

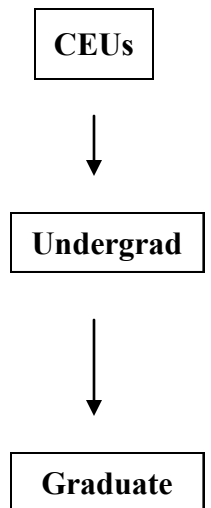
## Overview of Lancaster Mennonite Conference's Leadership Development Programming

Lancaster Mennonite Conference (LMC)'s Leadership Development program equips pastors and congregational leaders by offering learning opportunities at different levels of rigor and engagement. The most appropriate level of study for each learner depends on experience, level of prior education, ministry setting, personal interests, time constraints and long-term goals.

- An evening [Orientation for Newly Credentialed Leaders](#) is held each spring at the Conference Office. Participants receive an overview of LMC's identity, vision, and mission and have a chance to meet Conference Office staff, bishops, and other leaders.
- The [Anabaptist Institute for Ministry Enrichment \(AIM\)](#) provides economical, practical courses for adult learners in Anabaptist-related congregations and agencies. Students earn non-credit, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) by completing seminars in personal and spiritual formation, history and theology, Bible, ministry skill development, and mission and culture. Discovery is a continuing education seminar.
- [STEP \(Study and Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry\)](#) is a part-time program designed for pastoral leaders or those exploring a call to pastoral ministry. Over three years, students earn 30 undergraduate credit hours from EMU. The curriculum integrates many topics, skills and personal growth elements. Students meet as a cohort for the entire program. Graduates receive a fully accredited undergraduate Certificate in Pastoral Ministry, and may supplement their STEP credits to earn an Associates Degree in Pastoral Ministry.
- [Gateway Courses](#) are a series of four two-credit seminary courses – one per semester on a two-year cycle – that focus on Anabaptist identity formation. Pastors and congregational leaders who want to be better grounded in the Anabaptist perspective on the Christian faith are encouraged to enroll. Eastern Mennonite University offers the Gateway courses in collaboration with the Mennonite Conferences in southeastern Pennsylvania. Non-credit students may elect to receive AIM CEUs for their participation.

The four Gateway courses are: 1). Anabaptist History and Theology, 2). Anabaptist Hermeneutics and Bible Survey, 3). Missions and Peace, and 4). Anabaptist Polity and Leadership Effectiveness

- [Leadership Education Grants](#) provide support for anyone from LMC congregations who is pursuing further training in pastoral ministry or congregational leadership. Application deadlines are January 31 or July 31. LE grants
- [LMC's Director of Leadership Development](#) is also available to consult with any current or emerging leader regarding customized leadership training options that they would like to offer or receive. Our office also regularly circulates information through email and the LMC Resource Packet about Upcoming Events planned by other organizations.



## The Place to Explore, Equip and Expand Horizons for Ministry

Eastern Mennonite Seminary has a strong record of preparing pastors, mission workers and leaders for the church of today and tomorrow. At its extension site in southeastern Pennsylvania, EMS offers a flexible array of non-traditional learning opportunities. These are designed so that students can choose what is right for them in pursuing God's call to ministry. One size does not fit all. Much depends on a variety of factors: ministry experience, level of education, ministry setting, personal interests, time constraints and long-term goals. Students can select what is right for them for their current ministry needs.

- Most courses are offered on a [Non-credit or Continuing Education](#) basis for persons who have an active interest in the topic or ministry skill but are not pursuing an academic goal. This option reduces cost and enlarges the pool of participants beyond pastors to others involved in congregational leadership and Christian ministry.
- The [STEP Program \(Study and Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry\)](#) is a part-time, three-year training course of study designed for pastoral leaders – or those exploring a call – who don't have college or Bible school training. Over three years, students earn 30 college-level credit hours. The curriculum integrates many topics, skills and personal growth elements; students meet as a cohort for the entire program. Graduates receive a fully accredited undergraduate Certificate in Pastoral Ministry; the credit can be applied toward an Associate Degree. STEP is not available for non-credit.
- [Gateway Courses](#) are a series of four courses – one per semester on a two-year cycle – that focus on Anabaptist identity formation. Pastors and congregational leaders who want to be better grounded in the Anabaptist perspective are encouraged to enroll. EMU offers the Gateway courses in collaboration with the Mennonite Conferences in southeastern Pennsylvania. Courses can be taken for college credit or for non-credit.
- The [Preaching Institute](#) is an in-service training program for men and women who want to improve their preaching. It is a preaching course that travels and has been offered in Florida, Kansas, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio. Preaching Institute works with groups of 6-12 pastors in a given region over a nine-month period. Students can take the Institute for non-credit or for three credit hours at the graduate seminary level.
- [Master of Divinity Degree & Graduate Certificates](#). Several courses are offered each semester by qualified instructors. Most of these courses meet the Master of Divinity core curriculum requirements of EMS. Students can earn credit toward a Certificate in Ministry or a Certificate in Theological Studies which can be applied toward a graduate-level degree. In most courses students earn three credit hours; many of these courses are also available for non-credit students.

Basic



Advanced