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Media Advisory

ITC'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ENGAGES PREACHERS AND LAITY TO LEARN

Atlanta, GA- The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), a graduate institution that encompasses six denominational seminaries, also offers a certificate in theological education. The Certificate in Theology Program is designed to provide a structured series of courses for ministers and lay persons desiring a heightened aptitude for ministry. “The Certificate in Theology Program is a fantastic way for The ITC to support the community at-large. It allows those interested in a theological education an abbreviated version of theology school,” says Mrs. Sandra Yates, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Acting Director for Continuing Education. “Fifteen hundred people have applied and completed the certificate program and many of those have eventually moved on to a Master of Divinity program and on a few occasions a Doctorate of Ministry degree.”

The Certificate Program is interested in persons, with or without college degrees who want to broaden their theological knowledge. It is offered in more than 50 sites throughout the U.S., Canada, Japan and the Caribbean. Courses range from Introduction to New Testament, Introduction to Church Administration to include classes in Philosophy and Theology. The program consists of one year of study during which a student may complete eight courses. Each course lasts approximately four to six weeks and the class sessions are once a week. Two or more courses will be offered during each term and classes begin every eight weeks. Students who successfully complete the eight basic courses will be awarded Certificate in Theology by Interdenominational Theological Center during its annual commencement weekend.

Mr. Earl Jones, a student currently enrolled in the program says, “This program gives the student an excellent introduction to the various course offerings and the seminary experience. It encourages further study in a variety of subject interests and may inspire some to a full degree program. I thank ITC for having implemented this wonderful program and Dr. Claybon for his excellent instruction.” Pam Piggee, another Certificate student states, “I have benefited more than I expected from the program. Frequently, those in the ministry are expected to live in a spiritual fish bowl while dealing with all of life’s ugliness on a daily basis. However, through my classmates in the certificate program I have gained a support group and familial community that nurtures and shares in the work of the ministry.”

For additional information on the Certificate of Theology Program at the ITC visit the website at www.itc.edu or call 404-527-7766. The ITC is located at 700 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive S.W., Atlanta, GA 30314.

The Interdenominational Theological Center, a cooperative theological academy of six different denominations, the Harry V. and Selma T. Richardson Ecumenical Fellowship, and a Lutheran Center, is in its fourth decade of providing service to the world as the leading academy for African American graduate theological education and training. ITC is the only UNCF institution that offers graduate theological education. The institution engages a world-class faculty, a vibrant and challenging afro-centered curriculum, and national and international outreach programs initiatives that include: Faith and the City, the Health and Faith Leadership Initiative, Black Women in Church and Society, The Continuing Education, Certificate of Theology, and Distance Learning Program, The Institute for Black Religious Life, The Youth Hope Builders Academy, Faith Journey in Pastoral Ministry, Religious Heritage of the African World, and the Urban Theological Institute.