
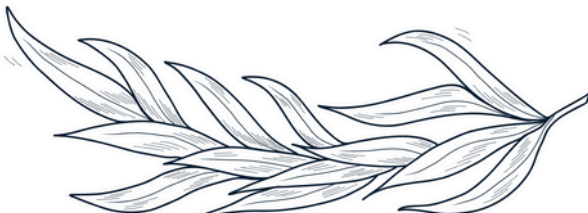


NAZARENE
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

SPIRITUAL 
FORMATION
 INITIATIVE

DIRECTORY OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS
SUMMER 2024

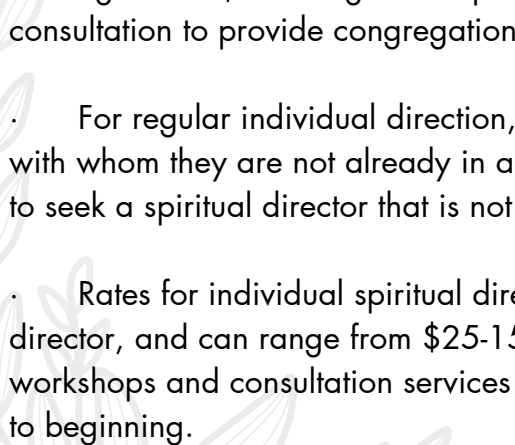


DIRECTORY OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS: An Offering of the Nazarene Spiritual Directors Guild

The spiritual directors included in this directory have been through rigorous training and certification processes, operate under volunteer supervision of another spiritual director(s), and operate from a Wesleyan-Holiness theological lens.

This directory was created through the Spiritual Formation Initiative at Nazarene Theological Seminary. For additional questions about contacting a director or about the other projects of the initiative, contact Rev. Michael LaVigne at Michael.LaVigne@NTS.edu.

Please Keep the Following in Mind:

- While trained spiritual directors can offer a wide range of services, individual directors vary in what they choose to provide at any given time. Individual directors will be able to confirm whether they are currently able to offer monthly meetings for individual direction, leading retreats, teaching contemplative prayer, offering discernment tools, and/or consultation to provide congregational spiritual formation resources.
 - For regular individual direction, spiritual directors are advised to only sit with individuals with whom they are not already in any kind of existing relationship. A good rule of thumb is to seek a spiritual director that is not currently playing any other role in your life.
 - Rates for individual spiritual direction vary based on the experience and needs of the director, and can range from \$25-150/ session. Compensation for retreats, prayer workshops and consultation services will vary significantly, and should be agreed upon prior to beginning.
- 

REV. SHANE ASH

Saranac Lake, NY

ShaneAAsh@gmail.com

"My desire as a spiritual director is to provide a curious, calm, and compassionate presence. I often find myself walking alongside those who are discerning Christian faithfulness amid addiction/recovery, faith disillusionment and deconstruction, religious trauma, moral injury, grief, and burnout."

For twenty years Shane has offered spiritual care and guidance as both pastor and chaplain in medical and clinical settings. He is the founder and executive director of Restwork, an organization that brings restorative care to healthcare professionals. Shane is in the final year of spiritual direction certification through Nazarene Theological Seminary.

REV. DONNA CARLILE

Lake Worth, FL

donna@sacredhumility.com

www.sacredhumility.com

"Spiritual direction is a conversation of the heart and uses all our human faculties (intuition, emotion, imagination, senses, and intellect) to discern God's presence and will for the directee, as they understand it. As a trained spiritual director, I pledge myself to listen with the directee for the voice of God to notice God's movement in their life."

Donna has been in ministry as pastor and/or chaplain for sixteen years. A graduate of Fuller Seminary's joint spiritual direction certification and doctoral program, she has been serving as a spiritual director since 2022. Donna currently serves co-vocationally as hospice chaplain and pastor of Lake Worth First Church of the Nazarene.

REV. DEBBIE ENNIS

Wells, ME

pres5thgen@yahoo.com

"Spiritual direction is life changing. It helps a person move beyond knowing about God to knowing God and deepening their relationship with the Holy Creator. One way spiritual direction was taught to me is that God is the director, the directee is the primary discerner, and the listener is the co-discerner. Together we listen for the interior movement of God in the life of the directee."

