Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers

Meeting Jesus in Miami: Embodied Urban Ministry

2 Week Intensive Hybrid **January 4 - January 14, 2027** **REGISTER ONLINE**

Instructor: Joshua Brockway

Instructor: Dan Poole

This course is available to:

- **TRIM/EFSM** students: MS
- **CEU** credit: Fulfills **2 Units**
- Anyone seeking personal or spiritual enrichment

Course Fee: $300.00

Registration deadline: December 1st, 2026

Please wait to order books until after your registration has been confirmed by the Brethren Academy office.

Course Description:

This course represents an educational partnership between Bethany Theological Seminary, the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, and the Office of Discipleship and Leadership Formation of the Church of the Brethren. We are partnering with the First Church of the Brethren in Miami and the L'eglise Des Freres (Miami Haitian Church of the Brethren) as we invite students to explore a variety of ministry strategies and tools employed to address the complex realities of urban contexts. This will be an immersive urban experience focused on the ministries of care in the greater Miami metropolitan area, as called for in Matthew 25.

Learning Objectives:

- ***Critically examine*** the complexities of ministry with marginalized and underserved communities in urban contexts
- ***Examine and evaluate*** the major challenges and opportunities of ministry with marginalized and underserved populations in urban contexts
- ***Articulate and apply*** core theological concepts that inform ministry in urban contexts, demonstrating an understanding of ministry as *inspirational, incarnational, and improvisational*
- ***Analyze and theologically evaluate*** issues arising from contemporary immigration and migration

Course Reading Resources

- *Brooks, Jonathan. Church Forsaken: Practicing presence in neglected neighborhoods. InterVarsity Press, 2018.*
- *Gustine, Adam, and José Humphreys III. 2023. Ecosystems of Jubilee: Economic Ethics for the Neighborhood. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.*
- *Lupton, Robert D. 2012. Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help, and How to Reverse It, New York: HarperOne.*
- *Villegas, Isaac S. Migrant God: A Christian vision for immigrant justice. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2025.*

(continued)

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Course Withdrawal Refund Policy:

- Full refund available before registration deadline
- 50% refund from registration deadline to course start.
- No refunds once the course has begun.

Exceptions require approval from the Brethren Academy Director.

Who should take this course:

This course is designed for:

- TRIM and EFSM students fulfilling MS
- Pastors and lay leaders seeking CEUs.
- Individuals discerning a call to ministry.

Anyone longing to deepen their theological understanding and faith practice.

Course Format and Requirements:

A modified hybrid course with work done through Moodle and Zoom, as well as immersion days spent onsite in Miami, Florida

Time Commitment: 20 hours of in-person and Zoom class time included in the 75-90 hours of expected work for the full course. Zoom class may not exceed 4 of the 20 hours.
Technology Requirements: Basic computer skills and reliable internet. A device less than four years old is recommended.

For TRIM/EFSM Students:

- Fulfills **MS** requirements.
- Full participation, reading, and assignments are required.

For CEU Participants:

- Earns **2.0 CEUs.**
- Reading and participation required; complete reduced assignments as outlined in the syllabus.

Course Schedule:

A modified hybrid course with work done through Moodle and Zoom, as well as immersion days spent onsite in Miami, Florida. The schedule will be January 4 – 6 distance education using Moodle and Zoom platforms, to be detailed on the course Moodle site; January 7 as a travel day to Miami for all participants, January 8 – 11 will be onsite in Miami, FL (lodging and food will be provided), and January 14 will include the final wrap-up session on Moodle and Zoom platforms. A detailed schedule will be provided through the course Moodle site.

Instructor: Joshua Brockway

Joshua Brockway is the director of spiritual formation for the Church of the Brethren. He holds a PhD in early Christianity with a focus on asceticism and liturgy from the Catholic University of America. He holds a Master of Arts from Bethany as well as a Masters of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology. He is a pastors' kid and has served in congregational ministries in Indiana and Georgia. He has published articles in Brethren Life and Thought, as well as an essay on the Church of the Brethren in World War II in the proceedings of the 2018 Brethren World Assembly. Most recently he has published an entry on Violence and Non-Violence in the Rowan and Littlefield Handbook of Contemporary Christianity in the United States.

Instructor: Dan Poole

Dan Poole was born in Indiana and grew up attending the Wabash Church of the Brethren. After serving for 18 years in congregational ministry, first at the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren as Associate Pastor and then at the Covington Church of the Brethren in Southern Ohio for 13 of those years, was called to serve at Bethany. He served as the Coordinator for Ministry Formation beginning in August of 2007 through 2017, served a one-year appointment as the Visiting Instructor for Ministry Formation in 2017-18. He was then called to be the Assistant Professor of Ministry Formation in spring of 2018.

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Register online or fill out the following information and return, along with payment, to:
Brethren Academy * 615 National Road West * Richmond, IN * 47374

Name: _____

Address: _____

Best contact phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I will be taking this course for: ____TRIM credit ____EFSM credit ____CEU credit _____PE

Course Fee: $300 payable to Brethren Academy (BAML) Registration Deadline: December 1st, 2026