

Transforming Leadership Institute: Learning Journey Overview

DO YOU WONDER?

Is the congregation you lead the church God wants it to be?

Where do you find the strength and courage

- . . . to deal with difficult times,
- . . . to innovate,
- . . . to listen to God,
- . . . to be in the world,
- . . . to mobilize God's people,
- . . . to find joy and hope?

Are you curious about what God is up to in you, the congregation, its leaders . . .

. . . and the world?

Ever thinking about committing to a community of innovative leaders?

Transforming Leaders Initiative

Transforming Leaders Initiative is recruiting bright, curious, and innovative ELCA pastors who want to take their leadership skills to the next level through a three year learning journey. We believe that God is calling us into deepened spirituality, catalytic thinking, and new skills in order to engage ourselves as well as our families, congregations, communities, and world in new ways. Though the focus is on pastors, other people are involved including lay leaders and spouses. Learning and accountability is enhanced through a variety of delivery systems. Besides face-to face gatherings, this journey embraces advances made in technology and integrates insights gleaned from a variety of disciplines. The Transforming Leaders Initiative is an expression of TransformingChurch.org, a 501C-3 that equips ELCA pastors for catalytic leadership and fosters renewal in God's church and world.

Over this three year adventure, the curriculum will be 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 Lay Learning Team from the congregation. These people will journey together in developing personal concrete plans for how the ideas can be moved to real practices in ministry. These teams will also attend an annual visit to an effective ministry site 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. Peer learning will occur not only in these large group gatherings, but also through 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 discovery week where the key learning themes are engaged, 2) a retreat where pastors and their spouses, if applicable,

focus on spirituality, holistic health or a global experience, and 3) a visit to a Partner Learning Site where the pastors and lay leaders can learn together and discern effective leadership practices that can inform and develop the leadership for where they serve.

The cost for this program in 2010 is \$1800 per year. In addition, each participant is responsible for travel to and from events, 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 or the lay leaders to participate when they are included – just their travel, housing and meals. Since most events are delivered regionally, costs will remain affordable and under the control of the participants. The \$1800 per year fee will not be raised during the three years participants are enrolled.

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

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EXPLORE TOGETHER

Explore together . . .

- . . . during face-to-face contact as well as online connections
 - Imagine new life unfolding during webinars, team meetings, immersion weeks for content or contextual visits, reading, and online reflection / dialog.
- . . . with other pastors and the many others who are essential to the journey
 - Sense the gifts and energy brought by colleagues, lay leaders, spouses, event presenters, and Transforming Leaders Initiative staff.
- . . . through a “continuous learning journey” where the process is vibrant
 - Know that besides learning from one another and remaining open to new ideas, we also build accountability into our journey through peer-to-peer coaching.
- . . . so that a new kind of leadership is formed in the church and world
 - Visualize people and congregations moving to engage the world with a renewed reality, grace, and hope.
- . . . because God is wanting to be the agent of our transformation.
 - Seek the spiritual vibrancy and maturity that is the essential grounding for catalytic life in the church.