



Lay Ministry Training Program

Course Catalog

Year 3—Level 3

- ♦ ***Level 3 of the Lay Ministry Training Program*** is designed for the individual who really wants to have the clergy resources necessary for pastoral leadership.
- ♦ ***Course Requirements:*** Successful completion of the NACCC Level 1 & 2 Lay Ministry Training Program.
- ♦ ***Course Fees:*** See individual course descriptions on page 2-3.
- ♦ ***Completion:*** Student will receive a Certificate of Completion.
- ♦ ***Questions:*** Please contact Polly Bodjanac at (920) 655-3597 or pollybodjanac@gmail.com or Laura Wright at (414) 856-1614 or lwright@naccc.org

Any views or interpretations expressed by instructors who are preparing and teaching a course are not to be construed as being endorsed by or representing the views of the NACCC.

Course Descriptions

Course #1: Contextual Biblical Applications

Dates: September & October

Course Description: In today's world many question the relevance of Scripture for their lives; this is as true within the church as without. This course will help learners address congregants' concerns (e.g., finances, sickness, conflict, death) and societal issues (e.g., racial justice, culture, sexual identity, and immigration) through the application of Scripture. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in these topics in class through lectures, discussion, and student presentations.

Course Instructors: Rev. Dr. Michael F. Fales

Course Fee: \$200

Course #2: Advanced Preaching and Teaching

Dates: November

Course Description: "Dear God, please help me prepare and deliver a sermon that will be faithful to You, hold the attention of my audience, and by the grace of Your Spirit, be a humble instrument of Your work in their lives."

Not difficult, what? This course will focus on how to build, shape, and sermons in the context of God's call on the preacher.

Participants will learn the components of excellent preaching as they prepare and preach messages of their own, receiving constructive feedback from their classmates and instructor. Various learning approaches - including lectures, discussions, and recordings - will help develop and enhance preaching abilities.

The course's practical nature includes theology, taking into account several elements the preacher should consider. These include responsible handling of the biblical text; the concerns and vitality of the local Church; and the preacher's own personality, style, and world view.

Course Instructor: Rev. Dr. Peter J. Smith, Senior Minister, First Congregational Church, Hanson, MA

Course Fee: \$100

Course #3: Advanced Pastoral Care and Pastoral Ethics

Dates: December

Course Description: This course builds upon the curriculum from the Essentials of Pastoral Care and Pastoral Ethics course, and it assumes students are versed in the fundamental skills needed for providing effective pastoral care, and in an ethical way. This course, then, will engage students to apply their learnings through contextual application. Students will have opportunities to reflect critically upon pastoral care visits and will consider their competencies, formational needs, and theological orientation through this process. Students will share their reflections in the group setting to facilitate feedback, shared learning, and peer-to-peer support.

Course Instructor: Tesha Kathryn Urban, Associate Minister, First Congregational Church, Wauwatosa, WI

Course Fee: \$100

Course Descriptions

Course #4: Leadership Effectiveness and Spiritual Gifts

Dates: January

Course Description: This course will explore the relationship of spiritual gifts to the church organized around the headship of Christ and the ministry of all believers. Participants will seek to define the nature of spiritual gifts, their own giftedness, and how they might lead a congregation to develop and apply members' individual and collective gifts to ministry, including the use of available materials to identify and explain spiritual gifts.

Course Instructor: Bill Rockwell, Simple Country Forester, Richmond, IN

Course Fee: \$100

Course #5: Sabbath and Self Care in Ministry

Dates: February

Course Description: This class will cover Sabbath, self-care in pastoral work, and have an introduction to trauma. The instructor will use the Bible (NIV version), and the books suggested to develop and understanding of these topics and their relevance in students lives and the live of the people they are serving.

Course Instructor: Pastor Jenny Rouble, First Congregational Church of Easton Rapids, MI

Course Fee: \$100

Course #6: World Religions

Dates: March

Course Description: This class provides an overview to the broad sweep of the religious traditions of the world. Our focus will be on the four major non-Christian world religions – Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam – with some considerations of other aspects of the study of religions. Each student should become better equipped to be part of the modern world by understanding and treating with respect adherents of other faith traditions.

Course Instructor: Rev. Dr. Shawn P. Stapleton, Beloit, WI

Course Fee: \$100

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Course Descriptions

Course #7: Practical Ministry Experience

Dates: April to mid-June

Course Description: During the third and final year of the Lay Ministry Training Program, students have the opportunity to put all that they have learned over the previous years about scripture, church history, theology, spirituality, ethics, missional perspectives, and Congregationalism into practice, along with their developed knowledge and skills in preaching, leadership, management, conflict transformation, worship, and pastoral care, among other areas, through a supervised ministry experience.

While time during the spring of this third year is made available for this with no set classes scheduled, students and their ministerial supervisors that are approved ahead of time by the administrators of the Lay Ministry Training Program can plan for this to occur at points throughout the year. This is to be done in the student's primary context for ministry.

Documentation by both student and supervisor is submitted at the end of the academic year to demonstrate successful completion of this aspect of their education.

Course Instructor: Student and Supervisor

Course Fee: \$100

Course #8: Boston Seminar

Dates: July or August

Course: Trip to the City of Boston, Massachusetts

Course Fee: Will be listed on a separate registration page
