

Religion Department Faculty

Daniel Xisto



Education Profile:

Level II Clinical Pastoral Education, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA, 2013.

Master of Divinity, Andrews University, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs MI, 2012.

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Concordia College, Bronxville, NY 2001.

Biography:

Pastor Daniel Xisto has experienced a transformative journey from the world of business to the realm of ministry. With a deep passion for serving God and his community, Pastor Xisto has dedicated his life to inspiring others and advocating for social justice and peacemaking.

Before answering the call to ministry, Pastor Xisto spent over a decade as a successful business executive. During this time, he honed his leadership skills and gained valuable insights into the corporate world. However, his heart longed for a higher purpose, and he soon realized that his true calling lay in serving others through the ministry.

Currently, Pastor Daniel Xisto serves as an ordained minister at the Takoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, located in Takoma Park, Maryland. His role extends far beyond the confines of the church building, as he actively engages with the community and serves as a catalyst for change.

One of Pastor Xisto's key roles is as a community organizer, working tirelessly to bring God's people together for impactful action. He serves on the leadership team of Action in Montgomery, a powerful community organization deeply rooted in the neighborhoods and congregations of Montgomery County. Through this organization, Pastor Xisto helps empower individuals and communities to create lasting social change.

Passionate about his faith, Pastor Xisto serves on several boards and executive committees that align with his values and commitment to social justice. He is actively involved with Adventist Community Service of Greater Washington, an organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the community and providing essential services to those in need. Additionally, Pastor Xisto contributes his expertise to the Adventist Peace Fellowship, an organization that seeks to raise awareness within the Seventh-day Adventist community about the vital role of peacemaking and social justice.

Prior to his current position in Takoma Park, Pastor Daniel Xisto served as a pastor in Charlottesville, Virginia. During his time there, he was elected as the president of IMPACT, an interfaith movement focused on empowering the faith community to create significant social change through unified direct action. This experience allowed him to develop strong

connections with diverse religious leaders and organizations, further enhancing his ability to foster positive change.

While Pastor Xisto is actively involved in community organizing and direct action, he also utilizes his gift for public speaking and writing to inspire and influence others towards peace and justice. His insightful articles have been published in esteemed publications such as Message Magazine and Ministry Magazine (International Journal for Pastors), among other notable platforms. Through his writings, he seeks to engage readers in meaningful discussions and encourage them to pursue a life committed to serving God and humanity.

Pastor Daniel Xisto's journey from the corporate world to ministry is a testament to his unwavering faith and dedication to making a difference. His commitment to community organizing, his involvement in various boards and committees, and his impactful writings all reflect his profound desire to unite people for the greater good. With his strong belief in justice and peacemaking, Pastor Xisto continues to inspire and empower others, leaving a lasting impact on both his congregation and the wider community.

Research and Professional Activities:

Ministry is where Pastor Xisto's passion for advocacy, equality, inclusivity, and positive change come together. He takes Jesus at His word when He taught us to love our neighbor by setting the oppressed free, breaking chains of injustice, and sharing our bread with the hungry. He is committed to following Jesus in this way and has a strong belief in the transforming power of faith, love, and compassion.

Throughout his ministry, he has witnessed firsthand the struggles and injustices that many individuals and communities face. These, along with personal experiences, have shaped his perspective and fueled his desire to work towards a more equitable society.

In his role as a pastor, he prioritizes fostering a community that actively addresses social issues and actively seeks ways to make a positive impact. He has facilitated workshops, sermons, and discussions centered on social justice, challenging congregants to confront

their biases and engage in meaningful dialogue. He firmly believe that education and open dialogue are essential in creating understanding and promoting lasting change.

Pastor Xisto is actively involved in local initiatives and organizations that strive to address social injustices head-on. Whether it's collaborating with community leaders, volunteering at local shelters, or participating in peaceful protests, he is committed to standing alongside those who are marginalized and advocating for their rights. He believes in the power of collective action and that together, we can create a society that upholds justice and equality for all.

Furthermore, Pastor Xisto is deeply committed to nurturing the spiritual growth of individuals and providing them with the tools and guidance to make a positive impact in their own lives and communities. He firmly believe that faith should inspire action, and he encourage his congregation to live out their beliefs through acts of compassion, justice, and service. He believes that by empowering individuals to use their unique gifts and talents, we can collectively work towards a world that is free from discrimination and inequality.

Select publications:

The Day We Chose Barabbas, Message Magazine, January 15, 2021.

Racism Amidst the Remnant, Spectrum Magazine, June 14, 2019.

The Church Is On the Wrong Side of History, Spectrum Magazine, October 20, 2018.

The Promise in God's Name, Ministry Magazine, March 1, 2015.

Job 42:6 and the Absence of Sin in Job's Repentance, Ministry Magazine, March 1, 2014

Free Will and Choice: A Study of Jeremiah 1:5, Ministry Magazine, May 1, 2012

