

Andersonville Theological Seminary

On Site Graduation Information for the **Friday - May 26, 2023** graduation

Thank you for your interest in attending our 2023 graduation service for Andersonville Theological Seminary. We know this is an exciting time in your life and we look forward to sharing it with you. The ceremony will take place on **Friday, May 26, 2023** at 2:00 p.m. (EST).

Below we have outlined the information that you need in categories. Please be sure to read each one carefully.

Signing Up to Attend

All students who wish to attend are required to fill out the packet called – Please return this ENTIRE packet if you are planning on attending onsite graduation located on our website (www.andersonvilleseminary.com) under the FORMS tab/onsite graduation. Once a student fills out that form and sends it to the seminary, he or she will start receiving emails regarding graduation. Please respond to each email letting the office know that you received the updated information.

Note: Bulk emails will be sent with updates.

What to Expect at Graduation

Graduation service includes all of the following:

- Special music for 1 hour prior to the ceremony
- Welcome and introductions by James Hayes
- A sermon to charge the graduates by Dr. Jimmy Hayes, president of the seminary or a guest speaker
- Presentation of degrees
- Pictures with Dr. Jimmy Hayes as the graduate receives his or her degree
- A group picture of the graduating class

The service usually lasts about 2 hours, not including the 1 hour of special music prior to the ceremony. A normal on site graduating class usually consists of around 100 graduates with up to 900 people in attendance.

Things to do before Graduation

- Fill out the ENTIRE packet and return to ATS if you are planning on attending
- Order invitations for your friends and family (optional – see below)
- Order your cap and gown (see information under Cap and Gown heading below)
- Make sure you have paid all tuition, turned in all your work, ordered your degree, and checked with the office to make sure you have been cleared to graduate. Previous transcripts must be on file before receiving degree. ALL FEES AND WORK MUST BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 15TH.

Ordering Invitations

Invitations are a great way to let friends and family know of your accomplishment. They are also great to frame or put in your scrapbook. Graduates may order invitations at www.andersonvilleseminary.com. Go to the FORMS tab on the home page which contains the invitation order form and current prices. Your contact person for invitation questions is Julie Brown. You may email her with questions at finance@andersonvilleseminary.com. Guests do NOT need invitations to get into the onsite graduation. Most graduates order invitations though but you are NOT required to order any.

Ordering the Cap and Gown

For the convenience of our students, Brooks Davis, sells cap and gowns for the ceremony. To order, go to www.andersonvilleseminary.com and click on the FORMS tab. You will find information on graduation regalia. The order form will give you the information you need. If you have any questions on the order, contact Brooks Davis at 1-800-525-1611 or email advisor@andersonvilleseminary.com. Orders for the May graduation will not be taken until after January 1, 2023. **To pay for cap and gowns Brooks Davis will EMAIL you a link to pay the fee at.**

Brooks Davis is only responsible for the cap and gown orders placed with him. He will not be able to help you if you order your cap and gown from someone else. **Cap and gowns will NOT be sold at the onsite graduation. You must purchase by the due date and it will be mailed to you.**

Graduation Pictures

The Photographer will be making pictures starting at your assigned check in time on graduation day.

Assigned Check in Times:

Check in times:

(You must check in at your correct time – no checking in early)

If you are graduating with:

- DMin BE or DMin PL
check in at 9:30
- DMin BC or DMin CC
check in at 10:00
- ThD PT check in at 10:30
- All Master's degrees check in at 11:00
- Associate/Bachelor degree graduates check in at 11:30
- Every graduate return for a GROUP picture at 12:30

Dressing rooms are available for graduates to change. ***You must pay for the pictures at the link online BEFORE onsite graduation. Once you pay for the pictures online, please email a copy of the RECEIPT to Julie Brown at finance@andersonvilleseminary.com. She needs a copy of the receipt!!***

Live Stream of Graduation

Live Stream link of graduation is a charge of \$25.00 to each computer address the graduates wants the email link sent to.

Degrees

Students do not receive their degree during the graduation ceremony. Degrees are mailed out every month as students graduate. Many of those attending graduation will have already received their degree. Others will have arranged to pick up their degree at check in on graduation day. Some may have been late ordering their degree and will not receive it until later. During the graduation ceremony, each graduate will receive a certificate of participation.

Instructions for Graduation Day

On graduation day, graduates should check in until their assigned time. Please enter through the front door of the auditorium. Once inside, you will do the following:

- Sign in at the registration table.
- Purchas frames if desired.
- Continue to the photography station for graduation portraits. Dressing rooms are available for changing.
- After completing these tasks, graduates will be dismissed to have lunch with family and friends.
- Report back to the auditorium by **12:30** sharp. At 12:30 graduate group picture will be taken! p.m. Seating instructions will be given to graduates at check-in. Please do not be late!!! You will enjoy the music during your wait and allow the lower level seats to be taken by friends and family. Guests do not need to arrive until **12:45**. However, graduates need to check in only at their assigned check in time.
- Shortly before 2:00, graduates will be escorted into the auditorium to be seated in a reserved seating area.
- After the ceremony, graduates will march outside for a group photo.

Location of Graduation

Graduation will be held at the following site. Please put it in your GPS or google it in advance to print out a map.

Albany Municipal Auditorium
 200 North Jackson Street
 Albany, Georgia
 Phone: 229-430-3990

Parking is available in a parking lot on the north side of the building. **If the parking lot fills up, there is a parking deck across the street.** Parking on the street is metered.

Places of Interest in Albany

Flint River Aquarium	117 Pine Avenue	Albany, GA
Chehaw Park (Zoo)	105 Chehaw Park Road	Albany, GA
Albany Fun Park	2608 N. Slappey Blvd.	Albany, GA

Places of Interest in the Area

Andersonville National Cemetery	Andersonville, Georgia
Callaway Gardens	Pine Mountain, Georgia
Pebble Hill Plantation	Thomasville, Georgia
Georgia Agrirama	Tifton, Georgia
Little White House	Warm Springs, Georgia
Wild Adventures Theme Park	Valdosta, Georgia