

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For 168 years Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary has been in service to the church and the Methodist connection through the formation of Christian leaders in ordained and lay ministries. A result of the union of three historic institutions (Garrett Biblical Institute, Evangelical Theological Seminary, and the Chicago Training School), Garrett-Evangelical is located in the center and at the heart of the campus of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

One of the official 13 seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Garrett-Evangelical is perennially listed as one of the Seminaries that Change the World and boasts one of the finest theological faculties in the world. With a global student body, that also represents every region of the United States, Garrett-Evangelical is proud of its diverse and vibrant community of learning and of its enduring commitment to training skilled, bold, and articulate leaders who share the transforming love of Jesus Christ. Rooted in our Wesleyan, Methodist, and Evangelical United Brethren origins, today's Garrett-Evangelical is also international and ecumenical in spirit and is committed to equipping students to proclaim the good news of the Gospel, to foster deep spirituality in the lives of the communities and persons they serve, to lead with cultural competence and commitment to racial equity and justice, and as agents of transformative change for the wellbeing of all persons and creation.

Garrett-Evangelical continues to offer a broad array of degree programs that equip students for leadership in congregations, healthcare settings, community organizing and public theology, counseling, and scholarship and teaching in the classic theological disciplines and practices. Fifty-seven percent of Garrett-Evangelical students pursue congregational leadership following graduation, and our pastoral care and counseling programs also increasingly attract a large portion of our student body.

This year Garrett-Evangelical also welcomed a new president. The Reverend Javier A. Viera, an elder in the New York Annual Conference, assumed the presidency on January 1, 2021 after having served six and half years as Dean of Drew University Theological School. Dr. Viera will also serve as professor of Education and Leadership. He succeeds Dr. Lallene Rector, who served as president for seven years, and after a year-long sabbatical she will return to her position on the seminary's faculty as a professor of psychology and religion.

Garrett-Evangelical continues to extend its service to the church through its centers and institutes which are focused on equipping leaders with the resources necessary to thrive in ministry and public leadership, and on influencing the moral, theological, and ethical conversations in the public square. This year we launched the Institute for Ecological Regeneration which seeks to help churches and local communities address the global climate crisis with theological and ethical integrity and creativity. It joins the Styberg Preaching Institute, the Center for the Black Church Experience, the Stead Center for Ethics and Values, the Ruben P. Job Institute for Spiritual Formation, the Hispanic-Latinx Center, and the Asian/Asian-American Ministry Center as vital hubs of spiritual innovation and theological renewal for the good of the Church and the world.