Adding to her years of ministry experience as pastor's spouse and pastor, Debbie has served as a spiritual director since her completion of the Spiritual Direction Internship Initiative in Brighton, MA in 2016. She also currently serves as co-pastor for Lighthouse Church of the Nazarene in Wells, Maine.



REV. CHRIS EASTON

Danville, IL

Chris.Easton@mac.com | www.listeningtotheholyspirit.com

"Discernment is an area I focus on a lot in my personal reading and discernment is what I listen for in the directees I serve. Discernment is what happens when we are able to determine if our desire is one that comes from God. I love helping people become aware – growing in awareness of the interior movements of the human heart toward God and God's activity in our world."

In addition to his work as a prison chaplain, Chris has served as a spiritual director since completing training under the Benedictine sisters of St. Meinard Seminary and School in 2022. Chris is a member of good standing on the Chicago Central District Church of the Nazarene, and currently serving on special assignment as lead pastor for Sidell United Methodist Church.

REV. DOUG HARDY

Saco, ME

doug.hardy@nts.edu | www.nts.edu/doughardy

"My deepest desire as a director is to come alongside others to help encourage their noticing and responding to God in whatever circumstances they find themselves. Journeying together, over time, under the direction of the Spirit, we become more self-aware, more understanding of and compassionate toward ourselves, and deepen our capacity to connect relationally with God and with others."

Doug is a seasoned theological educator (since 1989) and spiritual director (since 1994). Raised in Canada, educated and living in the U.S., he has pastored local churches, taught in higher education in the U.S. and Africa, led retreats and pilgrimages. In addition to teaching at Nazarene Theological Seminary and offering spiritual direction, he pursues his interests in Wesleyan and Celtic spiritualities, and contributes by writing and speaking to both the academy and the church. Doug is married to a hospice chaplain and together they have three adult children.

MARIA HENDERSON

Goleta, CA

mhenderson1234@gmail.com | www.mariahenderson.substack.com

"One of the great gifts of practicing spiritual direction has been meeting and listening to people from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. I place a high value on practicing cultural humility so I can invite that cultural difference to be a part of the listening together in spiritual direction."

Adding to her twenty-five years of experience as a software developer and business owner, Maria has served as a spiritual director since 2020. She has served in many lay ministry roles, and currently facilitates a small group prayer experience for her congregation of Coast Community Church of the Nazarene in Santa Barbara, CA.



REV. REBECCA LAIRD

San Diego, CA
rlaird@pointloma.edu

"I am informed by Ignatian spirituality that assumes God is active and present in all things and Wesleyan spirituality that focuses on love as a holy, relational act that will ever find expression in service and love of God, self, and neighbor. Over my 30 years as a director, the majority of my directees have been those exploring their vocation to ministry or pastors."

Dr. Laird has been studying, teaching, and writing about spiritual formation for more than thirty years. She is a tenured professor of Christian Ministry at Point Loma Nazarene University as well as affiliate professor at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Among her many articles and books is *Spiritual Direction: Wisdom for the Long Walk of Faith*, which she co-authored with Henri Nouwen and Michael Christensen.

REV. MICHAELE LAVIGNE

South Bend, IN
Michaele.LaVigne@NTS.edu

"The real work of spiritual direction is listening deeply: listening to what both the directee is saying and is not saying, while simultaneously listening for the subtle wind of the Spirit which is always moving. For more than a decade I have received the rich gifts of this kind of listening, and I am both eager and humbled by opportunities to share this gift with others."

Michaele has served as a pastor for eighteen years in a wide variety of contexts, and has been serving as a spiritual director since completing her certification through HeartPaths Spirituality Center in Oklahoma in 2022. She currently leads a house church from her home, and is the director of the Spiritual Formation Initiative at Nazarene Theological Seminary.

