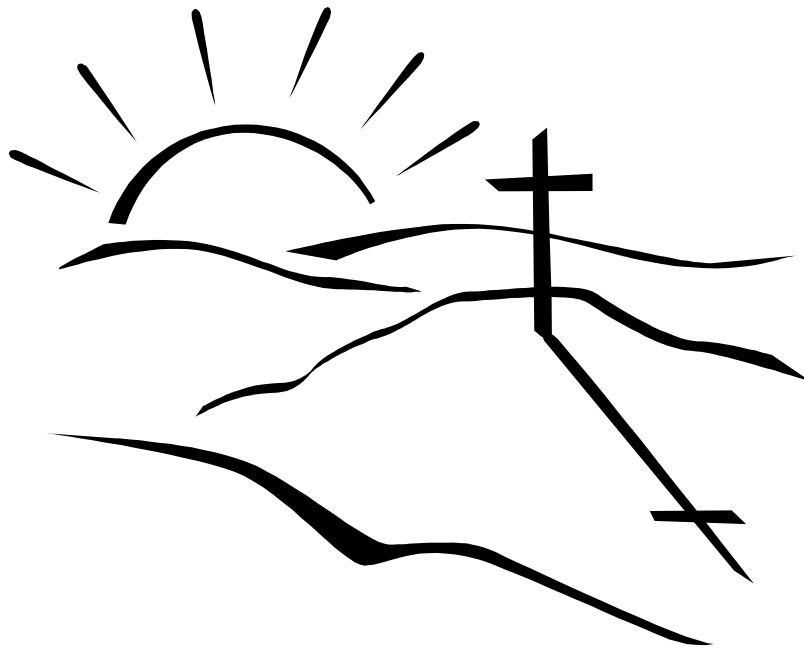


***East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Eastern Lay School of Ministry
Christ the King Lutheran Church
601 South Washington Street
Combined Locks WI***



***Information & Registration
2011-2012***

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Mission and Vision

This church “affirms the universal priesthood of all its baptized members and it commits itself to the equipping and supporting of all of its members for their ministries in this church and the world.” (Constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 7.11) To that end, the Eastern Lay School of Ministry (ELSM) was established in 1996 through the efforts of the Bishop’s Office of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin and under the auspices of the synod council. The goal is to prepare theologically/Biblically articulate laypersons for ministry in their daily lives.

The needs of the twenty-first century call for a new paradigm of Christian life together that will seek an ever-expanding role for equipped laity in both traditional and innovative ministries. Ordained clergy have a unique call to a ministry of Word and Sacrament that also asks them to lead, guide, and equip laity for greater involvement in shared ministry to the world. As lay people receive theological education, exposure to congregational and community ministries, and opportunities for personal spiritual formation, they will seek to expand their service as everyday evangelists and instruments of justice.

Lay School Process

Students enroll for a two-year program that takes them through a process of intellectual stimulation, self-discovery and transformation. Through the process, students are allowed to learn, grow, and explore their faith, gifts, calling, and commitment to service. Although a few lay school participants have discerned a call to ordained ministry during their time of study, most students use the experience to clarify their role in lay ministry in both the local congregation and their community. This process allows students to identify their gifts for ministry through study, prayer, and the development of relationships with other students, staff, and instructors. Graduates return to their congregations and communities with greater knowledge and increased faith, energized to be catalysts for spreading the Gospel

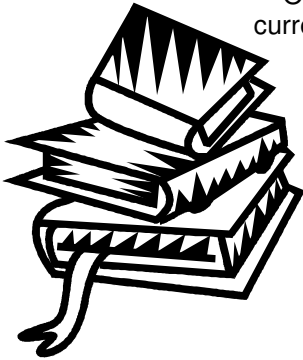
Monthly Meeting Dates and Class Schedule

Monthly Sessions 2011-2012:

September 9-10
October 14-15
November 11-12
December 9-10
January 13-14

February 10-11
March 9-10
April 8-9
May 4-5 (Graduation)

Classes



One unique feature of the ELSM is the high level of theological education provided by current and retired seminary professors, ordained clergy, and gifted church leaders.

Seminary level textbooks are used and all students are expected to commit to active study between sessions of the school to further expand their knowledge. The ELSM purposefully does not offer academic credit, certification or credentialing so that every student has the opportunity to progress and participate at his or her own level of ability and commitment.

First year students participate in the following classes:

❖ Lutheran Liturgy

This course teaches about worship from the time of ancient Israel to the present. Special focus is placed on how Lutherans worship, because the manner of worship shapes beliefs. Public worship is where a community's beliefs and practices come together. It is expected that students will develop stronger appreciation of what happens in the worship service.

