

Interested?

Here are the steps. . .

1

Church leaders pray over, discuss, and approve their congregation's participation.

2

Apply at www.css-elca.org/ or contact Rev. Donna Simon at dsimon@css-elca.org by Sept. 9, 2022.

3

Upon approval, congregations assemble a guiding Team of 4-6 members who attend trainings on behalf of the congregation.

A registration fee of \$500 helps cover the cost of three Saturday workshops and monthly coaching. The full cost of Faithful Innovation is subsidized by your generosity and mission support to the Central States Synod and a Congregational Vitality grant from the ELCA. Financial aid is available if needed.

SYNOD GUIDING TEAM

- **Melba Bangert**
lay leader, Kent Memorial,
Sunrise Beach, MO
- **Lee Bennight,**
pastor, Disciples of the Plains Parish,
Stuttgart, Kansas
- **Roy Christell,**
retired pastor,
Lake St. Louis, Missouri
- **Kendra Nolde,**
retired Director for Evangelical Mission,
Central States Synod
- **Donna Simon,**
Director for Evangelical Mission,
Central States Synod
- **Tom Wehrman,**
pastor, St. John's,
Pittsburg, Kansas

QUESTIONS



Contact:
CSS Director for
Evangelical Mission,
Rev. Donna Simon
dsimon@css-elca.org



Faithful Innovation

Central States Synod, ELCA

Discover the unique story God wants to tell through your congregation. Get ideas, inspiration and tools for ministry. Enjoy the support of interactive workshops and ongoing coaching. Pray, learn and walk together with other Central States Synod congregations.

What's it all about?

Participating congregations will be discerning their unique answer to this question:

“As we listen to God, one another, and our neighbors, what future do we imagine God is bringing forth in our midst?”

What is a Learning Community

A learning community is a group of congregations who commit to one another in a nine-month process. Through prayer, skill-building, action and reflection they seek to deepen their ability to listen to God, one another, and their neighbors. The experience includes three Saturday workshops, monthly meetings with a coach, and engaging the congregation in simple experiments and activities.

How will my congregation benefit?

- Train effective lay spiritual leaders through workshops and coaching.
- Learn to discern and respond to God's leading.
- Deepen your congregation's spirituality.
- Build connections with other congregations and community organizations.
- Engage and inspire your membership.
- Affirm your faith that God has a vital role for your congregation to play.

What's the Process?

Three Trainings. . .
Nine months
Gathered in clusters
in central locations
across the synod.

Training I
September 24, 2022
9 AM - 2 PM

Training II
January 21, 2023
9 AM - 2 PM

Training III
April 29, 2023
9 AM - 2 PM

Interested?
Contact Donna Simon
dsimon@css-elca.org
816-419-5575