

EMERGING LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY

Emerging Leaders Applicant



LETTER TO APPLICANTS

The Far West Region is taking on a new venture to develop lay leaders within the RCA that provides us a stronger future with a more robust and diverse leadership. There are many resources, learning communities, and educational pathways, for those who are, or seek to be, in vocational and pastoral ministry. Not as many opportunities exist for those who are in the marketplace, plan to stay there, yet seek to serve locally within their church and denominational assemblies.

We are developing a learning community focused solely on emerging lay leaders. Focused training from highly gifted leaders, authors, and experts, in various fields of ecclesiastical leadership skills, will be the focus. The outcome will be the cultivation of equipped lay leaders who will then pass on their training and development to others.

A picture of what the “bullseye” would be for this learning community would be equipping in all the areas we look for in our Classis Presidents or Servant Team leaders. This is focusing on the skills it takes to serve the larger church in leadership, governance, and care.

We are taking applications over the summer, and will interview applicants this fall. The first cohort will launch after the first of the year, and be comprised of 12 individuals across the Far West Region, 2 from each Classis, that are able to commit to a 12-18 month process of focused learning. We are looking for the best and brightest young leaders, who are not vocationally employed by the the local church or Classis, but also have influential roles of leadership.

Diversity is also an area of value, as we aim at giving opportunity to millennials, women, people of color, and marketplace leaders. If possible, leaders who are multi-lingual would be very welcomed in this first learning community, so that through their reproduction of what they learn can begin to cross language barriers.

This letter is because either your Classis, church, or both, has recommended you for this learning community. It is important that you are both interested and committed to this as. Take a look at the following attributes and requirements, and consider if this might be you.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR IN AN APPLICANT

- ▶ Millennials and younger leaders are preferred, but not required
- ▶ Looking for people of color and women, not just men
- ▶ Not on staff at church or ministry - must be a lay leader
- ▶ Experience in the marketplace, or business backgrounds, are desired/preferred
- ▶ Fluent in English, but someone multi-lingual would be given a preference
- ▶ No particular educational needed but must be able to keep up with the readings and discussions and able to lead others through material as well

- ▶ Able to commit to 12-18 month process
- ▶ Able to travel to two (2) in-person gatherings during that time
- ▶ Able to travel to and participate in Regional/Denominational meetings
- ▶ Able to participate in local classis leadership meeting (even as an onlooker - no need to have a particular role in classis)
- ▶ Able to have a leadership role in their local church, and able to try learned skills out in local church context
- ▶ Leadership roles in local church have to be actual roles of spiritual leadership, not like hospitality role, or usher/greeter
- ▶ Leadership skills, relational bandwidth, spiritual maturity, faith-based lifestyle, and bias towards action (not just talking) are imperative
- ▶ 50/50 approach: learning and doing will be equally required
- ▶ Able to give the needed time to meetings, gatherings, study, and ministry, without being overloaded and overwhelmed
- ▶ Must be willing and able to impart the acquired learning and skills into others (must reproduce) following completion of learning community

If you are considering the Emerging Leaders Community, prayerfully consider the qualifications above. Note some are preferred but not required. If you are interested and believe you fit the qualifications above please follow the steps on the next page.

LEARNING COMMUNITY

Our time learning together will cover a variety of leadership topics such as:

- ▶ Biblical Leadership / Biblical Success
- ▶ Knowing Self / Knowing God
- ▶ Vision Articulation / Implementation
- ▶ Cultural Agility
- ▶ Missional Values Applied Contextually
- ▶ Equipping Leaders and Peers
- ▶ Church Structures (RCA Polity)

APPLICANTS

Each Classis is able to submit up to 4 applicants, of which you are one. Should you pursue this, you will be interviewed and pre-assessed. You are responsible to engage the pre-assessment process with the Regional Synod in a timely manner. It will not be cumbersome, but there may indeed be a few steps (application, digital interview, LPA profile, etc.).

HOW TO APPLY

We need only two things to begin your interview process:

1. Fill out the online application at the following link [APPLICANT CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#) by August 2017.
2. Get a reference from your pastor that he/she can fill out online with the link listed in their document. [PASTORS CLICK HERE FOR REFERENCE LINK](#)

RELATED COSTS

- ▶ The costs of the first pilot cohort will be covered by the Regional Synod
- ▶ The individual will be responsible for some book purchases
- ▶ The individual will be responsible for the investment of time and action
- ▶ The home church and classis of the individual will need to commit to supporting the leader and allowing them opportunity to engage in “doing” ministry as a part of learning



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