



THRIVING PASTORAL MINISTRIES PROGRAM

CONTACT US



978-455-3340



www.mbmm.org



jim@mbmm.org



99 Church St, Lowell, MA 01852

ABOUT US

The Thriving Pastoral Ministry Program works towards realizing the Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries (MBMM) vision of “Weaving God’s Love Across Cultures” and fulfilling our mission of ACE: Advocacy, Celebration & Empowerment of immigrants.

Ethnic Clergy Groups and Intercultural Clergy Groups provide minority pastors a “seat at the table” and access to a different network of ministers than they have routinely encountered. These groups will create spaces and structures for multicultural approaches to ministry to be shared and honored which will offer unique opportunities for ministerial evolution.



"WEAVING GOD'S LOVE ACROSS CULTURES"



Why Choose Us

MBMM conducted listening sessions with 60 pastors to find out what their needs were and ways to support them so that they might thrive in ministry. The immediate needs expressed were:

- for more collegial groups with clear goals and resources,
- collaborative coaching and mentoring,
- therapy/coaching for clergy couples,
- workshops,
- bold conversation on difficult topics,
- training in cultural competency,
- immigration, administrative and budget management,
- clergy continuing education support
- Individual clergy, clergy and spouse retreats
- help gather resources and best practices to share with other pastors



Challenges Clergy Face

The current state of the pastoral ministry is not sustainable because of the stress; demands and needs which go unmet due to a lack of resources; and insufficient opportunities for collegial support, professional growth, and personal well-being.

- Affirming and celebrating women in ministry
- Bi-vocational pastors' roles
- Lack of financial resources
- Limited professional development
- Limited collaborative opportunities
- Ethnic, cultural, and theological silos
- Insufficient collegiality
- Difficulties in balancing work, ministry, family, and personal time
- Navigating American institutional and racial inequality

Nurture

MBMM has created the Thriving Pastoral Ministry Program that works to nurture the collegial relationships, professional development, and personal and spiritual development of clergy.



To be faithful to God's celebrating the great diversity of our world we need to prepare pastoral leadership that is astute, gifted, in possession of a clear sense of calling, and wise in ministering to that rich diversity.

"I have a broader view of the multicultural, multiracial realm of ministry which helps me to be more fully present to a diversity of churches and families."

Rev. Cynthia Maybeck