

“ Clergywomen, as some have put it, face twists and turns on their journey often different from ones faced by their male counterparts. In this book, however, they have an extremely helpful guide written by four travel companions, young clergywomen themselves, who share what they are learning along the way. Written in an engaging style, the chapters address very real, practical issues that young clergywomen face. ”

—Jackson W. Carroll, Williams Professor Emeritus of Religion and Society, Duke Divinity School

The Girlfriends’ Clergy Companion

Suiving and Thriving in Ministry

As increasing numbers of young women are discerning a call to ministry, entering seminary, graduating, and searching for the call to a parish or other ministry setting, they need to be aware of the realities that face them. *The Girlfriends’ Clergy Companion* is about the nitty gritty of ministry for young female clergy—how to maintain a sense of personal style, what it’s really like to be a solo pastor, how to date, what to do when they’re ready to quit.

The authors began meeting in 2008 in search of support for their ministries and themselves. Since then, they have met monthly to share their stories of life in the parish. Over the years they became more than clergy colleagues, they became girlfriends. In their conversations, they heard one another talking about what they wished they had known before beginning ministry. Those yearnings gave rise to this book.

The authors discuss the call process and the ministry situations in which young women most commonly find themselves—serving as a solo pastor and as an associate. Additional chapters explore personal style, the single life, relationships, children, and self-care, as well as challenges pastors, particularly new pastors, often face. Each chapter ends with ‘The Girlfriends’ Checklist,’ a summary of strategies to help young women be happier and more effective ministers.

THE GIRLFRIENDS’ CLERGY COMPANION

SURVIVING AND THRIVING IN MINISTRY

Melissa Lynn DeRosia, Marianne J. Grano,
Amy Morgan, and Amanda Adams Riley



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The Girlfriends’ Clergy Companion

DeRosia, Grano, Morgan, and Riley

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