

Pilgrim Theological Seminary

Equipping the Church-behind-the-wall.

Welcome to Pilgrim Seminary. Our mission is to provide minimal cost, high quality theological education to men and women who are incarcerated in federal and state correctional facilities throughout the United States. Our courses for non-incarcerated persons will begin in the fall of 2019. A few short courses and seminars will likely be offered before that date.

Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College and Pilgrim Seminary is an incorporated South Carolina non-profit religious institution whose primary purpose is preparing Christian leaders to serve the church and the world. As an institution that offers only religious and theological degrees, the seminary is exempt from oversight by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The work of the seminary is overseen by a Board of Governors which is responsible for the institution's educational, operational, and fiscal integrity.

As a new seminary, we have considerable distance to travel before reaching many of our goals. Gaining full accreditation, a process which generally takes several years, is one of the highest priorities of our Board of Governors, as well as developing new and innovative educational programs to serve our students and the wider Christian community.

Pilgrim Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, color, national origin, marital status, economic condition, or place of residence.

Our Philosophical Roots



Pilgrim Seminary is in many ways a continuation of the work begun in the late 1800's by Rev. John Heyl Vincent, a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was one of the earliest pioneers of what is today called distance education.

Bishop Vincent and several colleagues established the Chautauqua College of Liberal Arts and the Chautauqua School of Theology, allowing students to study in their own community through a rigorous program of directed self-study. He and Lewis Miller also founded Chautauqua Institution which still flourishes today in Western New York as a center for arts, religion, and culture.

We have built upon Bishop Vincent's belief that the opportunity for life-long education in Christian perspective should be available to everyone.

- We believe that a person should be limited in the pursuit of higher education only by their desire and ability.
- We believe that the door to higher education, especially theological education, should be a wide open door.
- We reject the corrosive concept that theological education must be thought of as a high priced commodity to be bought and sold rather than as a precious inheritance that one Christian generation passes on to the next.
- We believe that it is the right and duty of every Christian to perfect their God given talents and to have access to the kind of education that will enable him or her to do so. None of us has all of the gifts that God can bestow, but each one of us has at least one gift which can be a blessing to another.

The times in which we live and the future vitality of the Church demand that every person whom Christ has called to ministry and Christian service have access to affordable, high quality education. Such opportunity must be available to all, not just to persons of means or to those unfortunate souls willing to be burdened by years of barely manageable debt at the end of their seminary experience.

Our Educational Ministry with Prisoners



The Wesleyan tradition has a long history of ministry with men and women in prison. Some have said that the founders of Methodism, John and Charles Wesley, perhaps spent as much time at Newgate prison as they did at Aldersgate Church. John Wesley had a profound understanding of God's grace and spent his life proclaiming the good news of Christ to those who were often well outside the mainstream of society.

Over the last two centuries Methodists have established hundreds of colleges and universities, many of which were founded to meet the needs of “common” people. Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College and Pilgrim Seminary hope to continue this legacy of Christian service, especially among those who can most benefit from the blessings of higher education.

To understand our educational ministry with incarcerated persons, one must understand that prisons are really communities. Many are larger than the small towns that surround them. There are approximately one thousand federal and state prisons in the United States and inside each of those prisons the Church is present, made up of the believers who live there. We call this the church-behind-the-wall.

It is a wonderful thing that congregations on the outside carry on ministries of many kinds with those who are incarcerated. However, only so much can be done by the church-outside-the-wall. The primary work of the Kingdom in prisons is entrusted to the believers who live on the inside. They know the language and culture of prison life. They are there 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just as it is the task of God's people everywhere, it is their task to teach, proclaim, evangelize and serve in an effort to win and transform their prison community for Christ.

As Christians, we believe in the redemptive power of Christ that rescues us from who we once were and makes us into new people. God's grace is never bound by human expectations but is freely given to all who will believe. And among those who believe, God calls all of us who once knew the depths of sin to now proclaim the heights of redemption.

