



The Education for Leadership Ministry program, better known as ELM, began in 1998 as a joint project of the Nebraska Conference United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska through the Cotner College Educational Ministries. In 2004, the Central and Homestead Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church, and in 2009 the Missouri River Valley Presbytery joined and helped fund the program. In 2007, the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska joined in the program. ELM was established to provide quality education for persons as they seek to prepare for commissioned or lay leader ministry within the congregations of those traditions. The program is a three-year course of study that can lead to commissioned/certified lay ministry.

2014-2017

1. Hebrew Scriptures: Approaches & Overview
2. Spiritual Companions Retreat
3. Christian Scriptures: Approaches & Overview
4. Methods of Biblical Interpretation
5. Developing Theological & Ethical Perspectives
6. Denominational History, Theology, Mission & Polity *
7. American Church History
8. Church History
9. Designing for Education
10. Organizing for the Local Church
11. Mentor Student Retreat
12. Denominational History, Theology, Mission & Polity *
13. Comparative Religions
14. Worship, Sacraments & Ordinances
15. Pastoral Care
16. Parish Assessment & Planning
17. Preaching
18. Denominational History, Theology, Mission & Polity *

Graduation – First Saturday – October 2017

ELM Class 9 will begin with a Gathering Retreat, August 22, 23, 24, 2014, at Camp Comeca near Cozad, NE.

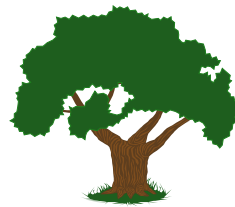
Student costs for the Gathering Retreat are program fees, room & board, and transportation.

The Gathering Retreat is prerequisite for all ELM students.

** Students are required to take 3 of the 4 denominational History, Theology, Mission & Polity courses that are offered.*

Times and Places:

- All courses (with the exception of the History, Theology, Mission & Polity courses) **begin at 7:00 p.m. on Fridays and end no later than 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays.**
- Classes meet at Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska, unless otherwise stated in the final schedule.



Audit Courses

Any individual may attend and audit any or all of the courses offered. Cost: \$60.00 per course, plus cost of books, over-night lodging, meals and transportation. Contact Sharon Shields at the Cotner Office for further information.

To pass each course:

- Class attendance and participation are mandatory.
- Each class will have a pre-course assignment, mid-course assignment, and a final paper or project.
- Satisfactory completion of each course is determined by the professor.
- Pass/fail system – there are no grades.

Spiritual Companions:

Students are required to have a Spiritual Companion who is an ordained pastor, but not the pastor of the student's home congregation or a family member. The Spiritual Companion must be approved by the ELM Staff and must be UCC, Disciple, Presbyterian or American Baptist. Students and Spiritual Companions meet together regularly for discussion and reflection and, at least once during the two years, are expected to participate together in a 24-hour retreat.

Costs:

- Course Fees: \$100.00, payable one-half (\$50.00) at each session.
- Textbooks
- Students are responsible for over-night lodging, transportation, meals, and any other miscellaneous costs.
- Scholarship assistance may be available. Contact your judicatory office.

Enrollment:

A student must:

- Be an active member of a local UCC, Disciple, Presbyterian, or American Baptist church.
- Submit a completed *Student Application*. (Form available from Cotner)
- Request of his/her pastor a written "Pastor's Recommendation" to be furnished directly to Cotner by the pastor. (Form available from Cotner)



**EDUCATION FOR LEADERSHIP MINISTRY
(ELM)**

**Student Application
and
Pastor's Recommendation Form
may be obtained from:**

**Cotner College Educational Ministries
1268 South 20 Street, Lincoln, NE 68502
402-474-3207 - 800-580-8851**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

**Sharon Shields, Program Administrator
Cotner College Educational Ministries**

**e-mail: shieldscotner@windstream.net
402-474-3207 or 800-580-8851**

JUDICATORY REPRESENTATIVES

Nebraska Conference United Church of Christ

Roddy C. Dunkerson, Conference Minister
402.477-4131 – roddy@uccnebraska.org

Central Nebraska Presbytery

Robert Houser, Executive Presbyter
308.236.6996 – bhouser@centralnepresby.org

Homestead Presbytery

Richard O. Wyatt, Executive Presbyter
402.613.7565 – richardw@homesteadpres.org

Missouri River Valley Presbytery

Sara Dingman-Lavigne, Interim Executive Presbyter
402.553.8301 – sara@pmrv.org

American Baptist Churches of Nebraska

Robin Stoops, Executive Minister
402.556.4730 – rstoops@abcnebraska.com

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

James W. Gordon, Interim Regional Minister
Sharon Shields, Cotner Program Administrator
Regional Minister for Leader Development
402.474.3207 – shieldscotner@windstream.net

**For ELM 9 beginning August 22, 23, 24, 2014
(Rev. March 13, 2013)**

Cotner College
Educational Ministries
1268 South 20 Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

**EDUCATION FOR
LEADERSHIP MINISTRY:
MINISTRY OF THE BAPTIZED**

**COTNER COLLEGE
EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES
1268 S 20 STREET, LINCOLN, NE 68502**



	Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) In Nebraska
	Nebraska Conference United Church of Christ
	Central Nebraska Presbytery Homestead Presbytery Missouri River Valley Presbytery
	American Baptist Churches of Nebraska

