

Transforming Leadership Institute: Quick Program Overview

The Transforming Leaders Initiative (TLi) seeks to find bright leaders, hungry to learn, and who see themselves as having several good years of pastoral ministry ahead in order to make a difference in the future of God's church. Drawing on applications from interested applicants as well as recommendations from seasoned and proven pastors, TLi will recruit leaders who are seen as having potential to take their leadership skills to the next level – gaining the skills and wisdom needed to serve as pastors of congregations who help plant other congregations, start new missions and ministries in their local context or around the world, or serve as senior pastors in large congregations. Whether your vision is to serve a missional congregation that is smaller but initiates new ministries or larger and encompasses a big system, TLi is here to equip you to have what you need to move forward.

Today in the church there is a need for leadership that can make change happen. Mainline churches are in decline and society continues to change at a rapid pace. Yet God continues to call on people to join in the work of blessing and saving the world as it moves on toward the promise of God's kingdom.

So the need for adaptive leadership that can engage people and lead organizations into new ways of working is more important than at any time in the last century. And that means new ways of bringing education and learning to people called to lead. Peer to peer learning, distance and technology education, curriculum that draws on the missional thinking, deepened spirituality, and new skills that come from a variety of disciplines are all essential parts of this new way of working.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

The curriculum will include three years of work, divided into annual themes that frame but don't limit the learning that will occur. Essentially the first year is about the leader and his or her personal skills and practices as he/she leads in ministry. The second year deals with leadership that is developing a missional mindset, dealing with change in systems, and engaging the surrounding context more effectively. The third year emphasizes expanding leading for increased local and global awareness, developing learning for life, and sustaining long term effectiveness.

In addition, as a part of this process, each pastoral leader will develop a Pastor's Missional Leadership Team (PML Team) – a sort of personal board of directors. These people will journey with and help each leader develop concrete plans for how the ideas can be moved to real practices in the leader's ministry. These teams will also attend an annual visit to an effective ministry site as a part of this process and help the pastor lead a training event back in their home congregation.

Participants will receive education regionally, generally driving to regional centers where they will meet with others from their neck of the woods. They will be linked with five others for the journey – forming cohorts of six people who will travel the three years together as co-learners. In addition, these cohorts will include subgroups of three where participants will join in peer to peer coaching on a monthly basis to insure accountability and support every step of the way.

Each year will include three experiences: 1). A regional educational week with cohorts gathering for learning key content together, 2). A retreat where cohorts gather for a theme (spirituality, holistic health or a global experience) and on which spouses, if applicable, are invited to attend and learn as well; and 3). A Signature Ministry visit to an effective congregation where the PML Team and the pastors can learn together and discern what leadership practices are used there that inform and develop leadership for where they serve.

The cost for this program is \$1500 per year. In addition, each participant is responsible for travel to and from events and housing and most meals while at these events. The single fee includes tuition for the entire program, so there are no added charges for spouses to attend or for PML Teams to attend when they are included – just their travel, housing and meals. Since most events are delivered regionally, meaning most participants can drive, costs will remain affordable and under the control of the participants. The \$1500 per year fee will not be raised during the three years participants are enrolled.

For answers to questions about the Transforming Leaders Initiative (Ti) contact Dave Daubert at DDaubert@ARenewalEnterprise.com or check out the web site at www.TransformingChurch.org for more information.