The church behind-the-wall is often educationally under equipped to best fulfill its critical mission. Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College and Pilgrim Seminary is committed to do as much as we can to help equip the believers in prison for greater ministry and service. The seminary is especially interested in identifying and educating men and women whom Christ has called to the pastoral ministry of the Church.

Our Seminary Program

The academic program of Pilgrim Theological Seminary is designed to help meet the educational needs of men and women who:

- Wish to develop a deeper understanding of the Christian faith in order that they may become more committed and effective followers of Jesus Christ for the sake of his Church and the world.
- Wish to pursue theological study but who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to avail themselves of campus oriented programs.
- Wish to develop knowledge and skills conducive to full time service in the church, or in Christian charitable and social service organizations.
- Wish to develop specialized knowledge and skills in specific areas of study.
- Wish to develop knowledge and skills conducive to helping people ravaged by the difficulties of

life rebuild their lives.

- Wish to take programs of study in theology to augment and inform their studies in other disciplines.
- Need a convenient and inexpensive way to continue their theological education.

Our Educational Goals

It is the seminary's goal that students who graduate from this institution will be able to:

- Evidence spiritual growth in their Christian faith.
- Model servant leadership in his or her own life and in relationship to others.
- Interpret Scripture accurately.
- Think and reason theologically.
- Articulate the truth of the Christian faith, especially in light of competing points of view.
- Understand and make use of the basic documents of faith found in the Scripture, creeds, and traditions of the Church.
- Communicate clearly, responsibly, and with integrity in written and oral forms.
- Lead in Christian worship with reverence and relevance.
- Develop biblical perspectives on current issues facing the Church and society.
- Care for and guide others as valued persons who are loved by God.
- Demonstrate competency to teach and lead others.
- Develop lifelong habits that nurture physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
- Appreciate the importance of participating in civic life and volunteer service.
- Demonstrate competency in the essential skills and methods of their field of study to a professionally recognized standard.

Our Theological Foundations

All theological education programs are based upon certain core beliefs. Such beliefs influence the selection of faculty, the development and delivery of programs of study, and the overall educational mission of any institution of higher learning. Pilgrim Theological Seminary adheres to the historic beliefs of the Christian faith community found in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. The seminary's statement of theological foundations is as follows:

God - We believe in the one true, holy and living God, Eternal Spirit, who is Creator, Sovereign and Preserver of all things visible and invisible. He is infinite in power, wisdom, justice, goodness and love. His mercy is over all his works and his will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe that the one God reveals himself as the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, distinct but inseparable, eternally one in essence and power.

Jesus Christ - We believe in Jesus Christ, truly God and truly man, who is the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the basis for our hope, the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. In Christ the divine and human natures are perfectly and inseparably united. He is the eternal Word made flesh, the only begotten Son of the Father, who was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. As ministering Servant he lived, suffered and died on the cross. He was buried, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and will come again to Earth. He is the Savior and Mediator, who intercedes for us, and by him every person will be judged.

The Holy Spirit - We believe in the Holy Spirit who proceeds from and is one in being with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit convinces the world of sin, righteousness and judgment and leads men and women through their faithful response to the gospel into the fellowship of the Church. He comforts, sustains and empowers the faithful and guides us into all truth.

The Bible - We believe that the Bible, Old and New Testaments, reveals the Word of God so far as it is necessary for our salvation. It is to be received through the Holy Spirit as the true rule and guide for faith and practice. Whatever is not revealed in or established by the Holy Scriptures is not to be made an article of faith, nor is it to be taught as essential to salvation.

The Church - We believe that the Christian Church is an inclusive community of all true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is faithfully preached by those divinely called, and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the Church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the conversion and redemption of the world.

The Sacraments - We believe that the Sacraments, ordained by Christ, are symbols and pledges of the Christian's profession of faith and of God's love toward us. They are means of grace by which God works invisibly in us, enlivening, strengthening and confirming our faith in him. We believe that the act of baptism signifies entrance into the household of faith. Baptism symbolizes repentance, inner cleansing from sin, new birth in Christ, and is a mark of Christian discipleship.

