

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN INTERIM PASTORS

Web: www.nalip.net

The Rev. Peter C. Alexander
NALIP Dean of Faculty
Lead Trainer

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

Welcome to the three-phase Basic Education for the Practice of Intentional Interim Ministry course of the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors: Phase I Planting (May 8—12, 2017), Phase II Cultivating Project (Fieldwork), Phase III Harvesting (November 6—10, 2017). You will discover this training program to be one of the most challenging and rewarding continuing education events in which you have ever participated. My trainer colleague and I look forward to working with you in this learning experience.

It is our hope that, if you have not already done so, you will plan to meet with your synodical bishop, district president or other church leadership about your goals for and expectations of this educational event, and/or to debrief afterwards. Clearly, if you become or continue to be an interim pastor following this educational experience, your availability, mobility and capacity for this special ministry are of vital interest to your church body leadership. The completion of this six-month course of study is not a guarantee that you will be asked to serve as an interim pastor at any particular time or place. That is a matter for the leaders in the faith tradition in which you serve. It is, however, a strong indication of your desire to focus your ministry gifts and interests in this ministry for Christ's church and people.

Enclosed with this letter is a page about "Policies" for this course, and also a page for "Pre-Work". It is important that you not only read the policies, but also do the pre-work assignments. The presentations for Phase One will assume you have read the required pre-work readings and understand the concepts and vocabulary.

The first session begins promptly at 1:30 pm on Monday, May 8. Sessions run until 9:00 pm each evening except for Wednesday when we close at 5:30 pm. Morning sessions begin on Tuesday through Friday at 8:00 am. We conclude with Friday lunch. As noted in the Policies, if you are commuting, it is important to you and to the entire group that you arrive on time and not leave sessions early. Plan to have pastoral care coverage in your parish for any of those needs and to not attend any meetings in your parish. Certificates of completion cannot be given to those who miss any sessions.

We trust that this information is helpful to you in planning for this educational event. If you have any questions about the site and arrangements, please contact Pastor Karl Biermann at the Northeastern Ohio Synod office 330-929-9022, ext. 31. In the meantime, we look forward to being with you May 8—12 and again November 6--10, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 3725 Kent Road, Stow, OH 44224.

Sincerely in Christ,

Peter Alexander

POLICIES

Deposit and Registration: Full payment of \$1,145.00 (includes tuition, extensive binder, and meals) is due at the Northeastern Ohio Synod office (1890 Bailey Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221) by **Monday, April 10, 2017**. Accommodations for non-commuters are the responsibility of the participant and are available at Hampton Inn, Stow, OH, 330-945-4160 or 800-426-7866. Hotel registration deadline for the reduced rate is **Tuesday, April 4, 2017**. Just mention NALIP Interim Pastor Training. Tuition cannot be refunded after the beginning of an event. Cancellations prior to the event due to emergencies will result in 25% of the tuition being retained by the co-sponsoring organizations for administrative costs. Registrations are limited and accepted on a first-pay basis. If NALIP cancels an event, your full payment will be refunded. All fees, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice.

Attendance Policy: All participants are expected to attend all sessions of an event from the beginning time to its conclusion. It is important, especially for commuters, to have pastoral coverage arranged prior to your attending the event. A certificate of attendance/completion will not be given to anyone who misses any portion of a session.

Materials: Depending on the event, you will be given a Resource Manual or handout material. The purchase of books and other reading material recommended will be the responsibility of participants.

Room and Board: Some of our events are scheduled with room and board available. Each site has different costs and requirements for payments. We will convey to you the information from the site about availability and cost. Any dietary or other special needs must be handled between the participant and the site staff. Meals and snacks are provided, except for Wednesday dinner (evening on your own!) Friday lunch consists of sandwiches to go.

Fieldwork in Basic Education: Although many of the participants in the Basic Education program will have a ministry site, some may not. The faculty of our NALIP program will help you define options available for the fieldwork phase (Cultivating). Nevertheless, participants are responsible for securing a fieldwork situation in which to do the requirements of the Cultivating Phase, Phase II

Membership: Except for our "Discernment Event", Lutheran participants will be expected to become members of whichever interim pastors' association is for their group (IMA for ELCA, and IMC for LCMS).

(See next page or below for reading list.)

PRE-WORK FOR BASIC EDUCATION

It is expected that your or synod bishop, district president, or other church leadership has knowledge of your attendance at the NALIP Basic Education event.

Required pre-work reading includes:

A Change of Pastors by Loren Mead, Alban Publications
Temporary Shepherds edited by Roger Nicholson, Alban
How Your Church Family Works by Peter Steinke, Alban
Creating A Healthier Church by Ronald Richardson,
Teaching Fish to Walk by Peter Steinke

Additional reading suggestions include:

Generation To Generation by Edwin Friedman, Guilford
Revitalizing Congregations by William O. Avery, Alban
The Fifth Discipline by Peter Senge, Doubleday
A Failure of Nerve by Edwin Friedman
A Door Set Open by Peter Steinke, Alban
Breaking the Missional Code, by Ed Stetzer and David Putman
Transitional Ministries Today, Norman Bendroth, ed.

During Phase One you will be developing personal learning goals for the week, as well as personal learning goals for Phase Two. You may find it helpful to come prepared having reflected upon your learning goals for this event.

If you have not participated in a NALIP Discernment Event, you will also want to have reflected upon your ministry and what it is that leads you to consider intentional interim ministry as a vocational direction. You may also desire to share your reflection with your synod bishop, district president, or other church leadership.