

# IS NOW THE TIME TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL?

Polly Bodjanac

The prophet Isaiah speaks so eloquently on the topic of servant leadership. In the following passage, God is reaffirming His relationship with the Israelite people, calling them "my servant" and promising to strengthen and uphold those who serve Him.

*But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend, I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, 'You are my servant'; I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Isaiah 41:8-10

Stewardship represents many facets: using our resources well; giving out of a cheerful heart and not an obligation; carrying forth the gifts that are God-given. All these references speak of serving. What does your life say about who you serve and how you serve others? How do you want to be remembered? What will be your legacy?

The Lay Ministry Training Program was redeveloped and reintroduced in an online, cohort-based format in

2021. Since then, the program has seen 14 graduates and currently has 11 students in care as they complete the 3-year training program. These 25 men and women have answered the call to consider their God-given gifts and how they can further those gifts by journeying together in the Lay Ministry classes. These students are servant leaders within their churches, within their classes, and no doubt in their families and communities as well. Any of these students would tell you that God has fulfilled His promise in Isaiah 41:10 to uphold them and strengthen them with His righteous right hand, as they complete three years of training.

It is not always easy to heed that call. God nudges and nudges, sends you signs while at the same time, Satan provides blinders for you, to hinder the sound of God's voice, which is gently calling you to Him. To serve God is stewarding at its best.

Are you hearing the call to dig deeper, to draw nearer, to share your gifts with others in ways that God has not fully revealed to you yet? The Lay Ministry Training Program is currently accepting applications for the 2026-27 school year, to begin this September. If this is your year to answer the call, please check out the website at [www.naccc.org](http://www.naccc.org) and click on the Education and Programs tab or contact Polly Bodjanac at [pollybodjanac@gmail.com](mailto:pollybodjanac@gmail.com) or Laura Wright at [lwright@naccc.org](mailto:lwright@naccc.org).

Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve Him by developing your spiritual gifts and

creating a lasting legacy. Perhaps you will hear and heed the words of Isaiah 6:8, which say: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"



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