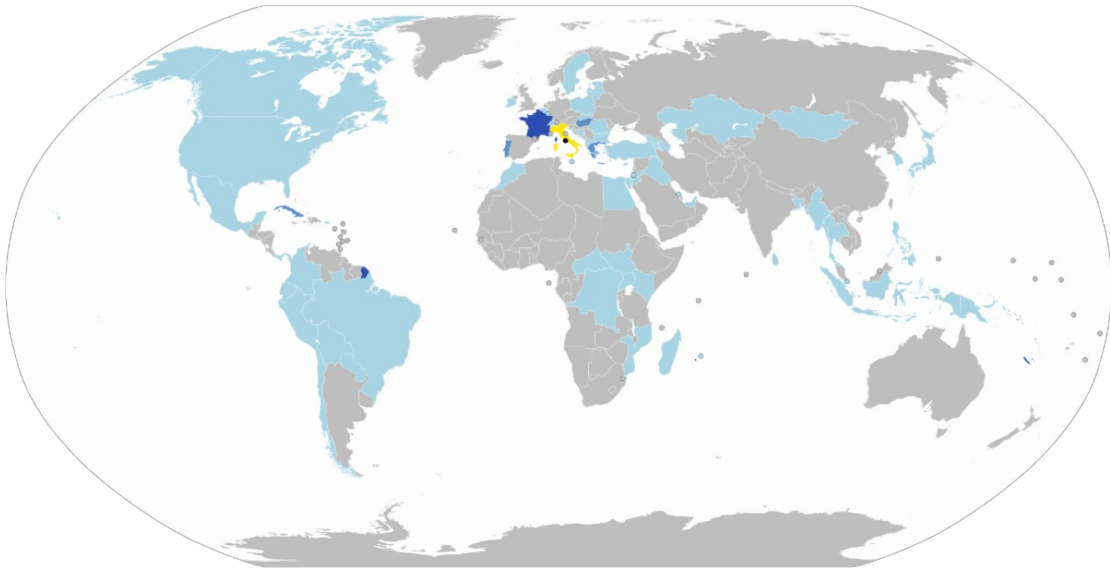


Global Family



Visits by Pope Francis around the Globe

(Jayarathina, Svenskygderna, CC BY-SA 3.0 , via Wikimedia Commons)



President Grudzen's Statement on The Passing of Pope Francis into Eternal Life

Global Ministries University joins with religious and secular institutions and communities around the world to mourn the passing of Pope Francis into eternal life and recognize the extraordinary contributions of this remarkable man.

His two main encyclicals, *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*, made unprecedented advances in recognizing the climate crisis and promoting interfaith relations between Christianity and Islam. His identification with marginalized and displaced people and those harmed by violence and warfare was central to his papacy and his ministry. May his life and example continue to inspire us, for his global message is relevant for the whole of humanity and the future of planet earth.

Gerald Grudzen, Ph.D.
President Global Ministries University

More on Pope Francis:

[Remembering Francis: 'One of the most consequential leaders of our time'](#)

National Catholic Reporter [Editorial: Farewell to a pope of sacramentality](#)

[Arabs mourn death of Pope Francis, advocate of interfaith dialogue and human dignity](#)

[Pope Francis leaves legacy as environmental conscience for the world](#)



"May Pope Francis dance with the angels and continue to bless us! I give thanks for his pastoral presence and vision of a Synodal church for everyone. This is the reason we ordain women in the international Roman Catholic Women Priests Movement to create an inclusive Church of baptized equals called to follow Jesus in ordained ministries." Bishop Bridget Mary Meehan, ARCWP

Read the ARCWP Statement
here.



groups can join together for service to their community. This is the kind of interfaith unity that GMU hopes to model at local, national, and international levels.

Statement on Solidarity with Harvard

Global Ministries University
stands in solidarity with Harvard.



Stanford, Princeton, Yale, and other institutions of higher learning that are opposing the current administration's attacks on freedom of speech, academic integrity, and the United States Constitution. GMU upholds the primacy of scientific inquiry and critical thinking with its premier postgraduate program, promoting the compatibility and

complementarity of science and religion. As an international online learning platform for theological education, rather than disparaging, GMU is committed to upholding the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its endeavors...

Read the entire
statement.

Leaders of American Universities Issue [A Call for Constructive Engagement](#).


Empowering Women



["Accepting women priests means accepting the end of celibacy."
Interview with Marie Mandy, New Documentary about Roman Catholic
Women Priests](#)

[Interview with Christina Moreira, ARCWP](#)

Why can't women be priests?: A look at the forbidden and criminalized vocation

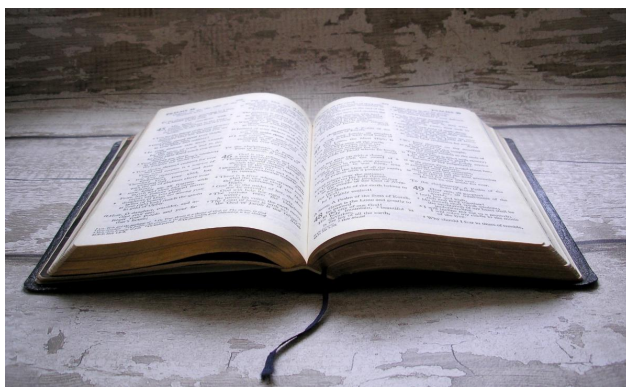


***Lucile Murray
Durkin Scholarship***
FOR WOMEN AND NON-BINARY PEOPLE DISCERNING ORDINATION

Apply by May 15!

