



Church Divinity School of the Pacific

Friends of CDSP,

Another school year is upon us. Like other Episcopal seminaries, we at CDSP have been working diligently this summer to ensure both the safety of our community and the integrity of our work forming faithful leaders.

In this newsletter edition, you'll find a glimpse into our operations as classes resume, a touching alumni tribute to a retiring professor, an introduction to the new spiritual advisor of the Seminarians of Color Union, and details about online learning opportunities for everyone.

Thank you for the many ways you have been reaching out and supporting CDSP, including through your generous response to our Pentecost Appeal.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark".

The Very Rev. W. Mark Richardson, PhD
President & Dean

Fall Semester Begins with Residential Student Arrivals, Fully Online Classes



Photo: Faculty participate in socially distanced training on new classroom equipment.

If the autumn rites and rhythms of the academic year are like an old familiar song, then in 2020 the CDSP community has been singing them in an unfamiliar key.

In the weeks leading up to today's semester start, thirty new and returning students and two new faculty members have made their way to Berkeley to enter the residential community. They join twenty-two new online and low-res students who have begun their studies since June.

The entering and re-entering students wore masks, skipped the customary hugs and

handshakes, and mostly moved into rooms that have been repurposed from their usual use. They have also had to quarantine and present the results of COVID tests.

"This has been a challenging move-in process for everyone involved," said the Rev. **Andrew Hybl '12**, dean of students. "But everyone is looking forward to sharing a renewed sense of community in the ways that are available to us."

[Read More](#)



Alums Fete Singer Retirement via Video

Retiring from an institution after fifteen years usually involves some sort of farewell party. But of course that wasn't possible this summer for the Rev. **Susanna Singer, PhD (MDiv '89)**.

So when the **Rev. Anne Clarke '15** profiled Singer for our newsletter, she also pitched another idea: invite fellow CDSP alumni who had learned from Singer and remembered her fondly to contribute to the next best thing.

With thanks to everyone who contributed and to **Aiste Jankauskaite** and **Chris Trice** at Trinity Church Wall Street, we present to you a series of video remembrances of the many ways Singer shaped her students and their ministries.

[Watch Now](#)

Wilson to Advise Seminarians of Color Union

Several years ago, a group of students began discussions with the Rev. Andrew Hybl '12, dean of students, to form a group for Students of Color.

Over the last few years that group has grown, adapted, and developed a charter. From those efforts the Seminarians of Color Union (SOCU) was officially formed.

Last year CDSP announced that the Rev. Dr. **Kwasi Thornell** would serve as spiritual advisor to SOCU during the 2019-2020 school year. Thornell and his wife relocated to Florida in the spring of 2020, and the CDSP community remains grateful for his work,



passion, and dedication to students.

This academic year, the Rev. Dr. **Mauricio J. Wilson** will serve as SOCU spiritual advisor. Wilson is the rector of **St. Paul's Episcopal Church** in Oakland, CA. He is also a longtime friend of CDSP, former member of the board of trustees, and regular contributor to our worship life.

In the coming days, Wilson will be contacting Students of Color about arranging an opportunity to connect.

Welcome (back), Fr. Mauricio, and thank you for your ministry!

[Meet Fr. Mauricio](#)

Still Time to Register for CALL Classes

CDSP's Center for Anglican Learning and Leadership (CALL) works actively with partner dioceses across the Episcopal Church to develop curricula and courses that support local formation for ordained ministry and complement diocesan-based retreats and formation experiences.

CALL's seven-week online courses are open to anyone and are taught by experienced instructors—often seminary professors. Students can work directly with instructors as well as fellow students.

The deadline to register for this fall's offerings is rapidly approaching, with courses beginning September 14. Don't miss these and other offerings!



Digital Ministry: Translating Church in the Virtual World with **Fr. Cathie Caimano**

Spring 2020 pushed the church right off the diving board into the deep end of Digital Ministry! This course is designed to help us take a step back and consider not just HOW we are doing ministry online, but WHY. It is both practical and theoretical. [Register »](#)

Financial Management for Parishes with **James Jordan, CPA**

Unless parish leaders have business backgrounds and CEO/CFO-like experience, most are not prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary for overseeing sensitive, accountable financial management practices. This course uses real-life examples and exercises for participants to develop this leadership awareness and capacity. [Register »](#)

[Learn More & Register Today](#)

News Briefs from the CDSP Community

Faculty

This year's opening faculty conference included reflections on racism and whiteness, and their implications for teaching and scholarship. The sessions were led by consultants **Tat-siong Benny Liew**, PhD, professor of New Testament at the College of the Holy Cross, and **Carolyn Jones Medine**, PhD, director of the Institute for African American Studies and professor of religion at the University of Georgia.

This work is supported by a **Becoming Beloved Community Grant** from the Episcopal Church and the **Consultants Program** of the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology

and Religion. Preparatory reading of Ibram X. Kendi's *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* shaped the discussion.

Julián Andrés González Holguín, PhD, has been chosen for the [Wabash Center's Digital Salon](#) on Vocational Trajectories for Mid-Career Theological School Educators and has received a [Conant Grant](#) in the amount of \$14,950 for his project "Racism, Visual Interpretation, and the Hebrew Bible."

The Rev. **Mark Chung Hearn**, PhD, has been chosen for the [Wabash Center's Digital Salon](#) on Vocational Trajectories for Mid-Career Theological School Educators

The Rev. **John Kater**, PhD, is teaching both semesters of 2020 at [Ming Hua Theological College](#) in Hong Kong.

Alums

The Rev. **Liz Armstrong '01** retired from formal ministry in the Diocese of Northern California. Most recently, she was interim rector at [Faith Episcopal Church](#) in Cameron Park, CA.

The Rev. **Susan Creighton '79** is celebrating sixteen years under vows of silence, solitude, and simplicity as an anchorite in the DeepLight Anchorhold in Bellingham, WA.

The Rev. **Pete Homeyer '18** has been called as rector at [Christ Episcopal Church](#) in Dayton, OH.

The Rev. **Daniel London, PhD (CAS '12)** published [Theodicy and Spirituality in the Fourth Gospel: A Girardian Perspective](#).

The Rev. **David Ota '83** retired as rector of [St. Ambrose Episcopal Church](#) in Foster City, CA, after twenty-three years of ministry.

The Rev. **Jim Richardson '00** completed his term as interim dean of [Trinity Episcopal Cathedral](#) in Sacramento, CA, and participated in the [Community of Writers](#) conference for professional writers in August. He is working on a book about his abolitionist ancestor, the Rev. George Richardson.

The Rev. Dr. **Joanne Sanders '00** has, after 20 years of service, retired as senior associate dean for religious life at [Stanford University](#).

The Rev. Canon **Lynell Walker '96**, former president of the alumni council and former member of the board of trustees, has retired from [Trinity Episcopal Cathedral](#) and [St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#) in Sacramento, CA, and [St. Michael's Day School](#) in Carmichael, CA.

Staff

The Rev. Kyle Oliver received the [Episcopal Communicators Polly Bond Award of Excellent \(Writing: Theological Reflection\)](#) and Award of Merit ([Audio/Video: Podcast Episode](#)).

To share your news, email communications@cdsp.edu or use these forms:

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In Memoriam

We have received word of the death of the following members of the CDSP community:

Brother David Allen, SSJE '58 - [Obituary](#)

The Rev. Marsue Harris '81 - [Obituary](#)

The Rev. Bob Reynolds '66 - [Obituary](#)

Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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