We believe that the Lord's Supper, or Eucharist, is a sign of our redemption, a memorial of the suffering and death of Christ, and a token of love and union that Christian's have with Christ and with one another. Those who rightly, worthily, and in faith participate in Holy Communion partake of the body and blood of Christ in a spiritual manner until he comes.

Reconciliation and Salvation through Christ - We believe humanity is fallen from righteousness and, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is destitute of holiness and is inclined to evil. Unless a person has a spiritual change of heart, he or she cannot see the Kingdom of God.

We believe God was in Jesus Christ reconciling the world to himself. The offering Christ freely made on the cross is the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, redeeming humanity from all sin. We believe that salvation is a free gift of God's grace and is received through personal faith in Jesus Christ. In him all those who believe have eternal life, a perfect righteousness, adoption into the family of God, and the spiritual blessings needed for life.

Justification, Regeneration, and Sanctification - We believe that no person is accounted righteous before God through his or her good deeds or merit, but that those who are truly sorry for their sins and have faith in Jesus Christ are justified before God.

We believe that regeneration is the renewal of humanity in righteousness through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. By this new birth the believer becomes reconciled to God and is enabled to serve him with heart, soul, mind and strength. Although we have experienced regeneration, it is possible to fall into sin; yet, even then, we may be renewed in righteousness by the grace of God.

We believe that sanctification is the work of God's grace through the Word and the Spirit, by which those who have come to faith are cleansed from sin in their thoughts, words and deeds, are enabled to live in accordance with God's will, and to strive for holiness in their daily lives. We believe that this experience does not deliver us from the infirmities, ignorance and mistakes common to all men and women, or from the possibility of further sin.

Good Works - We believe that good works are the necessary fruits of faith that follow regeneration. They do not have the ability to remove our sins or to enable us to avert divine judgment. We believe that good works, which are pleasing and acceptable to God, spring from a true and living faith. Through and by our actions our faith is made evident.

Christian Marriage - We believe that Christian marriage is a holy union of one man and one

woman in which they commit, with God's help, to build a loving, life-giving, faithful relationship that will last for a lifetime. We affirm the Christian ideal of chastity in singleness and fidelity in marriage.

The Judgment and the Future State - We believe all people stand under the righteous judgment of Jesus Christ, both now and in the last day. We believe in the resurrection of the dead; the righteous to life eternal and the wicked to condemnation.

Public Worship - We believe divine worship is the duty and privilege of humanity who, in the presence of God, bows in adoration, humility and dedication. We believe divine worship is essential to the life of the Church, and that the assembling of the people of God for such worship is necessary for Christian fellowship and spiritual growth. We believe the order of public worship need not be the same in all places but may be modified by the Church according to circumstances and the needs of the people.

Our Degree Programs

Pilgrim Seminary offers two degrees, an Associate in Ministry and a Bachelor of Divinity. The Associate in Ministry degree program has been designed to meet the needs of those whose context for ministry requires less formal higher education than is required in the Bachelor of Divinity program.

Note: Courses taken through the Lay Servant Ministries program or the Course of Study of the United Methodist Church are transferable into this degree program. The degree requires the completion of a minimum of 60 credit hours. The following courses are required.

Written Communication; Math; Science; Introduction to Ministry; Mission of the Church; Evangelism and Discipleship; Spiritual Formation; Preaching and Worship; Principles of Biblical Interpretation; Old Testament I; Old Testament II; Gospels and Acts; Pauline and General Epistles; Church History; Christian Theology I and II; Methodist History, Doctrine, and Polity (or another elective); Christian Ethics; and a Christian Care Giving course.

The Bachelor of Divinity

The Bachelor of Divinity (B. Div.) incorporates much of a traditional three year seminary graduate program into an undergraduate degree thus saving students time and money without sacrificing the knowledge and skills necessary for effective ministry. The program seeks to offer excellent preparation for persons interested in pastoral ministry, missionary service, restorative leadership careers, and significant lay leadership responsibilities in the local church. The degree requires the successful completion of 126 credit hours. All of the courses in this degree are required.

