
Questions and Answers for the Young Adult Leadership Seminar:

What is the Young Adult Leadership Seminar?

The Lamoni Heartland Mission Center Young Adult Leadership Seminar is a 3-year commitment to study and exploration of theology, scripture, spirituality, and contemporary issues relative to discipleship. The program is designed to bring together a small group of seekers, who develop a long-term commitment to each other, and who openly share their insights and questions with each other.

Participants meet three times a year over a three-year period, for a total of 9 weekend sessions. The sessions include tracks that either focus on scripture, theology, or “contemporary issues.” Each session spans a weekend – Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Sessions are facilitated by Community of Christ affiliated ministers/members.

Who can participate in the program?

Any Lamoni Heartland Mission Center member/friend aged 22 and older. Our target participant is between 25 and 40.

Are there any restrictions to participating in the program?

Participants must:

- Be 22 years of age or older
- Not be enrolled as a full-time university/college student
- Be physically capable of attending/participating in the program

What is required of participants in the program?

- Each session requires *preparation* – usually this involves reading one to three college-level books in advance of each session; incorporating prayer/meditation into a study routine; contemplating new insights
- Each session requires *participation* – during discussions participants are encouraged to share their thoughts and insights
- Each session requires active *listening* – sessions are intended as venues for dialogue, not debate; listen to seek an understanding of others’ viewpoints
- Each session requires *time* – away from family, congregation, and other obligations

How do I apply for the program?

- Complete an application form.
- Submit application, no later than January 15, 2008 to the Mission Center Office.

May I nominate/suggest someone as a participant in the program?

YES!!!! Please forward nominations to the Mission Center Office

How many people will be selected to participate?

The class size is limited to **20**; plus the coordinators and session facilitator

When will applicants be notified of selection to participate in the program?

Timeline:

January 15, 2008 – Application Deadline

January 20, 2008 – Notification of selection in the program

February 29, 2008 – First Weekend Session begins

When is the first session?

The first session is scheduled for February 29 – March 2

What is a typical weekend schedule/agenda?

Friday evening: 8:30 pm to 10:00 pm: Welcome/Discussion

Saturday:	8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast
	9:00 am – Noon	Discussion
	Noon – 1 pm	Lunch
	1pm – 4:30 pm	Discussion
	4:30 – 7:30 pm	Dinner
	7:30 – 9:30 pm	Discussion

Sunday:	8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast
	9:00 am – 11:00 am	Discussion
	11:00 am – Noon	Worship
	Noon	Lunch

Where are the sessions held?

Initially the sessions will take place at the home of Brad and Karen Mercer in Lamoni. Later sessions may be rotated or scheduled for other venues.

What are the weekend housing arrangements?

Participants living in the Lamoni area may choose to commute daily. However, participants are still required to attend all portions of each session (including meals).

Otherwise, we will identify families in the area to will host participants.

Are meals provided?

Yes. Participants will pay \$20 per weekend to help with meals.

What is the cost of the program to participants?

The only costs to participants are \$20 per person per weekend to help defray cost of meals and any incidental travel expenses (wear/tear on car, gas, meals on the road, etc.).

All reading material and meals/snacks are covered by the Lamoni Heartland Mission Center budget.

Housing is provided by local Community of Christ member/friends.

Who facilitates the sessions?

Community of Christ affiliated ministers/members.

Who coordinates the program?

Brad and Karen Mercer

What is the role of the program coordinator?

Communications

Promote the program throughout the Mission Center.

Keep the Mission Center informed of the program's activities, schedule, etc.

Keep participants up-to-date, distributing materials

Logistics

Scheduling sessions and facilitators

Arranging for lodging and meals

Tracking expenses

Pastoring

Preparing worships for each session

Attending to participants questions/needs before, during, and after sessions

Liaison with Mission Center

What role do congregations play in this program?

Congregational leaders should free participants from obligations in the congregation during scheduled session. Avoid scheduling participants to serve in worship services or other congregation activities; scheduling important congregation meetings/celebrations during program sessions; and assisting families with child care needs during sessions.

Can family members or friends of participants attend the sessions?

No. Attendance is limited to participants.

Is childcare provided?

No.

Can participants share what is discussed in sessions with family, friends or their congregation?

Participation in the program requires confidentiality to ensure that participants are free to explore ideas. Confidentiality enriches the depth and flow of interchange of ideas and views. Participants can think out loud together, knowing that the context and integrity of the process is safeguarded.

Has this program been offered before?

Yes, the program has been offered in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Texas, Arizona, and Washington.