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Participate as leaders (assisting minister) during the liturgy
- Serve with knowledge and thoughtfulness on worship planning committees
- Teach an adult class or a confirmation class on the liturgy
- Serve wisely on music or church decorating arts committees
- Help a congregation plan a contemporary worship service that retains the core of Lutheran identity
- Find worship more meaningful in their lives

Instructor: Pastor Kathryn Schreitmueller

Time: Saturday, 8:30 – 9:45 AM

❖ Systematic Theology

This course explores the Lutheran witness to the Gospel and its meaning for life in conversation with the religiously plural context that is the American and global context. Students will examine the creative potential of both Biblical and Lutheran tradition to open new insights into who God is, what God has done in Jesus Christ, and what that means for human life. A central conviction is that God has created humanity for communion with God, which includes communion with one another and with the world. Students will reflect on the Trinitarian mystery and wonder of God's grace in creation and redemption; the One who speaks in creating the world and in sending the Son; the Word who is with God and is God, through whom all things exist, who became flesh in Jesus Christ; the Spirit, the all-pervading presence of God as the course of life, who makes actual what God speaks and draws everything created into living communion with all else and with God.

Instructor: Dr. Duane Priebe, Professor of Systematic Theology, Wartburg Theological Seminary

Time: Friday, 6:15 – 8:15 PM

Both first and second year students participate in the following:

❖ Biblical Studies

This course is designed to give an overview of Scripture and to introduce students to a thorough study of selected books: Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Micah, Amos, Hosea, and Job from the Old Testament; and from the New Testament, the four Gospels, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, and Hebrews. It is the expectation that students will grow in familiarity with, and develop a love for, the Scriptures. Special emphasis is placed on Scripture as literature. In addition, many theological concepts are introduced, especially as they impact daily congregational life and ministry.

Old Testament (First Year) – Instructor: Pastor Kay Richter

New Testament (Second Year) – Instructor: Pastor Kay Richter

Time: First year students: Saturday, 10:15 – 11:15 AM, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Second year students: Friday, 8:00 – 10:00 PM

❖ Spiritual Formation:

This class teaches active spirituality through a process of lecture and small group sharing to both learn and experience the abundant and faithful life. The goal is to teach how to balance one's life for growing in God's grace through increased nourishment of piety, study, small group sharing, prayer, thanksgiving, and action in all environments of life.

First Year Instructor: Kaye Meissner, LSM Staff Member and Graduate

Second Year Instructor: Sue Pomplun, LSM Staff Member and Graduate

Time: First year students: Friday, 8:30 – 10:00 PM
Second year students: Friday, 6:15 – 7:45 PM

Second Year Students also participate in the following:

❖ Luther for Today:

Luther for Today offers participants opportunities to reflect upon traditional Lutheran doctrine in order to sense its relevance for today; to apply major concepts of doctrine to contemporary issues; and to dialogue with major Lutheran resources such as the Catechism, Confessions, and the Lutheran Book of Worship, with an ease that promotes their use as references as future issues are encountered.

Instructor: Pastor Steve Olson

Time: Saturday, 8:30 – 9:45 AM

❖ Church History

People who are called to do ministry in and through the Church need to know what experiences have shaped the Church. Things discussed include those from church history that helped the Church understand its mission.

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Leeper, Associate Professor of Church History, Wartburg Theological Seminary

Time: Saturday, 10:15 – 11:15 AM, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

In Addition to the Classes...

❖ Community Outreach

Each December, students are invited to participate in some sort of community outreach opportunity. During the season of Advent and Christmas especially, we want share a visible sign of the love and the gifts with which God graces us. More information will be available in November.



❖ Covenant Groups

Every student is assigned to a covenant group in the Spiritual Formation class. These groups are important in that class for processing information and sharing reactions to the topics discussed. They may also become a source of prayer support for the students during their two-year participation in ELSM.

❖ Devotions

Both first and second year students have the opportunity to lead their class in a brief devotion on Friday night at the opening of their first class session. Leaders are invited to sign up for a session on the first night of classes, and take advantage of this opportunity at some time before graduation. Prepare your devotion based on experiences in your personal prayer time, current events, topics in your classes, or other areas of life. This brief time of focusing on God's word and God's message for living will help students focus before class begins.

❖ Pastor as Mentor

Under most circumstances, participation in ELSM will require the involvement of the student's pastor. The pastor who agrees to serve as their mentor will sign the application form. The Mentor/Student relationship is a critical component of the total two-year program. This relationship offers students the opportunity to integrate knowledge with experience, and faith with practice. Mentors help students explore and discover their gifts and paths of service; they help clarify areas of confusion and provide resources to enhance learning; and they serve as sounding boards during regular (at least monthly) meetings.

It is expected that the students will initiate contact with their mentors; will provide them with a course outline, reminders, invitations, and materials as needed; will ask questions and share concerns during regular meetings. Honesty, openness, encouragement, trust, and a clear discussion of future expectations are critical to the mentor relationship. It is important that the pastor/mentor assume responsibility to help the student clarify what God is calling them to do.