Students in the Bachelor of Divinity program are required to complete a Capstone Project. The nature of this project is determined by the student's individual interest and/or emphasis of study and must be approved by a Pilgrim Seminary adviser. We strongly encourage all degree-seeking students to have a specific context for Christian service and a mentor with a theological degree and ministry experience.

The degree program is divided into seven Certificate programs. A student must successfully complete all seven Certificates, the math and science requirement, and the Capstone Project to earn the Bachelor of Divinity degree. For those who wish to do so, individual Certificates can be earned without pursuing a degree.

It is our belief that learning can be greatly enriched when done in relationship to others - education in community - as it is sometimes called. We support this concept and encourage our students to share their learning experiences through group study, discussions, and in other helpful ways. Many benefits come from a healthy and lively exchange of ideas and perspectives. To this end, the seminary partners with local churches who wish to use our study resources in their educational program.

Bachelor of Divinity Required Courses

Studies in Psychology

General Psychology, Human Growth and Development, Adolescence, Social Psychology, and Abnormal Psychology.

Studies in Communication

Written Communication, Introduction to Communication, Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, and Small Group Communication.

Studies in American Society

Sociology, Marriage and Family, Social Problems, American History, and American Government.

Biblical Studies

Principles of Biblical Interpretation, Old Testament I and II, The Gospels and Acts, and Pauline and General Epistles.

Church History, Theology, and Ethics

Church History I and II, Christian Theology I and II, and Christian Ethics

The Church in Mission

Spiritual Formation; Christian Missions; Evangelism and Discipleship; Preaching and Worship; and Church Planting, Health and Growth.

Christian Caregiving and Counseling

The Criminal Justice System; Drugs and Society; Alcoholism; Death, Dying, Loss and Grief, Introduction to Christian Counseling I and II; and Crisis Counseling or Disaster Ministry.

Science and Math Requirement

Nine credit hours in Science and College Math (minimum of three credits in each). For those pursuing pastoral ministry we recommend three credits in Human Anatomy and Disease to fulfill the science requirement. These courses may be transferred or receive credit by successfully passing a CLEP, DANTES, or another approved exam.

Internship and Capstone Project

Six credit hours to be approved by a Pilgrim Seminary adviser as related to a student's individual interest and/or ministry emphasis.

Degree Completion and Second Bachelor Degree Program

Students who have completed an Associate or Bachelor degree (or an approximate equivalent number of credit hours and church experience) are eligible to be admitted to a Bachelor of Divinity degree completion program. Students in the degree completion program will need to complete the following courses.

Introduction to Ministry; Mission of the Church; Evangelism and Discipleship; Spiritual Formation; Preaching and Worship; Principles of Biblical Interpretation; Old Testament I; Old Testament II; Gospels and Acts; Pauline and General Epistles; Church History I and II; Christian Theology I and II; Methodist History, Doctrine, and Polity (or another elective); Church and Society; Encountering Death and Dying; Christian Ethics; Crisis Counseling; and a Capstone project.

General Institutional Policies

Earning Academic Credit

Academic credit is earned at Pilgrim Seminary by passing subject specific proficiency examinations and through papers or projects. The successful completion of a course requires a

minimum score of 70%.

A student receiving less than 70% on an examination is encouraged to engage in further study and take a second or, if necessary, subsequent exam. The following grading scale for all examinations.

Less than 70% = Incomplete (I) 71-80% = C 81-90% = B 91-100% = A

Grades are added to a student's academic record only when a course has been successfully completed and all course requirements have been met. To ensure academic integrity, we require that all exams be taken at an authorized seminary Learning Center or, when necessary, be proctored by an adult unrelated to the student. A proctor must be a person of high moral character and be willing to oversee the taking of a series of exams. Paper exams are provided for incarcerated students.

Incarcerated students are reminded that in most prisons one must have permission to take correspondence courses. The seminary provides a form for students to have completed by an appropriate prison official verifying that the student has permission to participate in our educational program.

