

PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
CHURCH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL
Dr. Fred Van Itallie, Emeritus Dean of CLS
JULY 28, 2015

The Presbytery is pleased to recognize the students that have completed a two-year Church Leadership School Program. The Church Leadership School is a program of the Presbytery that is managed by the Commissioned Lay Pastors Sub-Committee under the Committee on Ministry. The program is designed for persons desiring to increase their faith and knowledge, to strengthen their church and expand their ministry, and for elders desiring to serve as Commissioned Lay Pastors.

The course work for the Church Leadership School includes Bible, Theology, Church History, Worship and Sacraments, Christian Education, Preaching, Pastoral Care, Polity, and Church Leadership. This program is an exciting opportunity to learn and grow for members of our churches.

The Church Leadership School is one of the Presbytery's best-kept secrets. The program provides opportunities for individual growth in faith, knowledge, and leadership, and graduates have the opportunity to become catalysts for change and growth in their congregations and in the presbytery. Three people completed the current two-year program. These graduates join more than 100 other graduates, of which, twenty-six are Commissioned Lay Pastors within our Presbytery. In addition, there are students who have completed one or more of the required six quarters.

When asked why they continued to drive long distances, study between classes, and sit from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. two Saturdays a month, participants said they felt called by God to be there, were challenged by excellent teachers, and encouraged by one another. Members said they grew in faith and knowledge, and desired to share that with their church and community.

We ask that each church identify people in their church who would enjoy and benefit from the program. We need your help to get the word out and your support to keep this important resource going. A schedule for the coming year is currently posted on the Presbytery website www.presbyterywnc.org, along with an application. The program offers 165 plus hours of training and class work during this two-year cycle and begins with a September kick-off retreat on Friday evening and Saturday, September 11-12, 2015, that each student is encouraged to attend. The application deadline is August 25, 2015.

The following students completed the two-year program and received certificates at their May graduation:

Daniel Breen (Kenilworth)

Renee Warthen (Ryburn Memorial)

John Pea (Robinson Memorial)