

## 2010-2011 Schedule

### Leadership Training for Ministry

August 30, 2010-June 3, 2011

#### **Intro to the Scriptures and Theology**

Rev. Doug Gray and Pastor Carol Taylor

Class Runs: August 30-December 4, 2010

3 Face-to-Face Saturday Seminars: September 25; October 23; November 20

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#### **Leadership & Ministry Effectiveness**

Rev. Dr. Rick Hartley, D.Min.

Class Runs: January 3-February 26, 2011

2 Face-to-Face Saturday Seminars:  
January 22; February 26

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#### **Spiritual Formation for Self & Service**

Rev. Dr. Stu Merkel, D.Min.

Class Runs: February 28-May 7, 2011  
(with Holy Week off)

2 Face-to-Face Saturday Seminars:  
March 26; April 30

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#### **Living a Holistic Christian Life**

Class Runs: May 2-June 3  
24 hour Retreat Weekend: May 20-21, 2011

## Future Years of the Program

### Solid Foundations for Ministry

**Biblical-Theological Foundations of Ministry  
& Historical-Theological Foundations of  
Ministry**

September 2011-May, 2012

#### **Congregational History and Polity Seminar**

May 2012 (Saturday plus Friday-Sunday  
weekend long) *AND/OR* August, 2012 (M-F  
week long)

### Pastoral Lay-Ministry

**Pastoral Ministry I: Congregational Care**

September 2012-January, 2013

**Pastoral Ministry II: Leadership;  
Administration; and Ethics**

February –May, 2013

**Pastoral Ministry III: Brining All Together in  
Celebration**

May Retreat

## What is the Cost?

The program is an effort and ministry of various Ministers in our area. We ask that you contribute \$20 per course (\$80 for the first year) to help with administrative needs. Other expenses will include: books, lunch costs at the Saturday gatherings, the cost of travel to the Saturday classes, and the May retreat. We promise to keep the costs to a minimum.

## Am I called to Lay-Ministry?

“Lay-ministry” can be a confusing term. Within the Congregational Tradition, there are lay people who have been called by God to assume the role of a vocational pastor of a congregation. Formal training programs aid in preparation for such a calling. Yet, on the other hand, Congregationalists recognize the Bible’s teaching of the priesthood of all believers. We own a tradition of “an every-member ministry” in addition to the vocational ministry. This training program is for both types of lay-ministry in our churches. The first two years of this program are designed for all who minister: those called to be Lay-Ministers and those called to be lay people ministering in other capacities (Sunday school teachers, deacons, trustees, custodians, and even pew warmers). The third year, though not exclusive, is more specific to the Lay-Minister in a pastoral role.

## What about Credentialing?

Congregationalists have long held that ordination and credentialing lies with the local church. Completion of this program does not promise either. The program is designed to help train you to fulfill your calling in whatever ministry capacity you and your church deem fit. Though a certificate is presented to the student at the conclusion of each year, ordination, licensing, and empowerment are conducted by the local church.

The Leadership and Lay-Minister Training Program seeks to equip individuals to carry out the work of ministry. The program entails three successive but individual one-year modules to be completed in a cohort. A mixture of individual study, reading and reflection is combined with online communication and monthly gatherings (at a central place to be determined by each cohort) helps provide a blend of convenient distance-education and face-to-face interaction with instructors and other students. Each module ends with an overnight retreat as a capstone course.

### **Leadership Training for Ministry**

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 through face-to-face class time, reading, and group interaction.

### **Solid Foundations for Ministry**

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

### **Pastoral Lay-Ministry**

The third year is for those called to be lay-ministers. Pastoral duties such as leading worship, counseling, distributing the sacraments, ethical practices are all addressed,

## **What is Necessary?**

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

Interested in joining the 2010-2011 Cohort to begin your journey of training for ministry? Fill out an application and send it to the program administrator.

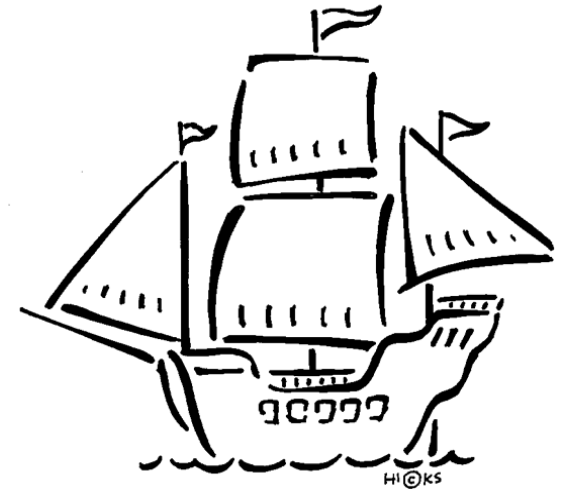
For more information and/or an application to the program

Or contact:

Leadership Training Program  
c/o Rev. Dr. Rick Hartley, D.Min.  
First Congregational Church  
231 Roberts Drive  
Mukwonago, WI 53149  
262-363-7249 office  
262-363-0594 fax  
[rick.fcc@gmail.com](mailto:rick.fcc@gmail.com)

We look forward to walking with you to discover God's plan and will for you and your ministry.

# A CONGREGATIONAL



# LEADERSHIP AND LAY-MINISTER TRAINING PROGRAM