In a few prisons the staff is not permitted to proctor exams. In this situation, an exam can sometimes be proctored by a non-family member on a person's visitors list, a prison volunteer, or another Christian prisoner (only as a last resort). Please remember that individual proctors must be approved in advance.

Academic Integrity Policy

Pilgrim Seminary students are expected to maintain the highest standards of personal and academic honesty and integrity. The seminary will not tolerate academic dishonesty, plagiarism or cheating on exams. Should a student be found in violation of the academic integrity policy, he or she will be prohibited from taking additional courses and his or her entire academic record will carry a permanent notation of dismissal for academic dishonesty.

Additional Ways of Gaining Academic Credit

In addition to programs of study offered by the seminary, credit towards an Associate or Bachelor degree can come from a variety of other sources. The seminary is willing to consider appropriate AP courses that have been successfully completed. A student may also transfer credits earned at accredited colleges, universities, or seminaries for which he or she received a grade of C or better. We also accept a number of nationally recognized exams such as CLEP, DANTES, NOCTI, Excelsior College, and Thomas Edison College exams. We will consider appropriate programs of study that carry a recommendation for college credit from the American Council on Education or the National College Credit Recommendation Service. Credit may also be granted for work completed through The Urban Ministry Initiative (TUMI), the United Methodist Course of Study and other denominationally sponsored programs.

Pilgrim Seminary also offers Challenge Exams for academic credit. These are subject specific exams based upon a student's prior learning. A passing score of 70% is required and the exam can be taken only one time.

Admission Requirements

Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College and Pilgrim Seminary seeks to make quality theological education available to as many people as possible. We strongly recommend that those who wish to enter our program as degree-seeking students will have already received a high school diploma or a GED. We do not require SAT or other standardized test scores for admission.

The relationships of the seminary, inclusive of the Board of Governors, administration, faculty

and staff, and students are reflected in the Pilgrim Seminary Covenant. This short agreement, which everyone who wishes to participate in the college and seminary community must be willing to personally accept, helps guide and regulate our life together.

We the Board of Governors, administration, faculty, staff, and student body of Pilgrim Seminary promise to help one another:

- Honor God by our words and actions, aspiring to love our Creator with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength.
- Honor one another as children of God by treating others as we wish to be treated.
- Do what is right in the eyes of God, setting our minds upon those things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable, and whatever is excellent and praiseworthy.
- Mature in Christian love as we seek to remember that, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, and it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, nor does it keep a record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres.”
- Support the mission of Pilgrim Seminary by commitment to its ideals and helping to provide for its financial needs.

Cost of Participation

Pilgrim Seminary does not charge tuition. This, however, does not mean that the program is free. All students are expected to make a regular monthly donation to the program, *as the Lord has enabled them*, to help defray the cost of their education. This obligation is part of our shared Pilgrim Seminary Covenant.

When a person decides to become a Pilgrim Seminary student, he or she becomes part of an educational community. As members of this community, we willingly assume the obligation to help finance the educational program from which we benefit. And, even more importantly, we assume the obligation to help one another grow in knowledge and faith and to continue on the path that leads to life eternal.

In addition to donations made by our students and their families, Pilgrim Seminary is dependent upon the generous contributions of individuals, churches, foundations, and course sponsors to help extend theological education to as many people as possible.

There are two fees related to our program.. There is an application fee of \$20 and an annual administrative fee of \$52. This administrative fee is payable at the time of acceptance. Both of these fees are non-refundable.

Students seeking academic credit are required to take exams to demonstrate their subject knowledge and mastery of course material. Each exam costs \$20. There are generally two to three exams in a course. Course Challenge Examinations for academic credit (based upon a student's prior learning) cost \$50.

The application and annual administrative fee for incarcerated students has been waived based upon lack of income among prisoners. The examination fees have been reduced to \$7 per exam. Incarcerated students who have the personal or family resources to pay the normal seminary fees are requested to do so.

