

answering a need to

*enhance the vitality,
outreach, and spiritual
growth of the church
through its young
leadership*

Assuring strong leadership and far-reaching vision remains paramount for today's church. The Lewis Fellows program is committed to achieving and sustaining pastoral excellence through leadership development, group study, spiritual formation, and engagement with exemplary leaders.

The program will help good pastors become even more effective ministers. The Lewis Fellows experience will enrich the lives and ministries of its participants and give them new skills and new vision for their ministry in the years ahead. The program will deepen the pastors' spiritual grounding and ability to respond creatively to the challenges of church leadership through support, faith sharing, study, and reflection in a peer setting.



enriching

*the lives and ministries
of young clergy*

Designed to provide leadership preparation for revitalizing congregations, the Lewis Fellows Program builds on Wesley Theological Seminary projects to encourage and nurture young clergy.



The Lewis Fellows Program is for clergy who are...

- Currently serving full-time in ministry.
- Out of seminary at least three years, and not longer than ten years.
- Age thirty-five or younger.



Lewis Center
for Church Leadership

The G. Douglass Lewis Center for Church Leadership is building a new vision for church leadership grounded in faith, informed by knowledge, and exercised in effective practice. The Center brings together theology and management, scholars and practitioners, research and application. Theological students, congregational leaders, and denominational officials all benefit from the resources provided by the Lewis Center on their journey to become visionary church leaders.

The Lewis Center supports the mission of Wesley Theological Seminary, a leading theological school with all the opportunities that its location in the nation's capital affords. As a church-based seminary, Wesley seeks to advance the theological and leadership preparation of Christian leaders for their faithful service in the church and in society.

Since its beginning in 2003, the Lewis Center has received major foundation funding for its innovative programs, has established a publishing partnership with Abingdon Press (*Discoveries: Insights for Church Leadership* series), and has provided consulting for denominational and ecumenical bodies. The Center is guided by a Steering Committee of exemplary leaders from many fields of endeavor.

Lovett H. Weems, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership, is Executive Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership. Previously he was a seminary president for eighteen years and a local church pastor for many years prior to that. The author of several books, his latest is *Take the Next Step: Leading Lasting Change in the Church*.

For more information about the Lewis Fellows program, contact Dr. Weems at lovettw@wesleyseminary.edu, or 202-885-8621. For more information about the Center, visit the Lewis Center website: www.churchleadership.com.

The Lewis Fellows program is made possible by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., as part of their Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Initiative.

achieving excellence

in pastoral leadership



Lewis Center
for Church Leadership

Lewis Fellows

A Program of the
G. Douglass Lewis Center for Church Leadership
Wesley Theological Seminary



establishing

a vision for tomorrow's church

The Lewis Fellows program will help pastoral leaders to...

- provide the requisite leadership appropriate for their congregation
- articulate a vision for the church
- exemplify spiritual leadership skills



responding

creatively to the challenges of tomorrow's church

Congregations will benefit from their pastoral leader's participation in the program by experiencing...

- new vision and spiritual energy in worship, program, community outreach, and service
- a pastoral leader who is a confident and competent leader
- evidence of growth

creating

a network of pastors committed to leadership and equipped as resources

Lewis Fellows may be invited to become instructors and resource persons for future expanded leadership programs enhancing pastoral, congregational, and denominational vitality.

Lewis Fellows will have the opportunity to continue their collegueship and growth through future conferences designed for Lewis Fellows.

Content

The group's work will be built around a comprehensive definition of excellence in ministry that relates to three primary categories:

- Character - who a leader is in terms of wholeness, spiritual authenticity, and integrity.
- Competence - what a leader *does* in the diverse areas of pastoral ministry.
- Contribution - what a leader *accomplishes* to advance the mission of making new disciples, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the world.

Lewis Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in worship and spiritual formation.
- Engage in theological reflection related to leadership.
- Learn from outstanding leadership theorists.
- Identify individual strengths and weaknesses using the best available leadership assessment tools.
- Dialogue with outstanding ministry practitioners.
- Explore successful models of ministry.
- Explore new ministry projects with guidance and support from the group.
- Receive ongoing input and support from peers.

Leadership

The Lewis Fellows program brings together outstanding resource persons from the theological academy, secular fields, and the ecumenical community. It also draws on the expertise of the Lewis Center staff and the Wesley Theological Seminary faculty.

Meeting Times

Lewis Fellows groups come together several times a year for three-day sessions, over two calendar years. A schedule of meeting dates, times, and locations is determined before the group is formed. Meetings are held at a hotel or conference center that affords easy access to resources and transportation services. Participants in the program must commit to attending all of the sessions.

Design

The Lewis Fellows program is designed around colleague groups composed of men and women who share a commitment to excellence in pastoral leadership for the transformation of lives, congregations, and denominations. The program is designed to be ecumenically, theologically, and ethnically diverse in composition.

Fellowships and Grants for the Lewis Fellows Program

The cost of the Lewis Fellows Program is \$10,000 per participant. Through a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Wesley Theological Seminary is able to offer a fellowship to invited participants covering all the costs of the program including travel, meals, and housing.

