

Class Schedule

Winter 2023 Practicum

- Pastoral Care with Lisa Watson

April 14-15, 2023

- Formation for Mission

July 23-28, 2023 at Synod School

- Old Testament: Cameron Howard
- Preaching with Tim Slemmons

October or November 2023 in person

- Spiritual Development with Gary Neal Hansen

Winter 2024 Practicum

- Worship & Sacraments

March 2024 in person

- Leadership 101 with Deb DeMeester

July 21-26, 2024 at Synod School

- Reformed Theology
- New Testament or
- Leadership & Church Administration

October 2024 at Lakeshore Center

- Polity with Pam Prouty



The Academy is a joint effort of and underwritten by the following entities:

- Presbytery of East Iowa
- Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
- Presbytery of Missouri River Valleys
- Presbytery of North Central Iowa
- Presbytery of Northern Waters
- Presbytery of Prospect Hill
- Synod of Lakes and Prairies

The Academy



**Deepening faith and
encountering Christ in a
new way**



*There is not one
blade of grass,
there is no color
in this world
that is not
intended to
make us rejoice.*

-John Calvin

An Invitation

Would you like to

- grow in your faith and knowledge?
- grow as a leader?
- have more opportunities to serve God as needed in your area?

We invite you to consider joining The Academy, a unique, cohort-based learning community.

What is The Academy?

Simply put, it is a series of 11 courses designed to develop well equipped, thoughtful people to better serve councils in a variety of capacities. For

some this may lead to becoming commissioned ruling elders (CREs) while others delight in learning and growing as a leader. We are lining up some of the finest instructors we can find!

Where will this be held?

A new Academy group will begin each summer at the Synod School of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, IA.

Each fall and spring a weekend class will be held in person at a retreat center centrally located for the group.

In the winter each year there will be a practicum that will include some lecture content online but a lot of hands on experiences and conversations with pastors to eliminate the need for mid-winter travel.

What is the cost to me?

Tuition: If you are a member of a participating presbytery, the tuition is \$1,375/person for all 11 courses (which will fulfill the educational requirements to become a CRE). If your presbytery is not a partner, each class will be \$175 or \$1,925.

Other expenses: Each participant will purchase required books, pay annually for room and board at Synod School (approximately \$260/double or \$300/single), as well as travel and room/board expenses for Fall and Spring classes. The Synod of Lakes and Prairies will provide a Synod School scholarship of \$100/summer for Academy participants.

“True wisdom
consists in
two things:
Knowledge
of God and
Knowledge
of Self”

John Calvin

To register, go to:

<https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/the-academy/>