiritualformationstore.com) and click on the link near the top left side of the page that says “Spiritual Formation Books.”

Selah's instructional experience will offer each student a mentoring/supervision relationship with one of our faculty, experienced through a supervision peer group for those living locally, and through monthly



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phone or skype contact for those living at a distance. In these relationships, students will receive encouragement and feedback on their practice of spiritual direction as well as their interaction with and appropriation of the course material.

## Residential Model

We believe that the skills necessary to attentive listening are learned best in attentive space—away from the busyness and distractions of daily responsibilities. Hence, Selah is designed around five residential retreats over a two-year period, each of three-four days/nights in duration. In between each Residency, participants will be required to continue course work and course practice, which will provide much of the growth we bring into our times together. [Note: The Residency curricula follows a two-year sequential outline, beginning with the Orientation Residency in late spring and ending with the spring Residency two years later. It is not possible to enroll in Selah mid-cycle, or to spread out attendance over several years. Applicants must attend all five residencies with the same cohort in the same location -- choosing either the East (New England/Mid-Atlantic) or West (AZ) cohort.

## Residency Locations & Dates

Selah offers two geographic cohorts (choose one). Each Residency will begin midafternoon on the opening date and end at noon on the closing date of the following sets of dates:

### Selah-West

May 28-31, 2021 (AZ)  
Oct. 8-11, 2021 (AZ)  
Mar. 31-Apr. 4, 2022 (AZ)  
Oct 8-11, 2022 (AZ)  
Apr 19-22, 2023 (AZ)

### Selah-East

Jun. 6-9, 2021 (MA)  
Nov. 18-21, 2021 (NC)  
Apr 24-28, 2022 (MA)  
Nov 1-4, 2022 (NC)  
June 13-16, 2023 (MA)

## Application Timeframe and Details

- Applications are welcome any time after November 1, 2019.
- Once the application form and essay, application fee, and reference letters/emails are received and reviewed, interviews (in person or phone) will be scheduled for mutually convenient times from January 1 onward. The application process is one of shared discernment between the applicant and Selah, as together we seek to discern both a call to spiritual direction training and to the Selah program in particular. Our desire is to form a cohort of people whom the Lord has been preparing to bring together in this program and at this time.
- Applicants will be notified of their status within three-four weeks of having been interviewed.
- Cohorts are filled based on our discernment of an applicant's fit with Selah, while also seeking to honor the applicant's timeliness in applying as well as the make-up of the cohort as a whole.

## Student Qualifications

- A developmental maturity that demonstrates consistent experience of intentional reflection on your life with God. This should include practices of journaling, personal retreats, and received spiritual direction.
- A previous experience of being companioned in paying attention to your life in God. While this may have been experienced primarily as a mentoring/discipling/soul friend model, students enrolling in

Selah are expected to have been in an intentional spiritual direction relationship with a trained and experienced spiritual director for at least 6 months prior to the first Residency.

- A felt call to companion others in their growing attention to God's presence and shaping work in them, in ways that are contemplative in style.
- A demonstrated experience of having offered spiritual companionship to others. While this may have been in a mentoring or soul friend model in the past, once a student enrolls in Selah they are expected to begin offering formalized spiritual direction to at least 2 people within the first few months of the program.

Note: Applicants may find it helpful to have read the following before applying, in order to be familiar with distinctives of language and practice that characterize Selah:

- Smith, Gordon, *Spiritual Direction: A Guide to Giving and Receiving Direction*
- Benner, David, *The Gift of Being Yourself*
- Benner, David, *Surrender to Love*
- Mulholland, Robert, *Invitation to a Journey*
- Mulholland, Robert, *Shaped by the Word* OR
- Peterson, Eugene, *Eat This Book*

## Personal Spiritual Practices

Students will be intentional and regular in their practice of the spiritual disciplines of Scripture reading, prayer, and reflection. Additionally, they will have some sort of identity in/accountability to the body of Christ as a worshiping community. Students are expected to meet monthly with their own spiritual director.

## Tuition & Fees (all non-refundable)

- \$50 application fee (due with online application)
- \$690 deposit, due upon acceptance (non-refundable)
- \$6990 tuition (covers all program costs as well as room & board at residences; does not cover travel or books)
- Tuition payment options:
  - Pay \$6990 tuition in full by May 7, 2021
  - Optional Payment Plan: \$6990 tuition is payable in 20 monthly installments of \$354 (\$349.50 tuition plus \$4.50 processing fee each month), auto-charged to a major credit card on the 15th of each month beginning May 15, 2020 and ending Dec. 15, 2021.