womensordination.org/scholarship

Librarian's Corner



Exegetical Research

Back in the early 1980s I was a reference librarian at the Graduate Theological Union library in Berkeley. Many of our students needed help in their efforts to conduct exegetical research, the critical explanation or

interpretation of scripture. In those pre-Internet days, the only available tools for study of the Bible were in book form: *New Testament Abstracts*, *Anchor Bible*, *JPS Bible Commentary*, *Eerdmans Bible Commentary*, etc. When I took a position at California State University Library, East Bay in 1990, online resources were becoming available, but few students at the state university were studying scripture. So, I've been out of touch. I decided to see what's available online that might be useful for GMU students, especially those living at a distance from an academic library.

Here are a few scholarly sources that are freely available for study of the

Bible. In coming months I'll look at online sources for exploration of the Qur'an, the Torah, Buddhist and Hindu scripture.

BibleHub is a production of the Online Parallel Bible Project. It offers search and study tools including parallel texts, Greek/Hebrew interlinear, word studies, cross references, and commentaries, and more. <https://biblehub.com>

STEP Bible (Scripture Tools for Every Person), produced by Tyndale House, supports in-depth Bible study with Hebrew/Greek interlinear texts, lexicons, and cross-references. Topics include Harmony of the Gospels, Miracles in the Bible, Old Testament parallels, Prophets, Places, and more. <https://www.stepbible.org>

Early Christian Writings is a collection of English translations of texts dating from 30 to 380 CE (e.g., Apostolic Fathers, apocrypha, gnostic texts), with scholarly commentary, and more. Among the hundreds of texts presented: The Gospel of Mary, Apocalypse of Paul, Dionisius of Alexandria, Sophia of Jesus Christ. <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com>

SBL Greek New Testament (SBLGNT) is a scholarly Greek NT text available for free download produced by the Society of Biblical Literature in keeping with its mission to foster biblical scholarship. (Yes, it really is in Greek!) <https://sblgnt.com>

Bible Odyssey, from the Society of Biblical Literature, contains scholarly articles on key people, places and themes in the Bible. A few of the many articles I spotted that look fascinating: "Climate Change and the End of the World: Beliefs and Practices, History of Interpretation," "The Bible and Native Americans in Early North America," "Doctors in the Ancient Near East." <https://bibleodyssey.org>

Questions? Comments? Need help with research? Contact me:

Judy Clarence, M.L.I.S., GMU Librarian
librarian@globalministriesuniversity.org

Subscribe to Judy's Substack on her decades as an academic librarian.

Good poetry is like effective prayer,
it feeds the human spirit, it
nourishes, it puts us in touch with
forces far greater than ourselves

— Lorna Goodison —

AZ QUOTES

GMU Librarian Judy Clarence has launched a new Substack page for her poetry titled "Running Out of Colors: A Sequel."

Subscribe to Judy's Poetry
Substack.

GMU Board Meeting



The GMU Board of Directors' meeting took place on Friday, April 11, 2025, at via Zoom. Topics included:

- international conferences in India and Nigeria during February
- a financial report including recent major donations to GMU
- a report on student enrollments since our last board meeting
- GMU graduates in 2025
- the GMU partnership with the Institute of Science and Religion in Kochi, India, and The Institute for Lay Theology in Kochi, India
- reports on GMU marketing and website activity since our last board meeting

- report on 2025 Fratelli Tutti Conference and the relationship with Tangaza University and the Harmony Institute in Kenya.

GMU Courses and Programs

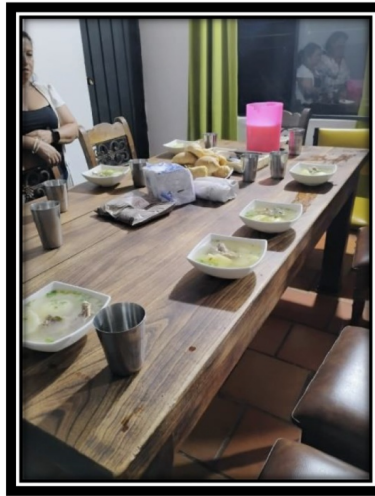
Spring into Spirituality!



Spring forward and "let the light shine" in your life and in your soul! Dr. Margie Schneider is offering three courses at a discount. TH580 Creation Spirituality, TH581 Eco-Art & Creation Spirituality, and TH517 Spiritual Ecology are available individually for **\$235 per course**. You don't want to miss this opportunity to expand your awareness of the Divine in Creation and in You!

Enroll Today!