We encourage any student who is unable to afford the cost of participation to request financial assistance through the Registrar's Office.

For additional information on our program, please visit the seminary website at www.pilgrimseminary.org

Information Concerning Membership in Pilgrim Congregational Church

Pilgrim Church (which also is the seminary's chapel) welcomes into its membership men and women who have come to faith in Jesus Christ and who are currently living in federal or state prisons. If you have no church home, we would like to invite you to become a member of Pilgrim Church. You may also become an associate member if you have church membership elsewhere but wish to be part of the life and work of this congregation. The core theological beliefs of this congregation are the same as those for Pilgrim Seminary listed earlier in this document.

For those who wish to pursue formal ministry, please be reminded that seminaries do not license or ordain pastors. Seminaries educate, the Church ordains according to the procedures adopted by individual congregations, associations, or denominations. However, in everyone's structure the first step towards ministry is to be a member of a local church.

As a Congregational Church, Pilgrim has established procedures for membership in the congregation as well as procedures to pursue licensed or ordained ministry, whether inside or outside of prison. A membership request form follows. If you wish to become a full or associate member of Pilgrim Congregational Church – “The Prisoners Church” – , please answer “yes” to the membership questions below and mail this page to: Pilgrim Church, 1229 38th Ave. N, Box 262, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Membership in Pilgrim Congregational Church

Section 1: Pilgrim Congregational Church is part of the Church Universal. Therefore, all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, economic condition or place of residence shall be eligible to participate in the worship, program, and educational opportunities it provides and when a person has taken the appropriate membership vows, be admitted into its membership. Those who are confined by reasons of health or incarceration shall not be denied membership in this congregation on that basis.

Section 2: All persons who are seeking to be saved from their sins and sincerely desiring to be Christian in faith and practice are proper candidates for full membership in this congregation. When such persons wish to offer themselves for membership, it shall be the duty of the pastor or persons appointed by the pastor to instruct them in the meaning of the Christian Faith, the meaning of baptism and membership vows, and to lead them to wholeheartedly commit themselves to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Section 3: Those who have expressed faith in Jesus Christ, been baptized, and have received instruction in the Christian faith, may be received into fellowship of this congregation by taking the appropriate membership vows. Upon doing so, they shall then be enrolled as full or associate members of the church.

Those who wish to become members of this congregation shall answer affirmatively the following questions:

- A. _____ Do you confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and pledge your allegiance to his Kingdom?
- B. _____ Do you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?
- C. _____ Do you promise according to the grace given you to live a Christian life and always remain a faithful member of Christ's Holy Church?
- D. _____ Will you uphold the Church with your prayers, your participation in worship and study, your gifts and your service?
- E. _____ In covenant with other members of this congregation, will you persevere

with us as we continue our spiritual journey on the way that leads to life eternal?
Will you pray for your fellow members, will you love them, and will you live in
peace and harmony with them, according to Christ's own example?

Section 4: A member in good standing in any Christian tradition who has been baptized and desires to unite with this congregation may be received into membership by a proper letter of transfer from his or her former church or by reaffirmation of faith.

Section 5: Associate members are men or women from Congregational or other Christian traditions who, while retaining their church membership elsewhere, wish to participate in the ministry of Pilgrim Congregational Church. Such persons, upon approval by the pastor, shall be added to the Associate Member roll of the Church.

I wish to become a ___ full or ___ associate member of Pilgrim Church. I confess my faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and have affirmed the membership vows listed above.

Your Name (Please print)

Prisoner ID #

Prison Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College and Pilgrim Seminary

Application for Incarcerated Persons

(Please Print)

1. Check one: Is this a _____ New or _____ Updated Application? (if you've previously applied)

Check one: Are you applying for the _____ college or _____ seminary program?

Your Name _____ Prison ID # _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Date of Birth _____

Earliest possible release date? Lifers mark N/A _____

Social Security # (last four digits only) _____

2. Do you have a high school diploma? _____ or GED? _____ Year received? _____

What high school did (do) you attend?

