

More information on the Licensed Lay Pastoral Care Minister Course

What is a Licensed Lay Pastoral Care Minister (LPCM)?

Title III: Ministry Canon 4: Of Licensed Ministries, Sec. 1 (a) allows that *“a confirmed communicant in good standing or, in extraordinary circumstances, subject to guide- lines established by the Bishop, a communicant in good standing, may be licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to serve as Pastoral Leader.”*

This course will be ideal for a lay person who is already serving or plans to serve in some area of ministry in their parish or in an outreach program of their parish that involves working with others who may turn to them and ask for support. The course is designed to assist lay persons in establishing a spiritual presence; making visits in the home, hospital, facility, or hospice; companioning rather than fixing and knowing appropriate boundaries in listening and responding to others. The course is designed to familiarize the lay person with the pastoral resources of *The Book of Common Prayer* and to find the spiritual resources open to them in Scripture, prayer, and worship.

How long is the Bishop’s License valid?

Upon successful completion of the course, the person is licensed by the Bishop for a period of five years and may be renewed. The license may be renewed based on the performance of the ministry by the person licensed, continuing education in the licensed area, and the endorsement of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation in which the person is serving.

Where and when: One class is held per month on a Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (with lunch provided) at the Diocesan Office, 325 North Market Street, Jacksonville, 32202 in the Milam Room. The Saturday dates are March 25, April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15, August 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and Dec. 9.

How many modules are to be completed for the Bishop’s License? There are ten modules that includes an introduction to pastoral care and a course evaluation at completion. The BCP pastoral offices are an integral part of the course as is worship and centering prayer a regular feature of the course lessons, seminars, and practicums. A link to the syllabus is found at the end of this article.

Safeguarding. A licensed LPCM must complete and comply with the guidelines for the Safeguarding God’s People and Safeguarding God’s children programs. Contact Mrs. Sue Engemann at the Diocesan Office for details.

Endorsement by the applicant’s Rector, Vicar or Priest-in-Charge is required for enrollment in the course. The endorsing clergy person affirms that the applicant is an adult in good standing in the parish and that he or she endorses the applicant for this ministry. This is necessary because the Licensed lay pastoral care minister serves under the direction and at the discretion of his or her parish clergy leader.

Required Reading: (subject to change)

- Nouwen, Henri. *The Wounded Healer*. New York: Image Doubleday, 1972.
- Cron & Stabile. *The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery*. InterVarsity Press, 2016.
- Nichols, Michael P. *The Lost Art of Listening*. The Guilford Press, 2009.
- Kubler-Ross, Elizabeth. *On Death and Dying*. Simon & Schuster, 1969.
- *A Family Genogram Workbook*.
- Doka & Martin. *Men Don't Cry, Women Do: Transcending Gender Stereotypes of Grief*. (Selected chapters only, provided by instructor).
- Haugk, Kenneth C. *Christian Caregiving, a Way of Life*. Nashville: Augsburg Press, 1984.

Course Requirements and Written Work:

- Spiritual Autobiography
- Genogram
- Cultural Reflection Paper
- 4 Verbatims
- Final Evaluation

Please note: There will be no late work accepted without prior approval of instructor. Please come to class having read the assigned material and be prepared to discuss.

Class Sessions:

March: **Introduction to Pastoral Care**

The Ministry of Presence
Autobiographical Sharing
Making Visits in the Home, Hospital, Facility, or Hospice
Homework: Read: Nouwen, Henri. *The Wounded Healer*.
Due: Spiritual Autobiography

April: **Understanding Self: How Your Story Affects Your Ministry with Others**

Understanding the Enneagram
Setting Boundaries
Homework: Read: *The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery*
Due: Enneagram Assessment

May: **Spiritual Presence**

Companioning versus Fixing

Centering Prayer Practice
Verbatims: Purpose and Format
Homework: Read Michael P. Nichols. *The Lost Art of Listening*

June: **The Episcopal Pastoral Offices**
Pastoral Response
The BCP Pastoral Offices
Centering Prayer Practice
Homework: Read BCP Pastoral Offices. Ministration to the Sick, Ministration at the Time of Death, and Burial Offices

July: **Grief and Loss Part 1**
Understanding Modern Grief Theories, Responses to Grief
Centering Prayer Practice
Verbatim Sharing and class discussion
Homework: Read Elizabeth Kubler Ross. *On Death and Dying*.
Due: Verbatim 1

August: **Grief and Loss Part 2**
Understanding Modern Grief Theories, Responses to Grief
Centering Prayer Practice
Verbatim Sharing and class discussion
Homework: Read Elizabeth Kubler Ross. *On Death and Dying*.
Due: Verbatim 2

September: **Countertransference and Family Systems Theory**
Understanding Countertransference
Centering Prayer Practice
Sharing Cultural Reflection Papers and class discussion
Homework: Read *A Family Genogram Workbook*
Due: Genogram & Cultural Reflection Paper

October: **Caring for Diverse Communities**
Gender, Race, and Culture in Pastoral Care
Verbatim sharing and class discussion
Homework: Read selected chapters from Doka & Martin. *Men Don't Cry, Women Do: Transcending Gender Stereotypes of Grief*
Due: Verbatim 3

November: **Christian Caregiving as a Way of Life**
Centering Prayer Practice
Verbatim sharing and class discussion
Homework: Read Haugk, *Christian Caregiving, a Way of Life*
Due: Verbatim 4

December: Evaluations and Celebration