

Summer Institute of Theology 2026

Leaders' Training Program: Licensed Pastor's Requirements & Lay Leader's "Homework"

Assignment for Each SIT Session (A, B, and C):
One four-page reflective essay (approx. 1000 words).

Elements of Each Essay:

Considers the classroom content, engages with *one recommended resource per session*, and includes direct applications to your local congregational context or ministry setting.

Due by October 31

All completed essays can be mailed or emailed.

MAIL: AFLC, Attn: Pastor Holt, 3110 E Medicine Lake Blvd, Plymouth MN 55441

EMAIL: jasonholt@aflc.org; subject line "SIT 2026"

REMINDER: Select one recommended resource *per session* to link to your reflective essay.

SESSION A – Plenary Session for All Participants

Studies in the Gospel of Matthew (Rev. Alex Amiot)

- [The Cost of Discipleship](#) by Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Touchstone, 1995).
- [Concordia Commentary: Matthew \(Three Volumes\)](#) by Jeffrey Gibbs (Concordia, 2006).

Note: Selecting one commentary volume to examine texts related to your reflection is sufficient.

SESSION B – Choose Course Within Session

Pastor as Theologian (Dr. Nathan Olson)

- [The Genius of Luther's Theology](#) by Robert Kolb and Charles Arand (Baker, 2008).
- [A Case for Character](#) by Joel Biermann (Fortress Press, 2014).
- [Wholly Citizens: God's Two Realms and Christian Engagement](#) by Joel Biermann (Fortress, 2017).

Planning and Leading a Worship Service (Mr. Andrew Hanson)

- [The Worship Pastor](#) by Zac Hicks. (Zondervan, 2016).
- [Worship Matters](#) by Bob Kauflin. (Crossway, 2008).

SESSION C – Choose Course Within Session

Cultivating a Gospel Culture in the Congregation (Dr. Craig Johnson)

- [The Gospel: How the Church Portrays the Beauty of Christ](#) by Ray Ortlund. (Crossway, 2014).
- [Life Together](#) by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. (HarperOne, 1978).
- [Shaped by the Gospel](#) by Timothy Keller. (Zondervan, 2016).

History & Aims of the AFLC Preaching (Dr. Martin Horn)

- [From Freedom to Life: A History of the AFLC. Volume VI: AFLC Heritage Series](#) by Robert Lee. (Ambassador Publications, 2024). Note: This book is the sixth item in the dropdown "Type" menu.

***Blue hyperlinks represent online direction to acquire resources at Ambassador Publications.*