NEELY FELLOWSHIPS: A GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Call for Applications

Description: The Diocese of Arizona, through generous funding of the Neely Foundation, is pleased to offer Neely Fellowships to young adult parish leaders interested in deepening their understanding of their faith and strengthening their ministry. The awards provide funding for advanced theological education and intensive mentoring with nationally-known experts in the Fellow’s field of interest. The awards are determined and administered by the Neely Project Board and The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona.

How does the Fellowship Work? Upon selection, a Fellow will spend one year in advanced Christian formation, working through online and distance learning programs of Episcopal seminaries. This formation will require a commitment of time to both work online and perhaps a week or two seminary residency in the summer. All costs will be paid by the Foundation. The course work will be based on the needs of the Fellow, but will normally include such topics as Holy Scripture, Anglican History and Theology, and Theory and Practice of Ministry.

In the second year, the Fellow will be assigned a mentor by the Neely Fellow Advisory Committee, who matches their area of interest. Together with their mentor, the Fellow will devise a one-year course of study related to their area of interest, which will include on-site or conference experiences throughout the country. For example, a Fellow interested in involving the church in environmental concerns might participate in local and national meetings on this topic. Again, the costs of these learning opportunities will be paid by the Foundation.

It is expected that following their training, Fellows will meet together on a regular basis and will make their expertise available to the larger church.

Who Should Apply? Episcopalians, who are communicants in good standing of their local Arizona parish or mission, who are between the ages of 18-40 years old, and who have a calling and interest in lay ministry and leadership.

Application Process: In a detailed letter to the Board, the candidate is asked to state their vision of the lay ministry to which they feel called. For example, such areas of interest might include environmental advocacy, homelessness ministry, intentional community living, immigration involvement, children and family services, or religion and the arts. Creativity and vision are encouraged! Acceptance will be on a revolving basis, but it is hoped that candidates will have their letter to the Board no later than July 1, 2013, so that, if accepted, they may begin their course of studies in the Fall of 2013.

Contact Information: For more information, or to apply, please contact the Secretary of the Neely Project Board, Dr. Luisa Bonillas at: bonillas@asu.edu.