Name _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

3. What, if any, college(s) have you attended?

College Name _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Did you graduate? _____ What degree? _____ When? _____

If you did not graduate, how many credit hours of C or better do you have? _____

College Name _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Did you graduate? _____ What degree? _____ When? _____

If you did not graduate, how many credit hours of C or better do you have? _____

4. Are you a baptized Christian? _____ (yes or no)

Are you an active participant in Christian services / programming at your prison? _____ Yes _____ No

5. Do you feel you are called to the ministry of the Church? _____ Yes _____ No

6. Please provide the names of two people who know you well and would be willing to provide a positive reference for you to be admitted to the seminary. (a chaplain, another incarcerated Christian, or a staff member).

Name _____ ID# if prisoner _____

Prison or other Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Name _____ ID# if prisoner _____

Prison or other Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

7. Please submit a one or two page letter with your application telling us a little about yourself, your faith journey, and why you would like to pursue higher education.

8. Pilgrim Theological Seminary does not charge fees for our incarcerated students. All students are encouraged, if they are able, to make a monthly contribution to the program. We realize that most prisoners have very limited financial resources. So, we will continue to ask churches and individuals to contribute to the college and seminary to help cover these costs. However, unless you are a completely indigent prisoner, we are hopeful that you will make a monthly contribution, *in whatever amount*, towards the cost of your education. What amount do you plan to donate monthly? \$ _____

9. The relationships of the seminary, inclusive of the Board of Governors, administration, faculty and staff, and our students, are reflected in the Pilgrim Seminary Covenant. This short agreement, which everyone who wishes to participate in the seminary community must accept, helps guide and regulate our life together. Our covenant is as follows:

We the Board of Governors, administration, faculty, staff, and student body of Pilgrim Theological Seminary promise to help one another:

- *Honor God by our words and actions, aspiring to love our Creator with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength.*
- *Honor one another as children of God by treating others as we wish to be treated.*
- *Do what is right in the eyes of God, setting our minds upon those things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable, and whatever is excellent and praiseworthy.*
- *Mature in Christian love as we seek to remember that, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, and it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres."*
- *Support the mission of Pilgrim Theological Seminary by your commitment to its ideals and by helping to provide for its financial needs.*

Your Signature signifies your willingness to abide by this Covenant. Date

10. Submit with your application a completed Permission to take Correspondence Courses / proctor form. Please mail your application and related forms and materials to:

Admissions Office
MBWC / Pilgrim Seminary
1229 38th Ave. N, Box 262
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Permission To Take Correspondence Courses and Proctor Form

It is the normal policy of Pilgrim Theological Seminary (www.pilgrimseminary.org) and Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College (www.mbwesleyan.org) for prisoners to obtain permission from the facility where they are incarcerated to take correspondence courses. Please have the top part of this form completed by an appropriate prison staff person.

I acknowledge that _____ (print student's name), prison ID# _____ has requested and has been given permission to take correspondence courses from Pilgrim Theological Seminary and /or Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College. Note: There are no required program fees for incarcerated students.

Prison Staff Person _____ Signature _____

Position _____ Facility Name _____

State _____ Telephone # _____ Your Email _____

Willingness to Proctor Form

The responsibility of a proctor in the Pilgrim Theological Seminary and Myrtle Beach Wesleyan College programs is to receive exams via e-mail (regular mail when necessary), provide the exam to the student, proctor the exam, and mail the exam back to the seminary for grading. It is the preference of the seminary to have a staff person from the religion, education, recreation, or social services department proctor exams for incarcerated students.

If this is not possible, exams may be proctored by a volunteer in the religion or education program, a non-family member on the prisoner's visitor's list, or a fellow Christian prisoner (*only as an absolutely last resort*). The job title or position of the proctor as it relates to the incarcerated student should be noted on the title line.

Student Name _____ ID# _____

Printed Name of Proctor _____ Title / Position _____

Signature of Proctor _____ Date _____

Your Telephone Number _____ Your Email _____

This form is to be submitted with the Student Application Form.

