

October 24, 2016

# The EPISTLE

News from Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary



## Alisha Lola Jones, Ph.D., Leads New Worship Certificate at JCSTS

**Noted Ethnomusicologist Kicked Off Online Program, October 17**

The Rev. Dr. Alisha Lola Jones, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University, is teaching the inaugural course of JCSTS' new Certificate Program in Worship Leadership. The course, *Thinking Theologically—Reflections on Worship and Justice*, invites participants to think theologically about justice within the context of the worship experience, and to identify strategies for creating more equitable and inclusive worshipping communities. Other courses in the yearlong certificate program are Leading



*JCSTS provides theological education to advance communities of faith, justice, and compassion.*



Kenneth Whitehurst  
Elected Chair of the Board, August 23



President Paul Roberts speaks to Baltimore Presbytery, November 12

### FALL FUND DRIVE

Happening now! Go to [www.smithsmeinary.org](http://www.smithsmeinary.org) to make a gift in any amount. Thank you.

### CONNECTING GRACE

Coming soon! Training sessions equipping congregations to work with the incarcerated.

### NEW APP

JCSTS is going mobile! Watch for the new JCSTS App to launch January 2017!

Intentionally—Congregational Engagement and Ethical Worship Leadership taught by Dr. Tony Leach and Dr. Eric Wall; Planning Effectively—The Convergence of Christ, Calendar, and Culture taught by Rev. Joshua Lazard; and Consecrated Being—The Witness of Justice in the Sacraments taught by Rev. Dr. Floretta Watkins.

## Clergy Wellness Cohort Convenes in the Nation's Capital

JCSTS, in partnership with the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, brought 26 clergy together October 9-12 in Washington D.C., to begin a year-long certificate course aimed at addressing the high rates of burnout experienced by clergy and other church leaders. The program engages emerging, mid-career, and end-of-career clergy by gathering them into cohorts for health education, leadership education, financial literacy, mutual accountability, and fellowship. Admission is still open. Visit [www.smithseminary.org](http://www.smithseminary.org) to complete an application.

Based on the premise that a “well leader makes for a well community/congregation,” the program invites learners into a comprehensive review of social, economic, environmental, cultural and emotional wellness. Program faculty include Bridget Piggue, Ph.D.; Tawainna Houston, M.D.; and Brady Radford, M.Div.—all of Atlanta.



## PCUSA Co-Moderator Denise Anderson among Webinar Leaders



JCSTS, in concert with the Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference and Shaw University, is presenting a 4-part webinar series entitled Wellness in the Service beginning November 7 and continuing on successive Mondays. The webinar, facilitated by Rev. Brady Radford, a specialist in Pastoral and Rehabilitative Counseling, will provide practical, on-the-ground training. Presenters are Rev. Maisha Handy, Ph.D., Provost of the Interdenominational Theological Center; Mr. Kenneth Whitehurst, Chairman of the Board of JCSTS; Rev. Denise Anderson, Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA); and Rev. Sterling Freeman, Project Director of Chautauqua Institute. To register, go to [www.smithseminary.org](http://www.smithseminary.org).

## FOUR JCSTS FELLOWS NAMED

The JCSTS Fellowship Program provides scholarships to clergy who are actively serving congregations. The twelve-month fellowship is designed to support clergy in their pursuit of self-care, financial stability, and spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

This year's Fellows are Rev. Charlotte Caldwell, pastor of Beth Salem Presbyterian Church in Columbus, GA; Rev. D'Andre Mayberry, associate of PULSE Church in Atlanta; Rev. Kimani Wright, pastor of Northminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC; and Rev. Dr. Joseph Scrivner, pastor of Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, AL.