



AMERICAN
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COUNCIL

Summary

The Clergy Leadership Training Institutes Foundations: Developing Anglican Missional Pastors (AMP) program is a two-year (18 one day sessions and 4 retreats) formational training program for newer pastors. The program serves as a character (heart) and skills (hands) supplement to academic training (head). It is ideally suited for graduating seminarians, or clergy in the first years of ordained Anglican ministry. The AMP has also been effective in helping younger leaders transition from being an Assistant to becoming a Rector. The program, led by a seasoned Spiritual Father, consists of three components: 1) monthly formation workshops, 2) retreats, and 3) mentoring

Rationale

Churches frequently expect traditional seminaries to produce well-formed, fully competent pastors. While seminarians usually graduate with biblical and theological sophistication, they often lack spiritual and practical formation—essentials which seminaries are often not suited to provide. There have also been too many clergy who burn out or fail morally due to lack of this kind of “hands” and “heart” training. There is no better place than the local church for practical Anglican missional pastoral formation. The AMP program provides a setting for equipping the next generation of church leaders in the context of local Gospel-centered churches. Participants mature within a covenant learning community and finish with a lifetime commitment to ongoing growth both personally and professionally.

The Anglican Missional Pastors program is structured around six essential pastoral roles:

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| Disciple | A pastor is foremost one who follows and abides in the Lord Jesus Christ and is being transformed by his Spirit. |
| Prophet | Pastors must be prepared to understand, apply, preach and teach the Gospel faithfully in varying contexts. |
| Shepherd | Pastors must love, counsel, discipline, and protect those whom Christ places under their care. |
| Steward | Pastors are called to servant leadership as they administer the affairs of the church. |
| Missionary | Pastors are called to be leaders beyond the walls of the church in the mission of the church in the world. |
| Priest | Pastors follow the example of Christ in leading people to God in worship and prayer. |

AMP Schedule

The program should be viewed as a two-year curriculum. Beginning in August 2021, we will meet for a total of 18 monthly sessions and 4 retreats over two years. Of the 18 monthly meetings, twelve will be held in-person in Jacksonville, FL for an all-day session (beginning at 8:00 am with breakfast and concluding at 4:30 pm), and six will be Zoom meetings interspersed throughout the year.

Here is a basic schedule for the monthly modules:

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| 8:00 | Breakfast |
| 9:00 | Morning Prayer (led by cohort members) |
| 10:00-12:30 | Morning session |
| 12:30-1:30 | Lunch |
| 1:30-2:00 | Midday Prayer/Administrative matters |
| 2:00-4:30 | Afternoon session |
| 4:30 | Departure |

In rotation, the formation modules will focus on one of the following roles present in the life of the minister: prophet, priest, shepherd, steward, missionary, or disciple. Each month, cohort members will read an assigned book or other material on that month's topic. Then, an expert in the field of study will lead the teaching portion of the module. The morning session will be centered on the presentation of the material and the afternoon session will focus on real world application, including case studies and skill-labs. In addition, each participant is required to write up a one-page, single-space summary of the day's material that they will provide to their mentor.

Couple's Retreat

Another major component of this program is a couple's retreat meant to provide the participants with several examples/models of what a ministry couple can look like. This retreat is planned in advance so that everyone has the opportunity to make the necessary plans. The couple's retreat is a required element of the program. The couple's retreat for this cohort is scheduled for June 16-18, 2022 and will be held at Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons, GA.

Morning Prayer

While we will have specific modules that focus on the priestly role in ministry, we will also have the opportunity to hone these skills on a monthly basis. Each month, a participant will be assigned the officiant's role in Morning Prayer.

Mentoring

Each participant is required to have a sponsoring mentor throughout the program, and if at all possible, the mentor should be the Rector/Senior Pastor of the parish where the participant serves. However, when that is not possible, the Rector/Senior Pastor should be engaged in the process of selecting the mentor. The mentor will be responsible for meeting with the participant on a monthly basis and will help walk with them through the implementation of new skills.

Successful mentoring relationships are built on personal relationships, and the mentor must take the lead in laying this foundation with his apprentice. Mentoring is an intended consequence of sharing life together rather than the result of simply meeting by appointment. In other words, mentoring happens 'along the way' as much, if not more, than at a particular time. Your relationship must be rooted in love or nothing much of lasting value will result from it.

Expectations for Mentors

1. Commit yourself to seeking God's best for your apprentice.

Do you pray for him and his family regularly? Do you make an effort to build him up in Christ?

2. Build an intentional relationship out of shared experiences.

Are you committed to 'life on life' with your apprentice? Is he routinely in your home and at your dinner table? Would he say that you know him well? Do you know how he came to faith in Christ? If asked, could you speak with intimate knowledge about his family, his struggles with faith, and his future aspirations in life? Are your meetings in a sufficiently private setting for him to talk with you openly about his deepest concerns? What are you doing to challenge him toward personal holiness? How often are you meeting with him and praying for him? Do you take him along with you whenever possible as you undertake the work of a pastor?

3. Help your apprentice shape and manage ministry responsibilities and objectives.

Does your apprentice have a personalized ministry description in writing? Would both of you articulate his responsibilities in the same way? What personal goals have you set for the year? What ministry skills are being intentionally developed? Is there a meeting on the calendar to address his experiences, expectations, and progress in godliness and Gospel work?

4. Keep up with your apprentice's learning and ministry.

Have you kept up and interacted with him regarding his written reflections and action steps following every monthly Formation Workshop? Have you given him sermon guidance, feedback, and encouragement after every attempt? In January, hold a mid-year review of whether his program experiences are consistent with his expectations. In June, hold an end-of-the-year evaluation to measure his progress in the goals established at the beginning of the year.

Admission & Cost

Applications for the AMP program are being accepted now. There is a non-refundable \$150 fee for registering with the program. Applications are due by May 15, 2021. Very often, one or two of the people who sign up for the program are unable to finish, and this application charge allows us to ensure that the program is solvent. The cost of the program is a total of \$5,000 or two annual payments of \$2,500. You can also pay monthly or quarterly. We strongly urge you to ask your parish or diocese if it can help defray part or all of the expense of the tuition as your participation will ultimately benefit the church you are serving.

Leadership

- The Rev. Cn. Mark Eldredge, AAC Director of Church Development
- The Rev. Cn. Dr. Phil Ashey, AAC President and CEO
- The Rev. Dr. Marc Robertson, Spiritual Director
- The Rt. Rev. Steve Breedlove, Diocesan Bishop, Christ Our Hope
- The Rev. Cn. Dr. Jeff Bailey, Canon for Leadership Development, Christ our Hope
- The Rev. Cn. Art Going, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Christ our Hope

Location

The Anglican Missional Pastor cohorts will gather in-person in Jacksonville, FL at the home of Mark and Ame Eldredge.

About the AAC

The American Anglican Council (AAC) is a network of individuals, parishes, and ministries who affirm biblical authority and Christian orthodoxy within the Anglican Communion. Since 1996 we have sought to uphold biblical faithfulness, maintain a strong prophetic voice, develop catalytic leadership, take apostolic action, find contagious courage, pursue holy integrity, and always hope in the transforming power of prevailing prayer. The mission of the AAC is to build up and defend Great Commission Anglicanism throughout the world by developing leaders, equipping local congregations, and always reforming the Church. Our goal is to help leaders of local, regional, and national Anglican churches and provinces remain faithful to their biblical and apostolic roots, and together, to fulfill Christ's Great Commission in the world. To find out more, visit www.americananglican.org.