

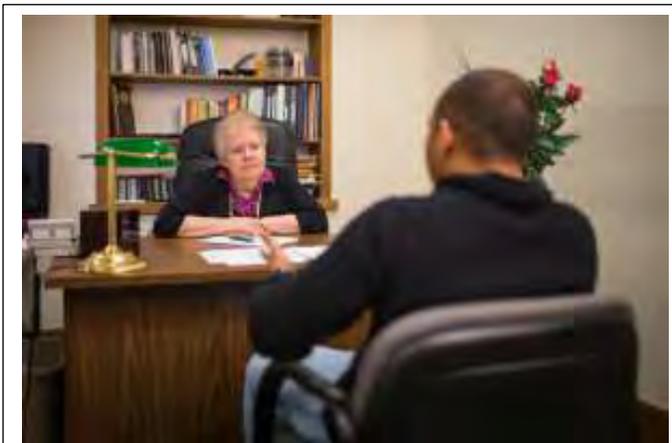
40th Commencement at UTS

Kathy Winings
May 19, 2016



“Not only is this the 40th commencement, but we are also celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Doctor of Ministry degree program, which began in August 2006 with the inaugural class of 11 students.

“Each graduation is special because each student who completes their degree program is unique and special. It is not easy in today’s climate, economically, for a student to complete a graduate degree let alone have the time to attend classes and study.



Dr. Winings with Naresh Gullapalli M.Div. student

“Each year we have a rich blend of cultures, traditions, and theses/dissertation project themes to celebrate. Some of this year’s Dissertation Projects emphasized the challenges facing immigrant youth in American urban contexts and the need to fit in while preserving and honoring one’s own cultural and parental heritage, the pastoral counseling needs of diasporan Africans, faith formation and passing on the tradition to succeeding generations, prayer as a way to counter burn-out in married couples, and creating a theology of tithing.

“Master theses were focused on climate change and church development; educating congregations and clergy to combat violence and crime in Jamaica; contributions made by women in leadership positions; how to become a welcoming church so that all may experience God’s transforming love; leadership training for more effective church

management; educating youth ministers in India; developing effective young adult ministries; and understanding the essentials of faith formation in the postmodern era.

“Each graduate will be working in diverse countries throughout our global society. No school can be prouder of such an extensive outreach through its graduates. “

This year, UTS graduation will again be held at UTS Barrytown, NY in the chapel on Saturday, May 28, beginning at 2:00 PM. Graduating students will be recipients of Doctoral and Masters degrees.

UTS was founded in 1975. The first commencement was for the incoming class of that year, the Class of 1977. UTS celebrates the year 2015-2016 as the 40th Anniversary of the founding year.

UTS is delighted to graduate a class of impressive women and men who will go out into the world to serve God and humankind while continuing to partner with UTS in its mission to bridge religious and cultural divides.

As is now the custom, returning alumni are invited to walk with the graduating class. A special invitation goes to those alumnae and alumni from the Classes of 1986, 1996, and 2006 to come back to Barrytown and mark their 30th, 20th and 10th anniversaries.

After the ceremony, there will be a reception on the UTS lawn.