

## About the Lewis Fellows

The Lewis Fellows program is a post-graduate, post-ordination leadership development opportunity for young clergy offered by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary. The program brings together outstanding young clergy (generally under the age of 35) for intensive leadership development activities and sustained peer interaction. Over 200 clergy from over a dozen denominations have been Fellows since 2005.

### Program Overview

Each year, the Lewis Center selects an ecumenical group of outstanding young clergy to be part of a learning community that meets together three times over the course of a year for four-day meetings (Monday – Thursday), generally held in a hotel or conference center. Each cohort engages in a learning agenda facilitated by the staff of the Lewis Center. Group activities include presentations on leadership themes; group discussion; site visits; the use of a leadership assessment instrument, and worship. Fellows prepare in advance through assigned reading and occasionally through the completion of additional pre-work. Two units of Continuing Education Credit (2 CEUs) are issued for each of the three gatherings.

**Eligibility Requirements.** The Lewis Fellows program seeks applicants who:

- Are motivated by a desire to be fruitful in ministry by developing their personal leadership
- Are under the age of 35
- Are at least two years but no more than ten years beyond seminary
- Serve in a congregational setting
- Reside in the continental United States (due to travel budget limitations)

Because there are many more qualified young clergy than can be accommodated in any one year, participants are selected in a manner that promotes group diversity in terms of gender, racial/ethnic background, denominational affiliation, geography, educational experience, and theological perspective.

### 2017-18 Program Dates

Meeting dates and locations for 2017-18 are:

- October 2 - 5, 2017 — Kansas City Area
- January 22-25, 2018 — Fort Lauderdale/Miami Area
- April 16-19, 2018 — Washington, DC Area

Fellows must commit to attending all cohort gatherings.

### Program Expenses and Costs

There is a single fee of \$1,000 for participation. This fee is payable in two installments of \$500 — one due by June 30, 2017, and the other due by August 30, 2017. Since CEU credit is provided, often participants are able to draw some of their fee from continuing education funds from their congregation or judicatory. Others are often supported by other funds from their congregations or judicatories, by sponsors, or from funds they would use for other learning opportunities. The overwhelming share of the costs of each individual's participation in the program is underwritten by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership with the generous support of the Lilly Endowment. Thus, meals and lodging during cohort gatherings are provided free of charge and most travel expenses are reimbursable.

### Application Deadlines:

Those wishing to be considered for the next cohort may apply now through March 31, 2017. Those accepted will be notified by May 1, 2017.

### For More Information.

Questions can be directed to [Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr.](#), Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, or [Dr. Ann A. Michel](#), Associate Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership.