

REGISTRATION

Applications are now being accepted at www.brite.edu/flourishing or email h.neal@tcu.edu or call 817-257-7582. Selected applicants will be notified no later than one month before the workshop start date. Registration fees will be paid upon acceptance into the workshop. Space is limited and the workshops are expected to fill quickly.

FALL 2019

October 13-18

The Cliffs Resort on Possum Kingdom Lake
Graford, TX

Registration Deadline September 6, 2019

SPRING 2020

April 19-24

Camp Allen Conference and Retreat Center
Navasota, TX

Registration Deadline March 13, 2020

Workshop Costs

To make this opportunity available to all, the cost is based on a sliding scale related to the size of the congregation's or agency's budget.

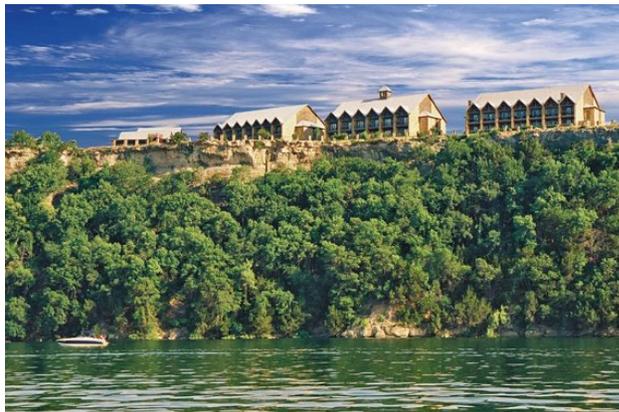
Budget >\$400,000	\$225
Budget \$200,000 to \$400,000	\$150
Budget < \$200,000	\$75

Registration includes single-occupancy lodging, meals, workshop, assessment tool, a copy of *Attend to Stories: How to Flourish in Ministry*, and up to two hours consultation with Dr. McClure.

Schedule

Workshop begins Sunday evening with dinner and ends mid-afternoon on Friday.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES



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*This program is made possible
by a grant from
Lilly Endowment, Inc.*



*Do you feel tired and disconnected from
your call to ministry?*

*Do your days continue to provide
meaningful work?*

*Are you struggling to improve the quality of
your daily life or are you seeking a time for
personal reflection on what comes next?*

*Are personal or professional transitions
impacting your ability to thrive?*

Ministerial Flourishing:
*Exploring Meaning,
Means and Practice*

Ministerial Flourishing: Exploring Meaning, Means and Practice

Ministry can be both exhilarating and exhausting. While you as a pastoral leader have opportunities to bring good news, the expectation to over-work and be consistently present is normalized. You as a pastor are often encouraged to ignore your own life in the service of others. These dynamics can be particularly challenging in the midst of change and routinely lead to burnout. Clarity about what it looks like and feels like when you are thriving and specifics about how to achieve your own and others' thriving can encourage and sustain you in your vocation.

Our stories and the values inherent in them significantly shape who we are, how we live, and how we practice ministry. The convictions we hold about loving God and self, and the relationship between these, is primarily communicated to us through stories we inherit from our families, our congregations, and our culture. Do the stories we live by allow us to care for ourselves as well as others? Do our stories of call help us flourish in ministry or leave us floundering?

Workshop Description:

This workshop employs two approaches to lay a foundation for understanding the connection between our values, our stories, and the ways they support/inhibit our flourishing. An assessment tool explores and clarifies our deepest commitments, how they influence us and the way we lead, and identifies potential areas of growth. Keeping these values in mind, we engage the questions above by considering a close reading of our own life stories. By exegeting our life stories, we can identify those which sustain us and those which do not. We will learn practices of flourishing, including re-storying, practicing love, self-compassion, and honoring the body as steps toward creating a sustaining story of life and ministry that moves us toward flourishing.

Methods of instruction include introductions to values assessment and to narrative practices of care and small group work, as well as journaling and reflective writing. Participants are asked to take an online assessment and to read Karen Scheib's *Attend to Story: How to Flourish in Ministry* (Foundry Press, 2018) prior to attending. The cost of both is included in the registration fee.

While the week centers around sessions, there will be open time for reflection and relaxation.

Dr. Barbara McClure ("Bar") teaches pastoral theology and practice at Brite Divinity School. She has been exploring the flourishing life for more than twenty years: What is human flourishing? What does flourishing look and feel like? What might it take to flourish? What difference does it make if we flourish or not? What would it take for us all to flourish? Bar has led many classes, workshops, and retreats on the topic, bringing clarity to participants about flourishing (or lack thereof) in their own lives and helping them find ways forward to deeper, richer vocations. She is currently finishing a book on the topic: *Emotions and Human Flourishing*, to be published next year.



Dr. Karen Scheib is Professor of Pastoral Care and Pastoral Theology at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. She is the author of *Attend to Stories: How to Flourish in Ministry* (Foundry Press, 2018), *Pastoral Care: Telling the Stories of Our Lives* (Abingdon Press, 2016) and *Challenging Invisibility: Practices of Care with Older Women* (Chalice Press 2004), as well as a number of book chapters and journal articles. She was ordained as an elder in the United Methodist Church in 1982 and previously served as a pastor, hospital chaplain, and pastoral counselor. For the last twenty-five years she has taught pastoral theology and care. Her research interests include narrative practices of care, the role of creativity and imagination in pastoral care, creative writing as a healing and spiritual practice, congregational and multi-cultural practices of care and the relationship of faith and health.

