



May 1, 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

Subject: LLEP: Congregational Participant Plan

Greetings in the name of our friend and guiding light, Jesus Christ. Although this pandemic has changed the way we do everything, and unfortunately forced us to seek shelter apart from one another, God has been and still is faithful. Relying on that faithfulness, strength, and love, our congregations have continued to reach out into their communities to minister with compassion, urgency, and a passion for all people. Yes, we may have been impacted by a radical shift in the way we do things, but the call to serve all creation has not been abandoned!

Your partner in ministry, the Canadian Region, has been hard at work to create an education program for all of those who are actively serving across the life of the church. We heard the call from you to help equip leaders to build skills, deepen faith, explore spirituality, and develop new leaders so that the vital ministry we all share can flourish in these challenging times. The Lay Leader Education Program is designed specifically to build the confidence and enrich the gifts already present in Canadian Disciples across the country. It is affordable, accessible, and features amazing Canadian Disciples' educators who are enthusiastic about sharing their gifts in a variety of fields.

We want to encourage all of our congregations to consider how this program might benefit the work you are already doing in your part of the vineyard. To assist getting as many Disciples involved as possible, we are offering an opportunity for congregations to sponsor multiple learners from their own congregations. While we have set the registration fees at a low rate for all courses (\$30/course), we also recognize that cost may still be a deterrent for some. The Congregational Participant Plan enables congregations to enrol as many learners as they like for the low cost of \$150/course.

This means that if you have a group within your church that is interested in learning about Pastoral Care or Disciples Theology, your congregation can register as many as you like for each course at a cost of \$150 per course. If you have a group of people that want to enrol in the full eight course Certificate Program (normally would be \$240/per person), the cost would be \$1,200 TOTAL for as many as would like to take the full program! Imagine the abundance of gifts, skills, spiritual growth, new opportunities for service and ministry, and enthusiasm that will come with equipping members of your congregation.

I am happy to chat with you to discern how this program will benefit and bless your congregation and ministry. If you require any further information, kindly be in touch via telephone (519) 731-4629 or email at rm@canadadisciples.org. Please visit www.canadadisciples.org for more information and to register.

Sincerely,

Rev Dr Jennifer Garbin, BA, MDiv, DMin
Regional Minister