

Class Schedule

Winter and Spring 2024

- Worship & Sacraments with Burns Stanfield in person
- Leadership 101 with Deb DeMeester via Zoom

July 21-26, 2024 at Synod School

- Church Leadership with Loren Shellabarger
- Congregational Vitality with Ian McMullen

Fall 2024-Spring 2025

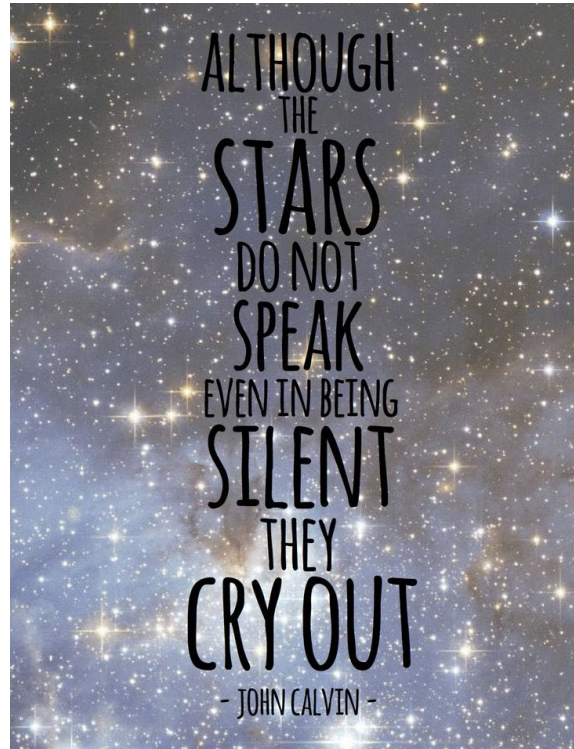
- Old Testament, New Testament, Reformed Theology & Compelling Preaching will be offered in collaboration with the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation as a part of a certificate in Compelling Preaching

July 20-25, 2025 at Synod School

- Polity
- Pastoral Care

Fall 2026 Online

- Formation for Mission



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
- Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
- 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.

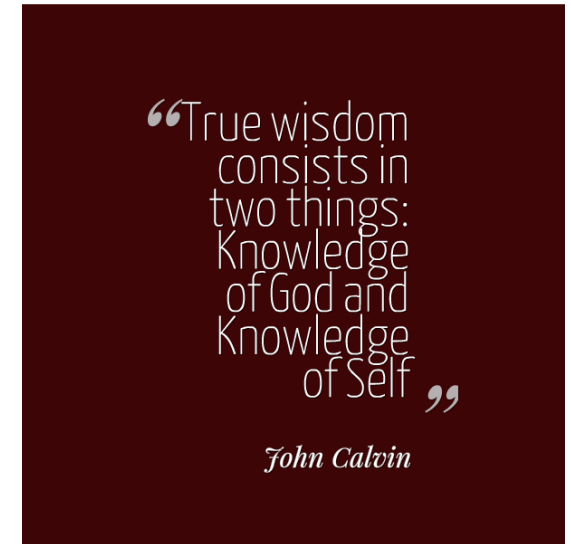
Each fall and spring a weekend class will be held in person at a retreat center centrally located for the group.

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 \$290/double or \$350/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.



To register, go to:

<https://lakesandprairies.regfox.com/the-academy-full-registration>