



WHY LDI?

About LDI

LDI envisions a Church that is actively joining in God’s work of reconciliation and restoration. This Church is the living Christ: a Body of communities which foster right-relationship with ourselves, others, creation and societal systems. The communities are grounded in God’s unconditional love for all, they challenge the status quo and actively resist oppression from internal messages and external systems. By building these kinds of healing communities we might embody the risen Christ for the world today.



Through our work, the Leadership Development Initiative equips the leaders this awakened Church needs, starting in eastern Massachusetts. We do this primarily by coaching parish-based teams, and secondarily supporting

individual leaders, in changes of consciousness, practice, and heart, so that all who encounter LDI can live out their brave ministry of following Jesus’s way of reconciliation and healing for the transformation to a more just world.

About LDI’s Formation Program

LDI’s flagship formation program, “Be the Church,” is a 6-month learning lab where community based teams – made up of parishioners and other community members – work together to address brokenness in their communities. Participants are formed in ecclesiology, community organizing, and Christian contemplative practices to equip them to Be the Church in their community. Teams are engaged in an action-reflection model where they plan, act, are coached, evaluate, and celebrate. Teams participate in a discernment event, two extensive leadership development trainings, regular coaching sessions with an experienced organizer, and a program conclusion and celebration, in addition to their teams’ meetings and events.

“LDI is a terrific way to engage churches in moving outside their walls, giving tools to tackle bigger issues and creating a sense of accomplishment. It’s a way to make church part of ‘real life’ instead of just something on Sunday morning.”
- LDI 2013 Participant

2016-2017 Training Calendar

Sat. Nov 12, 2016 | 9:00am - 5:00pm
Discerning a Call to Collective Action
Free and open training introducing LDI’s understanding of the Church’s mission and our tools of community organizing and Christian contemplative practice to follow in the way of Jesus.
Cathedral Church of St. Paul
138 Tremont St. Boston, MA 02111

Sat. Jan 28, 2017 | 9:00am - 5:00pm
Sun. Jan 29, 2017 | 1:00pm - 6:00pm
Foundations of Shared Leadership
Extensive training for community-based teams participating in our flagship formation program, “Be the Church,” in organizing and contemplative practices.
Episcopal Divinity School
99 Brattle St. Cambridge, MA 02138

Sat. Mar 11, 2017 | 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Mid-Program Training
“Be the Church” teams will delve deeper into strategy and learn non-violent communication as a tool for team conflict resolution. An open training on leadership and teambuilding will be held concurrently in the morning.
Location TBA

To register or learn more, contact:

Jesse Ortiz, Programs and Communications Fellow at Jesse@LDITeam.org

www.leadership-development-initiative.org



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LDI's Curriculum Components

- **Vocation of the Church:** Study scripture, tradition, and our own stories as a way of understanding the Church's collective call to join in God's movement of reconciliation.
- **Engaging Power:** Explore how we can use community organizing practices to honor the dignity of all, share power equally, and offer a prophetic witness for justice.
- **Encountering Wholeness:** Experience how Christian contemplative practices can be a pathway for encountering wholeness within ourselves and in our relationship with God.
- **Community Organizing Practices:** Adapt your leadership style to include these practices: sharing your public story, building relationships, developing collaborative teams, creating people centered strategy, taking measurable action and coaching.
- **Contemplative Spiritual Practices:** Incorporate stillness into your life to more fully know God's expansive love through the following contemplative practices: centering prayer, lectio divina, meditation, and chant.
- **Non-Violent Communication:** Strengthen your communication skills in a way that facilitates healing communication between members of your team and wider community.

LDI has made me a more efficient leader with much more of a focus on empowering leaders. It has helped my team members redefine themselves as leaders through a new understanding of their faith and role. Our project fundamentally shifted our church's relationship with the local nursing home.

- LDI 2015 Participant

Selected Previous Participants

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| Christ Church, Swansea | Roxbury-Dorchester Mission Hub | ECM Congregational Justice Network |
| Trinity Church, Newton Centre | Christ Church Waltham | Christ Church, Cambridge (3 yrs) |
| Grace Church, Medford (5 yrs) | Christ Church, Plymouth | St. Mark's Church, Burlington (2 yrs) |
| St. Andrew's, Hanover (2 yrs) | St. Michael's, Marblehead | St Dunstan's, Dover |
| St. Andrew's, Framingham (4 yrs) | Tufts University and Protestant Chaplaincies | Church of Our Savior, Somerset |
| St. James, Cambridge | Life Together DioMass Internship Program | St Luke's, Scituate |
| Episcopal Evangelism Network | St. Paul's, Newburyport | Concord River Deanery |
| Jubilee Ministry | Iglesia San Pedro, Salem | St Paul's Cathedral MANNA |

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Leadership Development Initiative
Equipping Leaders for an Awakened Church

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