1. A personal statement outlining your Educational background
   - Family and work history
   - Ministry involvements
   - Participation in any personal growth and ministry training events
   - Reasons for applying to this program
   - Expectations about how this program will help you in your future ministry

2. A letter (or letters) of reference from your local congregation or Church agency (preferably clergy) stating that:
   - You have been or expect to be involved in its life and ministry
   - You work well with others
   - You have the ability and the commitment to complete this program
   - Your participation in this program will enhance the ministry of your faith community
A weekend program designed for persons interested in learning more about Scripture, Christian belief, personal spiritual development and ministry. This program is designed to engage both heart and mind in the context of classroom interaction, community, and prayer. Participants attend classes Friday evenings (7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.) and Saturdays (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) for 4 weekends during the Spring and another 4 weekends during the Fall. Format includes input and discussion. No exams or assignments. All work is completed in the class setting. Upon completion of years A, B, & C students are awarded the Diploma in Theology and Ministry.

While the Diploma program will be of interest to all who seek to improve their understanding of theology and pastoral ministry, it will be of particular benefit to those who lead and belong to groups and committees in both the local and wider Church settings:

- Lay ministry / Lay readers
- Christian development/ religious education directors
- Sunday School personnel
- Outreach workers / Youth workers
- Those in leadership on Congregational / Parish Councils and Boards
- Leaders of Bible Study
- Those desiring to grow in faith
- Persons seeking a refresher course
- Approved by the NL Conference of the United Church of Canada as a training program for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Program evaluation includes:
- Attendance at weekend sessions
- Preparation of assigned readings
- Participation in group discussions
- Some optional written assignments
- Feedback from participant’s ministerial settings

**Weekends for 2017-2018**

**Fall Semester 2017**
- Sept. 29-30, Oct. 13-14
- Nov. 24-25, Dec. 8-9

**Winter Semester 2018**
- Dates TBA

**PROGRAM FEES**

Per academic year (2 semesters)

- Tuition …………………………… $400.00
  - This is payable in two installments of $200.00 at the beginning of each semester.
  - * Books and other educational resources approximately $150.00
  - * 5% discount for full tuition payment on or before first day of class of each semester
  - * Many participants will be eligible for financial help from local Church or denominational sources and should inquire about these possibilities

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The minimum academic entrance requirement for this program is a high school diploma or its equivalent. Post-secondary education desirable but not necessary.

In addition to the above academic requirements, participants should also demonstrate:

- Commitment to relating the Gospel to their lives
- Experience, or willingness to serve in ministry
- Desire and the ability to grow emotionally, spiritually, and intellectually
- Commitment to participate fully in the program

Applicants must also submit the following documentation with an application form which can be obtained from the General Office.

*Students who complete the Diploma in Theology & Ministry program can apply for advance standing for 4 courses in the Associate in Theology program which will count toward the electives.*