

**Education and Leadership Ministries Commission**  
**2006 Curriculum Conversations Relating Theory and Practice**  
**October 19-21, 2006**  
**Union Theological Seminary and**  
**Presbyterian School of Christian Education**  
**Richmond, VA**



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**The Hidden Lives of Congregations – Teaching as Leadership**  
A Dialogue among Theological Educators, Practitioners, and Publishers

The “Hidden Lives of Congregations – Teaching as Leadership” is the theme for the “Curriculum Conversations Relating Theory and Practice” conference in Richmond, VA at Union Theological Seminary October 19 – 21, 2006.

Interest in teaching as leadership grew out of last year's meeting of publishers, theological educators, and local church practitioners in Nashville. Not surprisingly, the group once again affirmed that curriculum (truly any educational resource) is at best a tool, and it's only as effective or "good" as the leadership of the teacher who uses it.

The gathering provides an intentional way to hear and to explore the work of Israel Galindo in his book “The Hidden Lives of Congregations – Discerning Church Dynamics” and to focus on the leadership issues of teaching. An insight into his work is “...*congregations are living organisms* ...” Participants have the opportunity to share, and to learn from one another about what is effective and what is not within the dynamics of congregations and how teachers can become more effective leaders.

Publishers, those in congregational ministry, and theological educators are given a chance to evaluate the effectiveness and the possibilities for addressing congregational dynamics and ways to enhance the leadership skills of teachers whether through curriculum or in congregations.

Church educators and theological educators are provided a setting in which to engage each other and to explore how to perpetuate on the local level what is being learned and taught at the seminary level. The event provides an opening for conversation by publishers and educators and practitioners to seek ways to better connect and bring congruency to theory and practice.

Finally, the gathering offers a time for worship, “self differentiation time” (wellness), focused conversation, and networking in which resources are shared toward a vision and the possibilities for creating new resources.

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**For more information, contact:**

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New York, NY 10115-0050  
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# The Hidden Lives of Congregations - Teaching as Leadership

## A Dialogue among Theological Educators, Practitioners, and Publishers

**Presenter:** Dr. Israel Galindo



Dr. Galindo is Professor of Christian Education at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond and is the Executive Director of Educational Consultants. An educator, and author, Dr. Galindo is a consultant in teacher training and education, congregational leadership development, as well as family systems theory as applied to congregations and organizations. He is a popular seminar and workshop leader in the areas of education and instruction and in Bowen systems theory as applied to parenting, congregational life, and leadership development. He is the author of numerous magazine and journal articles, and books including *Hidden Lives of Congregations*, which will be the basis of his four presentations at CCRTF. This book provides one of the most far-reaching looks into the invisible nature of faith communities written in recent years. Informed by family systems theory and grounded in a wide-ranging ecclesiological understanding, Galindo unpacks clearly the factors of congregational lifespan, size, spirituality, and identity and shows how these work together to form the congregation's hidden life.

Invited responders to Dr. Galindo's presentations will identify implications of teaching as leadership from the perspectives of resource development, congregational education ministry, and the academy.

### Respondents

#### ...Curriculum Resource Development



The Rev. Mary Jane Pierce Norton serves as Team Leader for Family, Life Span & Latino Ministries for the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. Pierce Norton is an author, Christian educator, and nationally recognized speaker in the areas of faith formation, generational theory, and faith development in the home. She is the author of *Children Worship!*, *Faith Home* (with Debra Ball-Kilbourne), *Come, Follow Me*, *Teaching Young Children*, and *Making God Real for a New Generation* (with Craig Kennet Miller).

#### ...Academy



Dr. Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, is a Professor of Christian Education at Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta, Georgia, where she has been a faculty member for the last 15 years. Dr. Wimberly also serves as Principal Investigator of the Faith Journey: Partnership in Parish Ministry Formation Program at ITC and Director of the Youth Hope-Builders Academy, a theological program for youth. Dr. Wimberly is the author of several books, among them: *Soul Stories: African American Christian Education*, *Keep it Real: Working with Today's Black Youth*

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**REGISTRATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of institution you represent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city/state/zip)

Telephone: office \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration fee: \$100.00 US** Student Registration Fee: **\$75 US**

**Lodging:**

Holiday Inn Central  
3207 N. Boulevard  
Richmond, VA 23230  
(804) 359-9441

Conference Rate: \$55/night (single or double) Group Name: Curriculum Theory Consultation

\*For the conference rate, call by **October 5, 2006**

**Registration enclosed:** \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Make check payable to: **National Council of Churches, USA**)

Mail to: Garland F. Pierce  
National Council of Churches, USA  
475 Riverside Drive, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10115-0050

For more information, contact: 212-870-2267, Fax: 212-870-3112, [gpierce@nccusa.org](mailto:gpierce@nccusa.org)

Please identify accommodations you may need in arriving at Union, registering, in the meeting, meals, etc. (such as allergies, chemical sensitivities, visual, hearing, mobility, dietary restrictions, etc.):

**Travel information:**

Driving: \_\_\_\_\_

Day/time of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight #: \_\_\_\_\_

Day/time of departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight # \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to go to dinner with the group on Friday night? Yes  No  # in your party: \_\_\_\_

***Registration deadline: October 5, 2006***

# **The Hidden Lives of Congregations - Teaching as Leadership**

A Dialogue among Theological Educators, Practitioners, and Publishers

## **Thursday, October 19**

Dinner on your own  
Welcome and Worship  
Introductions: What brings you to this table?  
Agenda interpretation  
Theme Presentation  
Reception

## **Friday, October 20**

Breakfast on your own  
Morning prayers  
Plenary Presentation  
Morning Break Provided  
Presentation Responses (Congregational, Curriculum Development, Academy)  
Lunch (Box lunches will be provided)  
Second presentation  
Small Group Discussion  
Afternoon Break Provided  
Spiritual discernment  
Evening in Richmond for meal and fellowship

## **Saturday, October 21**

Breakfast on your own  
Morning prayers  
Integration of all three presentations  
What are the implications for publishers, theological educators, congregations?  
Mid-morning Break Provided  
Looking toward the 2007 consultation  
Spiritual discernment  
\*\*\*Conclude by 12:30pm\*\*\*

A more detailed agenda will be sent upon confirmation of registration.