**Certificate in Transformative Leadership for
Women of Faith Serving Vulnerable and
Marginalized populations in the Global South**



A nine-month GMU certificate program is being developed to provide knowledge of contemporary theology and pastoral skills for empowering women leaders in creating faith community-based projects and networks in vulnerable and marginalized populations in the Global South. Students will explore ways to promote gender equality, community well-being, and social change. Learn more about existing communities [here](#).

Interested? Let us know.

Parables of Jesus



Religion and Science



GMU partners with the Institute of Science and Religion program in Kerala, India. You can view lectures on their [YouTube channel](#).

Theology for the 21st Century

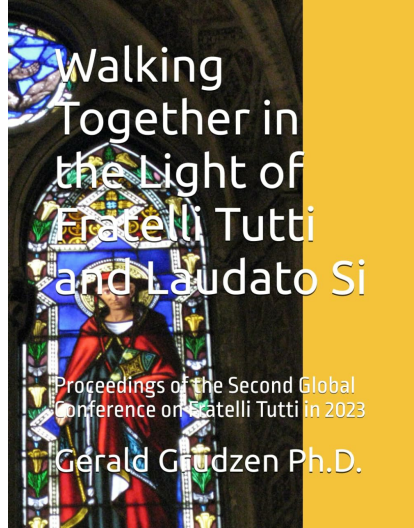
Discover the compatibility of science, spirituality, and faith. Asian and African applications will soon be made directly on Fr. Augustine Pamplany's website. The applications will then be sent to GMU for follow-up and enrollment. [Email Fr. Augustine](#) for information.

Explore GMU's Religion and Science Program.

Apply here.

Proceedings of GMU Global Conference Published

*Walking Together in the Light of
Fratelli Tutti and Laudato Si:
Proceedings of the Second*



Global Conference on Fratelli Tutti in 2023

Proceedings from the 2023 global conference with contributors from Africa, Asia, and North America. The book is available in print and Kindle formats on [Amazon](#).

Collaboration with People's Catholic Seminary



GMU seeks to meet the needs and aspirations of those who wish to start Intentional Eucharistic Communities. Together with PCS, GMU is now offering:

Creating Inclusive Eucharistic Communities in an Emerging Synodal Church

5 sessions \$475 + \$25 App Fee

Women in the Bible and Christian Tradition

5 sessions \$475 + \$25 App Fee

Credit for these courses can be applied towards a GMU graduate degree or certificate.

Apply Today.

GMU Partners



Connect with Life's Sacred Journeys

The Celebrant Training Program Objectives

We offer two separate programs: Weddings and Other Commitment Ceremonies and Funerals and Other Rites of Passage. Upon completion of each program, you will be awarded a Certificate of Celebrancy granted by Global Ministries University, with which the Center for Celebrant Training is affiliated. Global Ministries University is an interfaith and nondenominational online university that offers degrees and certificates completely online.

Visit the Center for Celebrant
Training.

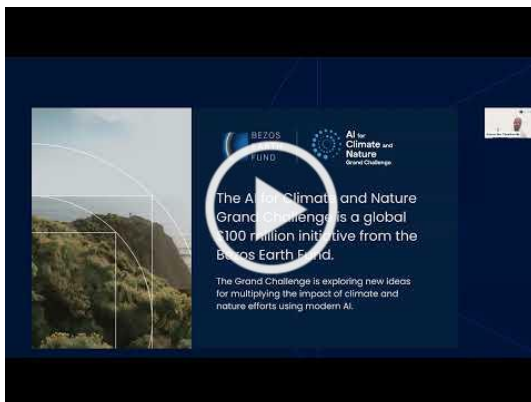




Rooted in Lived Experience of People
Creates deep connection with liberating message in Scripture and Christian tradition of mystics and prophets
Fosters partnership in ministry - new paradigm - following Jesus in 21st century
Raises up voices of marginalized
Expands theological landscape
Cultivates a healing and learning community
Dismantles patriarchy and
Promotes Gospel equality and inclusiveness.

[Learn more.](#)

AI Initiatives



GMU will partner with the [Omeriye Foundation](#) as the focal point in Kenya, and participate as the USA mentor for Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, and Nairobi University in the EARTH FUNDS AI for Climate and Environmental Challenges in September 2025.

Bridging Faith and Future: A Visionary AI-Education Transformation in Nigeria

President Grudzen is working with religious, educational, and business leaders in Silicon Valley and Nigeria to develop a model for ethical, inclusive, AI-driven education in Africa. Stay tuned for exciting developments!

Global Responsibility



We are "eternally" grateful to GMU Board member John Raymaker for his exceedingly generous endowment of \$40,000 to ensure GMU's financial stability well into the future.

GMU operates under the corporate umbrella of the Federation of Community Ministries of California (FCM of CA), originally formed on October 30, 1997, when we gained the status of a 501c3 nonprofit corporation. GMU is registered in Santa Clara County, CA, as a DBA of FCM of CA. The two entities have the same Board of Directors.

Help Our Global Family

Donate to GMU.

<https://www.globalministriesuniversity.org/>

info@globalministriesuniversity.org

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Touch!



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