Students are responsible for their own book purchases and travel arrangements.

Partial scholarships for those who demonstrate financial need are available via the Scholarship Request Form. You may request this form after you have been accepted into the program, but before needing to pay your deposit.

## Certificate of Completion

Upon satisfactory engagement with and completion of all course requirements, the student will be awarded a Certificate of Completion of LTI's Selah Program. While this certificate indicates a process of discernment of and training in a call to the ministry of spiritual direction, it does not guarantee that one is called to or proficient in a ministry of spiritual direction. Confirmation of one's call as a spiritual director is granted by the Holy Spirit, and experienced through the Spirit's work in

the director and their practice in the context of the community of faith.

## Selah Faculty

### **Susan Currie, Director of Selah, Senior Faculty**

*DMin, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
Certificate in Spiritual Direction, CFDM Northwest  
MATS, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
BA English Literature, Bryn Mawr College*

Susan is the Associate for Spiritual Formation at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary's Pierce Center, a retreat leader, and a spiritual director. Previously she served on the staff of The Anchor Presbyterian Church, Bucks County, PA as the Associate for Spiritual Formation, and has offered general spiritual formation ministries in the contexts of teaching, retreat leadership, and spiritual direction in the local church and with parachurch and seminary institutions for the past 30 years.

### **Stephen A. Macchia, President, Leadership Transformations**

*DMin, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
MDiv, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
BA Education, Northwestern College*

Steve is the Founder and President of Leadership Transformations (Selah's parent ministry), and the Director of the Pierce Center at Gordon-Conwell Seminary, where he also teaches in the doctoral track Spiritual Formation for Ministry Leaders. Steve offers individual spiritual direction and leads ministry team discernment processes for churches and other leadership groups. He received his spiritual direction training over several years through a mentoring model with a trained and experienced spiritual director (SSJE).

### **Jeremy Stefano, Senior Faculty**

*DMin. in Leadership & Spiritual Formation,  
George Fox Evangelical Seminary, OR  
Licentiate in Theology, Cape Town Baptist Seminary, South Africa  
Master of Christian Studies, Regent College, Canada*

Jeremy serves with Leadership Transformations in the role of minister of spiritual formation. Spiritual direction has proved to be pivotal in his own life. In addition to offering spiritual direction, Jeremy leads retreats, and teaches classes in spiritual formation. The heartbeat of

Jeremy's calling is to encourage Christian leaders in the cultivation of their relationship with God. He has served churches as pastor, interim pastor and visiting Bible teacher in Southern Africa and the US. He and Bethany have been blessed with 8 children and live in Holden, MA.

### **David Wu, Senior Faculty**

*M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, MA  
Certificate in Spiritual Direction: Selah, Leadership Transformations, MA*

David is Pastor of Spiritual Formation at Access Church and leads the Houston office of Leadership Transformations, where he offers spiritual direction and facilitates soul care retreats. He also loves to lead worship, which like spiritual direction, involves creating hospitable space for others to commune with God. David and his wife, Cindy, have three children.

### **Ted Wueste, Associate for Supervision & Nurture, Senior Faculty**

*D.Min. in Leadership, Phoenix Seminary, AZ  
Master of Sacred Theology, Dallas Seminary, TX  
Master of Divinity, Western Seminary, OR  
Certificate in Spiritual Direction: Selah, Leadership Transformations, MA  
Certificate in Spiritual Direction, New Way Ministries, CO*

Ted serves as Executive Pastor of Spiritual Formation at Bethany Bible Church in Phoenix. He practices spiritual direction as a part of his pastoral ministry and in the broader Christian community. Ted is an adjunct professor at Phoenix Seminary and co-leads the Spiritual Formation Society of AZ. He co-authored a Study Guide for Mansions of the Heart with Tom Ashbrook. Ted and his wife, Jenifer, have 2 children and live in Scottsdale, AZ.

## Additional Supervision Faculty

Kim Alexander (Selah-East)	Christine Warner (Selah-West)
Travis Collins (Selah-West)	John French (Selah-East)
Gayle Heaslip (Selah-East)	Cheri Hudspeth (Selah-West)
Dr. Genalin Niere-Metcalf (Selah-East)	Rhea Patton (Selah-West)

## Guest Faculty

Sally Breedlove (Selah-East)	Neal Siler (Selah-East)
Adele Ahlberg Calhoun (Selah-East)	Br. David Vryhof (Selah-East)

## Contact Information

For additional information or help in the discernment process, please contact:

Susan Currie  
Director of Selah  
[Susan@leadershiptransformations.org](mailto:Susan@leadershiptransformations.org)



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