

## LIFELONG LEARNING on the Iowa District!

The Manual of the Church of the Nazarene states that “once a minister has fulfilled the requirements of a validated course of study for ministry, he or she will continue a pattern of lifelong learning to enhance the ministry to which God has called him or her. A minimum expectation is 20 hours of lifelong learning each year or the equivalent determined by the region/language group and stated in their regional Sourcebook on Ordination. [we use 20 hours] All assigned and unassigned licensed and ordained ministers shall report on their progress in a program of lifelong learning as part of their report to the district assembly.” Further, “failure to complete the lifelong learning requirements for more than two consecutive years shall result in the ordained minister being required to meet with the District Ministerial Studies Board at its regular meeting time. The District Ministerial Studies Board shall give guidance to the minister in completing the lifelong learning required.” (Manual 2017-2021, para. 529.6, 529.7) As part of *Team Iowa*, and part of *Team Nazarene*, seems pretty straight forward!

### **Q – What qualifies as lifelong learning (LL)?**

A - Lifelong learning involves participating in opportunities that contribute significantly to the development of their abilities and understanding as a minister of the gospel. Conferences, district training seminars, continuing education courses from educational institutions or professional groups, webcasts, reading a professional journal, and joining others in reading and discussing a book are examples of activities that qualify as lifelong learning. Such activities qualify whether accessed online or attended in person. ([nazarene.org/lifelong-learning](http://nazarene.org/lifelong-learning))

### **Q – What are some LL opportunities?**

- **District hosted ministry resourcing event (MRE)** – these typically provide at least 4 hours of LL engagement. Other opportunities such as the Dynamic Church Planting International (DCPI) training will often fulfill the entire 20 hours, or more. For the MREs, they are typically recorded. Contact Pastor Tammy Gauer at the District Office and request the link to the YouTube video.
- **Grace and Peace Magazine** ([graceandpeacemagazine.org](http://graceandpeacemagazine.org)) – we receive the hard copy magazine quarterly. The web site is also available with electronic archived copies as well as videos covering various events and topics. Depending on our reading speed, each magazine will probably yield approximately 2 hours of LL.
- **Nazarene Bible College Institute for Ministry Enrichment** ([nbcime.com](http://nbcime.com)) – these are online courses costing \$60 and each earns 20 LL hours. Each class is 4 weeks long with an estimated 5 hours per week of involvement.
- **Nazarene Theological Seminary Center for Pastoral Leadership** ([nts.edu/center-for-pastoral-leadership](http://nts.edu/center-for-pastoral-leadership)) – subscription cost is \$99 per year or \$10 per month (limited time offer of 50% off the monthly subscription for one year). Video resource library, events, and courses are available. Some events/courses have an additional cost.
- **Local or online college courses, Discipleship Place webinars, etc.**

There are a host of ways to complete this requirement...if you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave Jareo at [dave.jareo@gmail.com](mailto:dave.jareo@gmail.com) and we will get you going! Now, that the hours are met, you need to “self-report” their completion at the **Lifelong Learning Registry** ([learning.nazarene.org/location](http://learning.nazarene.org/location)). Go to [nazarene.org/lifelong-learning](http://nazarene.org/lifelong-learning) for guidance in setting up your account for the first time! Again, questions, see above. It is a privilege as well as sacred responsibility to be a minister of the gospel. Growing and maturing throughout these seasons of life is both our responsibility and joy!