

WISCONSIN CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Leadership and Lay Ministry Training Program

**A THREE-YEAR PREPARATION PROGRAM
FOR CHRIST-CENTERED MINISTRY**

The Leadership and Lay Ministry Training Program seeks to equip individuals to carry out the work of ministry. The program entails three successive one-year modules completed in a cohort. A mixture of individual study, reading and reflection is combined with monthly gatherings held at various locations of hosting WCA Churches.

WHAT IS NECESSARY?

Students will need:

- Open hearts, minds and teachable spirits
- A yearly covenant commitment
- College-level literacy
- Computer and Internet access
- Transportation to "face-to-face Saturdays"
- Church support or participation

WHAT ABOUT ORDINATION?

Congregationalists have long held that ordination and recognition lies with the local church. We also have a hearty and historically strong support of a learned clergy and a learned laity.

Completion of this program is not for the purpose of ordination, but for commissioned and recognized lay ministry. Each student who completes the program will receive a certificate at the end of their third year.

To learn more about the Leadership and Lay Ministry Training program, or to request an application, visit wiscongregational.net

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS

The first year of the program is designed to encourage spiritual growth through the study of the Bible and Christian faith. All church leadership will benefit from the exploration of God's Word and self-discovery.

In their first year, students can expect to take introductory courses on the scriptures and theology as well as congregational history and polity.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

The second year digs deeper into the study of the Scriptures, theology and practical application for ministry.

Courses will cover the entire Bible, from the Pentateuch to Revelation.

MINISTRY APPLICATIONS

The third year will focus on application of ministry techniques including topics such as: teaching, preaching, pastoral care, worship and church administration. Those who are called to be official lay ministers will work with a settled pastor through this last year.

In addition to teaching and preaching, courses will focus on discipleship and missions.