



## The Basics

- STEP is a three-year part-time pastoral and leadership training program.
- Students join a cohort that stays together the whole time, sharing life, and building relationships.
- Classes meet one Saturday per month September–May (8:00 am–4:00 pm).
- Homework takes about 4–6 hours each week and is completed and submitted electronically before each Saturday session.
- Participants enroll as LMC students.
- The three years of study yields 30 undergraduate credits awarded by EMU.
- Graduates receive a Certificate in Pastoral Ministry from LMC.
- STEP provides the core courses for an Associates Degree in Pastoral Ministry.

## Staff

**Marcia Mylin**

*STEP Director*

**Mindi J. Hoover**

*Administrative Assistant of STEP*

*"I will remember our class conversations when we discussed pastoral care. There was a near perfect mixture of humor, laughter, discussion and lecture."*

*"I would consider some of my best memories of STEP would be from my cohort. The times that we spent together sharing our life struggles and joys during class, over lunch and outside of class. I felt that our cohort developed a bond of respect, confidentiality and care that was helpful during our time in STEP."*

*"The STEP program has activated many gifts I had left unused."*



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## Study and Training for Effective Pastoral ministry

*Helping leaders grow in love for God, in character, in competence, and in effectiveness.*



## What is STEP?

STEP teaches the basics of congregational ministry leadership – for pastors, those exploring a call, and other leaders. STEP is discipleship training for congregational leaders at the first-year college-level.

STEP is a partnership between Eastern Mennonite University, LMC and other supporting church groups and congregations.

The STEP curriculum is designed for adult learners as part-time study. Actual ministry practice, coupled with assignments and teaching, forms the basis for lively learning in community. Coursework covers

pastoral topics, pastoral skills, and pastoral formation. Year 3 requires each student to complete a missional experiment. STEP uses Google Classroom for electronic delivery and submission of all assignments.



*“It has been wonderful and refreshing to be in a room full of hungry learners. There has been wonderful dialogue and growth through a diverse cohort in church background, experience and culture. I’ve loved this program and the group.”*

## STEP Curriculum

STEP utilizes a fully-developed curriculum with over twelve years of use. A newly revised edition of the STEP curriculum was completed in 2016.

With Colossians 1:9-12, our prayer is that each STEP leader will live worthy of the Lord and please him in every way by...

### Being – transformed and empowered by the Holy Spirit for effective ministry

- ▶ spiritual disciplines
- ▶ character formation
- ▶ prayer
- ▶ study

### Knowing – the truth of God’s Word

- ▶ O.T. survey and N.T. survey
- ▶ Bible study and interpretation
- ▶ church history
- ▶ Confession of Faith

### Doing – activities of ministry

- ▶ preaching
- ▶ teaching
- ▶ pastoral care
- ▶ missional project and outreach

### Leading – God’s people as a servant leader

- ▶ missional leadership
- ▶ administration
- ▶ team building
- ▶ managing conflict

## Tuition and Financial Aid

Standard tuition is \$300 per credit hour or \$3,000 per year. Textbook costs are included.

Congregations and districts are encouraged to assist with the tuition of their students. LMC awards Leadership and Education grants.



*“I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be the kind of person to give a sermon, but now I’ve given a few and I enjoy speaking about God and it’s given me a whole new direction in life.”*

## Learn More

Contact the STEP director to arrange a meeting. You can also visit a STEP class during the school year.

## Apply Online

Select the blue “Apply Now” button on the STEP webpage: [lmcchurches.org/ministries/step/](http://lmcchurches.org/ministries/step/)