



Dear Council,

You are reading this letter because someone in your congregation checked into *Thriving Essentials*, the new church leadership training course developed by the CRCNA. They felt this course was worthy of your consideration as a way to equip and energize leaders within your church.

The *Thriving Essentials* course is designed for all your ministry leaders – elders, deacons, volunteers, staff, new leaders, and seasoned veterans. The course aligns leaders around four core concepts in these areas: Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Ministry experts recognize these as essential aspects of thriving congregations, but church leaders are often operating out of many different paradigms. This course develops the foundations of a shared vocabulary and ensures that all of your leaders are building on a similar framework.

The pandemic has opened up new challenges and opportunities for reimagining ministry. Whether your church is in a time of transition or stability, this four-part course will help to strengthen the core principles of church leadership around God’s desired future for your congregation.

To get the most out of *Thriving Essentials*, it is important that your council take the lead by **endorsing** this training and **participating** with other leaders of your church.

Need to know more? To make an informed decision, see more details at [crcna.org/thrive](http://crcna.org/thrive). Have you heard directly from the leader who recommended us? Or perhaps you would like to ask another leader or two to try out the course individually first. In pilot testing, 94 percent of pastors and lay leaders who took the course said they would recommend *Thriving Essentials* to others.

When you’re ready, pre-register your church at [crcna.org/thrive](http://crcna.org/thrive), and we’ll work with you to schedule a custom church event – online or in-person – for all of your elders, deacons, staff, and volunteer ministry leaders.

We look forward to training with your church!

Sincerely,

The CRCNA Thrive Team  
[thrive@crcna.org](mailto:thrive@crcna.org)

*\*Thriving Essentials is funded through a generous grant to the CRCNA from Lilly Endowment’s Thriving Congregations initiative. The aim of this national initiative is to strengthen Christian congregations to help people deepen their relationships with God, build strong relationships with each other, and contribute to the flourishing of local communities and the world.*



*Thriving*  
ESSENTIALS

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