



The Reverend Carol E. Lytch, PhD

The Rev. Carol E. Lytch, PhD, will retire after nine years as President of Lancaster Theological Seminary on June 30, 2020. In 2011, Lancaster Theological Seminary installed Dr. Lytch as its 11th president, the first female to serve as president in Lancaster Seminary's 195-year history.

Previously Dr. Lytch was Assistant Executive Director, the number-two position, of the Association of Theological Schools, the accrediting agency for more than 270 graduate schools of theological education. Before that, she coordinated grant programs of Lilly Endowment under the auspices of the Fund for Theological Education. She has taught as an adjunct faculty member at Princeton Theological Seminary and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Dr. Lytch is the author of *Choosing Church: What Makes A Difference for Teens* (Westminster John Knox 2004) and numerous book chapters, articles and academic presentations.

Dr. Lytch is an ordained minister of two denominations, the United Church of Christ and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She has a PhD in Sociology of Religion and Christian Ethics from Emory University, a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Arts from Mount Holyoke College. She spent a postgraduate year at the University of Edinburgh and an undergraduate year at St. Andrews University, both in Scotland.

She was ordained on June 29, 1980. Prior to her academic career, she served as co-pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury, New Jersey.

Key Accomplishments During President Lytch's Presidency

- **Launch of a successful new bivocational Master of Divinity** offered in two tracks, weekday and weekend, that makes possible both school and work, and minimizes educational debt.
- **Launch of a redesigned doctoral program** with more online components that expands our recruitment pool.
- **Improved financial circumstances** with small surpluses in operating budgets, increased endowment and unrestricted cash from \$12 million to \$15 million plus unrestricted cash, no new incurred debt, and more than \$2 million in foundation grants.
- **A fundraising campaign that has raised more than 70%** of its \$6 million goal to increase student success and to restore our historic campus.
- **Stabilized enrollment** with new scholarships, additional staff in the Admissions Department, and new technology.

- **Increased cultural competency** in our curriculum, chapel worship, and the establishment of a satellite presence on campus of RISE, a national program to mentor Women of Color in Ministry.
- **New or strengthened partnerships** including those with the YWCA, Elizabethtown College, The Stevenson School for Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, and Tohoku Gakuin University in Japan, to name a few.
- **Campus improvements** including a renovated chapel, fortification of the structure of the Lark Building, technology upgrades to classrooms and the library, handicap accessibility to the Lark building, and new landscaping and signage.
- **Launch of the Managing Student Debt for Vitality in Life and Ministry** program, begun with Lilly Endowment funding, that enables students to graduate with less or no debt, and enhanced money management skills.
- **Expansion of our education** to non-degree students by incorporating the Pennsylvania Academy for Ministry as part of Lancaster Seminary.



Lancaster Theological Seminary, founded in 1825, is an accredited, ecumenical graduate school of theology associated with the United Church of Christ. Located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, it has 115 current students and offers three graduate degree programs: Master of Divinity, Doctor of Ministry, and Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership. In addition, it offers a Certificate in Theological Studies and a Certificate in Anglican Studies.