

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Yartekwei Lartey was born in Accra, Ghana. He holds degrees in Psychology and Statistics BA (Hons.), University of Ghana, (1978); MA en passant, and PhD, University of Birmingham, UK, in Pastoral Theology, Religion and Health, (1984). He is currently the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Pastoral Theology and Spiritual Care at Candler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, GA. He began his teaching career as Lecturer in practical theology at Trinity Theological Seminary in Legon, Ghana, in 1984. He has served as Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Studies and Practical Theology in the Department of Theology, University of Birmingham, UK. He was Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia and the Director from 2003-2009 of the Doctoral program (ThD) in Pastoral Counseling of the Atlanta Theological Association. He has taught courses and presented addresses at conferences and universities in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Professor Lartey has served as Chairperson of the British and Irish Association for Practical Theology (BIAPT); President of the International Council for Pastoral Care and Counseling (ICPCC); and Treasurer of the International Academy for Practical Theology (IAPT). He served as Editor of the *Journal of Pastoral Theology* (2013- 2017).

Commissioned as a minister in the Methodist Church, Ghana in 1978, Dr Lartey has served as Circuit minister, parish pastor and university Chaplain. In the USA since 2001, he has been pastor of the Ghana Interdenominational Church, in Atlanta, (2003 – 2006). He established and pastored the United Ghana Christian Church, in Atlanta, (2007 – 2010) and served as Senior Pastor of the Wesley Methodist Church, Atlanta (2014 – 2019). From 2020 through superannuation (retirement) in 2024 he served as Bishop of the North America Diocese of the Methodist Church, Ghana.

Dr Lartey teaches courses in ‘Introduction to Pastoral Care’, “Spiritual Care in African Religious Cultures”, ‘International perspectives on pastoral care’ and ‘Inter Religious Spiritual Care’. In addition to 34 chapters in edited volumes and over 25 articles in peer-reviewed journals, Professor Lartey’s single authored book publications include *Pastoral Counselling in Intercultural Perspective*, (1987); the internationally acclaimed *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counselling*, (1997/2003) and *Pastoral Theology in an Intercultural World* (2006). *Postcolonializing God: An African practical theology* (2013). He co-edited (with Tapiwa Mucherera) *Pastoral Care, Health, Healing and Wholeness in African Contexts*, (2017). His book publications include *Postcolonial Practices of Care: A Project of Togetherness during Covid-19 and Racial Violence* (2022) (co-edited with Hellena Moon), and *What is Spiritual Care: Perspectives from different professions and Religious Traditions* (2025) (coedited with Pamela Cooper-White & Claudia Kohli-Reichenbach). His latest book is titled *Spiritual Care in African Religious Cultures: Sacred Wisdom for the care of persons in an intercultural world*. (Georgetown University Press, 2026).