ELLYN MARSH

Oklahoma City, OK
emcc3832@gmail.com

"We are made in God's image and we need to connect, not only with our Triune God, but also with each other here on earth. This need to connect is in every cell of the human body and is a basic need of each person. There is an important place for the relationship of spiritual direction, in which a Spiritual Director is not really giving specific direction, but rather guiding directees to find God's wisdom in the scriptures."

Recently retired, Ellyn spent her career in psychology, both as a Licensed Professional Counselor and as a professor of psychology. She completed a five-year Ignatian spiritual direction certification process in 2019, and brings an extensive understanding of trauma and addiction recovery into her work as a spiritual director. Ellyn has been a long-time member and active lay minister at Bethany First Church of the Nazarene, in Bethany, Oklahoma.



Rev. Art Matheny
Napa, CA
art@akouolife.org | www.akouolife.org

"For as long as I can remember, I have been walking beside others in their relationship with God. I have had other people through the years who have influenced me through their own loving posture of compassionate listening toward me, and I have personally been in some form of formal spiritual direction since 2006. As a Spiritual Director myself I want to offer a space of soul hospitality for another person to relax and enjoy God."

Art has served in pastoral ministry for more than twenty-five years, and completed his spiritual direction training through a doctoral program Fuller Theological Seminary in 2017. He currently leads the Living Vine Church of the Nazarene in Napa, CA, and offers spiritual direction within the Northern California district and beyond.

Rev. Donna Mikhail
Joplin, MO
Mikhail4@sbcglobal.net

"Spirituality is deeply holistic, recognizing the interconnectedness of body, mind, and spirit. Therefore, spiritual direction encompasses not only prayer and meditation but also attention to one's physical well-being, emotional health, and relationships. As a spiritual director, it is my duty to provide compassionate support and guidance as individuals navigate the challenges and joys of the spiritual journey."

After fifteen years of pastoral ministry emphasizing spiritual formation, Donna completed training as a spiritual director through the Wisdom Tree Collective in Nashville, TN in 2023. Since 2021 she has served the Joplin District Church of the Nazarene as spiritual director, specifically overseeing pastors under discipline with recovery and restoration.

Rev. Dana Preusch
Mission, KS
dlpreusch@gmail.com

"Spiritual direction is holy conversation with another that includes deep listening to their life story. It is about journeying with another in order to discover signposts of the Sacred in their life and story – signposts which can lead to healing, wholeness, and wisdom for the next right thing."

Dana has served as pastor, professor, and is currently the director for contextual education, student life, alumni, and the Wynkoop Center for Women in Leadership at Nazarene Theological Seminary. She is in her final year of spiritual direction certification through Soul Journers.



Ashley Reighard
Oklahoma City, OK
Reighard.Ashley@gmail.com

"The power of words to hurt, heal, or inspire and the presence of the sacred in silence are reoccurring themes both in my life and in my practice as a spiritual director. In my varied work as a teacher at an in-patient children's hospital, a professor of English as a Foreign Language, a speech language pathologist, and now as a spiritual director, I have witnessed the power of healing communication and the need for sacred silence with people of all age groups, many cultural backgrounds, and various levels of verbal communication ability."

A long-time member of Oklahoma City First Church of the Nazarene, Ashley brings a rich diversity of professional and personal experience to her role of spiritual director. She completed her certification through HeartPaths Spirituality Center in Oklahoma in 2022.

Rev. Pamela Runyon
Marion, IN
pamsuerun@hotmail.com

"A Spiritual Director is a loving companion, offering space and time to explore the nearness of God. It is not teaching, mentoring or counseling necessarily, but waiting in silence, in loving hospitality, listening and releasing all to the care of the Holy Spirit, the ultimate Director. In Spiritual Direction there is no hierarchy."

First as pastor's spouse and then pastor, Pamela's fifty years of ministry experience include youth ministry, worship arts, teaching, international missionary service, and recovery ministry. She completed spiritual direction training through the Selah Certificate Program at College Wesleyan Church, and has been offering spiritual direction since 2021.



To learn more about the Spiritual Formation Initiative at Nazarene Theological Seminary,
please visit www.nts.edu/sfi.