

WHAT'S A CONGREGATION'S COMMITMENT?

- A congregation sends a “Guiding Team” of 4 to 7 lay people to 3 training sessions. The pastor also attends the trainings.
- The Training Sessions will take place at **Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp** on 3 Saturdays from 9am to 3pm (Central Time)
- Cost for Training Sessions is \$300* per congregation which includes meals and a copy of Dwight Zscheile’s book, The Agile Church. (Dr. Zscheile is keynote speaker at the May 2019 Synod Assembly)

*The actual full costs of these trainings are supported by a generous subsidy from the Northern Great Lakes Synod and a Siebert Grant.

Training Schedule & Themes:

June 29 “Tracing God’s Movement in our Lives and Neighborhoods”

September 7 “Learning by Doing: Using Action Learning to Discover God’s Leading”

November 9 “Sharing our Learning: Intentional Reflections on Our Actions”

Coaching

Ongoing, monthly coaching will be provided to each congregation’s lay “Guiding Team”. Separate monthly coaching provided to pastors.

Coaches’ Training

Interested rostered leaders or lay people who want to be a coach for this Faithful Innovations process will be trained by a professional coach.

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR FAITHFUL INNOVATIONS TRAINING TEAM:

God entrusts our congregations with all that is necessary to do what God calls us to do. Yes, that may not be obvious to us at first, but by praying together, through careful listening to the voice of God, by being the church, the living body of Christ, we can and will discern those needs in our community that need attending to by us. (Pastor Keith Kolstad, Zion, Marinette)

The Faithful Innovation learning the Northern Great Lakes Synod has taken part in over the last year is a good fit for wonderers. Part of the “process” the NGLS team has been learning is to go outside some of our usual daily patterns to wonder what God might be up to in people, places of business, neighborhoods, organizations, etc. For congregations this can be an eye-opening experience. (Pastor Ann Gonyea, Eden, Munising)

Faithful Innovation Learning Community (FILC) is, in my view, something new. What makes it new is its foundational premise that God is at work both in the church and beyond the church. FILC extends that idea by looking at the world as a place where God is already at work, with or without the aid of the church. (Pastor Matt Lamb, St. James, Rudyard)

Our faith declares that God is still God. God has got the future. Christ is still Lord. God’s grace changes everything. God’s Spirit is on the move. But, the questions remain: What is God up to now? What is God asking us to join in with? (Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop/DEM)

Faithful Innovations

Learning Communities of Jesus

FOR LAITY, PASTORS,
DEACONS, AND
LICENSED LAY MINISTERS
OF THE NORTHERN GREAT
LAKES SYNOD



During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. (Acts 16:9-10)

HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT
WITH GOD, EACH ANOTHER,
AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

The Northern Great Lakes Synod invites congregational lay leaders, pastors, and licensed lay leaders to take a journey with us as we reimagine church in light of today's changing culture. This is a Spirit-led journey in which we are invited to engage the spiritual practices of listening, discerning, experimenting and reflecting.

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This is not a program to "save your church", but it is an intentional learning process to help you better connect with God, each other, and the world.

Key Features of "Faithful Innovations"

- ✝ Dwelling in God's Word
- ✝ Tracing God's Movement in our Lives & Neighborhoods
- ✝ Action Learning Experiments
- ✝ Intentional Reflection



How will my congregation benefit?

- Training in effective spiritual leadership
- Equipping leaders to discern and respond to God's leading
- Broadening your perspective beyond mere "maintenance"
- Affirming the role of lay people in congregations
- Coaching for laity and pastors
- Training in adaptive communal learning process

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Interested or Have Questions:

Contact Pastor Jim Duehring
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Registration Deadline: June 1, 2019