

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION: ISRAEL GALINDO

Dr. Israel Galindo retired as Associate Dean for Lifelong Learning at Columbia Theological Seminary at the end of December 2025. In this capacity, Dr. Galindo led the Ministering to Ministers program as part of the seminary's Pastoral Excellence Program, under which the Ministering to Ministers initiative operates.

WHEREAS, Prior to serving at Columbia he served at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond as Dean and Professor of Christian Formation and Leadership where he was a tenured professor responsible for directing the curricular degree programs and supervising faculty activity and staff as well as teaching in the areas of education, formation, leadership studies, and congregational studies.

WHEREAS, among his many contributions, Dr. Galindo's leadership of Ministering to Ministers (MTM) represents a particularly meaningful expression of his commitment to those who devote their lives to serving the church; founded in 1994, Ministering to Ministers through its Wounded Ministers Retreats, provides spiritual, emotional, physical, social, and practical support to clergy and their families experiencing vocational crisis, particularly those facing forced termination or involuntary separation from their congregations; and

WHEREAS, through his leadership, Dr. Galindo helped advance the Ministering to Ministers ministry that has reached clergy across denominational and geographic boundaries, affirming that a minister's worth and calling do not end when a ministry position ends; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Galindo brought to this ministry the wisdom gained through his own service as a pastor, hospice chaplain, educator, academic administrator, and scholar, as well as his numerous publications on pastoral leadership, congregational life, and ministry which have further equipped generations of leaders to serve with greater wisdom, resilience, and faithfulness; and

WHEREAS, He earned the Doctor of Education, Ed.D., Master of Divinity, Master of Religious Education, from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Literature, Northeastern College with additional studies at The Bowen Theory Education Center, the University of New Orleans; the Harvard Graduate School of Education—WIDE World Initiative Program; and Clinical Pastoral Training at Southeast Louisiana Hospital; and

WHEREAS, He has authored numerous publications in the field of theology, religion, education, and leadership, including *The Hidden Lives of Congregations*, *Leadership in Ministry*, *The Virtuous Leader*, *When a Pastor is Fired*, *Perspectives on Congregational Leadership*, *60 Leadership Concepts*, *Case Studies in Pastoral Leadership*, *Reframing Ministry Leadership*, *Academic Leadership*, and *Leadership Pitfalls*;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Israel Galindo for his distinguished service and, especially, for his faithful leadership and commitment to Ministering to Ministers; a ministry in which wounded ministers and their families could find compassion rather than judgment, community rather than isolation, and hope rather than despair; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the elected members of the Virginia Baptist Executive Board, meeting on September 10, 2026, extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Galindo; and

Be It Finally Resolved, that we request the messengers of the Annual Meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, gathering in Virginia Beach on November 10, 2026, to join in expressing appreciation for Dr. Galindo's faithful ministry and to offer prayers of thanksgiving for his lasting legacy and for God's continued blessings upon him and his family in the years ahead.