❖ Special Events



Camp Retreat: Each weekend we have classes, students and staff find “pockets” of time to spend together in fellowship. Often, we wish we had a little more time outside of class, to develop those relationships.

We have set the week-end March to “take Lay School to Camp”. We will learn and enjoy a relaxed retreat at one of the Crossways Camps. Crossways Camps are a wonderful resource for our synod...the atmosphere is relaxed, the facilities are exceptional, and the staff members are gifted by God to help people encounter God in new and exciting ways.

Graduation: Graduation will be Saturday May 5th. Graduates are encouraged to invite their mentors, families, and friends, to both the 11:00 A.M. graduation and worship service and the lunch following the service. First year students are invited to help with preparations and clean up on this special day for the graduates.

❖ Recorded Lectures

Whenever possible, classes will be recorded and CD's will be made available as students request them. Sign up at the registration table for the specific class sessions you would like. We request a donation of \$1.00 for each CD.

❖ Worship

Worship is a significant part of the Lay School experience, and affords opportunities for both expression of faith and personal growth. We will worship together each Saturday morning at 9:50 A.M. The worship service is planned and led by a group of second year students, and it is approximately 20 minutes in length. Every student is encouraged to work with a worship planning team at least once during his or her second year.

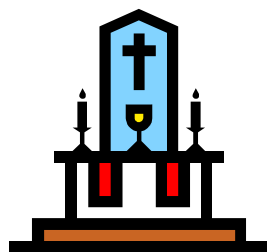
❖ Alumni Class

Many Lay School of Ministry graduates return for alumni class after graduation – and bring their friends! On Friday evenings, Dr. Elizabeth Leeper, Associate Professor of Church History at Wartburg Seminary will be offering a study – “Select Readings from Martin Luther” who was this man? And on Friday evenings and Dr. Duane Priebe, Professor of Systematic Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary will be leading a study of the book of Luke on Saturday mornings.

❖ Orientation

August 23, 2011 5:30 - 6:30 PM

So you don't miss out on any class time on the first night of school, we have set a special time for orientation. This gathering will offer time to receive information on the Lay School class and sessions, ask questions, meet the staff, pay registration fees, sign up for meals, pick up your books and share fellowship and pizza with your classmates – all in 1 hour or less!



Important to Know

❖ **Accommodations/Housing**

Due to the late ending time of the classes on Friday night, we have two options for those who want to stay overnight during the weekends of the Lay School classes.

Area Hotels: If you would like to stay overnight during LSM weekends, area hotels/motels are an option. It is up to you to make your own reservations. If there is some sort of special rate available, we will make that information available to those who are interested.

Host Families: There are some members from Christ the King church who have opened their homes to offer sleeping quarters for those students who would rather not drive home. This does not include any meals, but a warm friendly place to stay. Contact Sue Pomplun to make arrangements for a host family.

❖ **Bible**

The preferred translation and the translation used by all ELSM instructors is the New Revised Standard Version. Please bring a copy of the NRSV with you each weekend.



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❖ **Emergency Phone Number**



Phone calls to Christ the King will generally not be answered during Lay School weekends. Please leave the following two numbers with your family for emergencies:

920-915-0209-1402 (Sue's cell)
920-296-9104 (Kaye's cell)

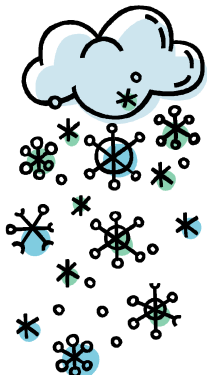
❖ **Registration and Fees**

Tuition for 2011-2012 is \$450. Book fees are \$150. These costs apply to first year students and to second year students. Meals are available and optional. Individual prices for the meals are Dinner - \$8; Breakfast - \$5; Lunch - \$7...Total cost per weekend is \$20. Nine months of three meals per weekend totals \$180. Fees do not need to be paid until classes start, although a \$100 deposit with your registration form is encouraged.

❖ **Scholarships**

There is a Lay School of Ministry Scholarship fund to help students who need financial assistance to pay for tuition and book fees. Many congregations also contribute money toward LSM tuition and book fees. For more information or to apply for a scholarship please contact Sue Pomplun 920-915-0209

❖ Weather Concerns and Cancellations



If for any reason we need to cancel classes (such as for inclement weather), we notify the Synod Office at 920-734-5381, which then puts the notice on the synod web page at www.ecsw.org. The decision is generally made by early afternoon on Friday of the meeting day. If you are staying with a host family, or at a hotel, it is your responsibility to notify them of the cancellation.

❖ Staff – Coordinating Team

Dave Bork - Chair/Administrator, Recorded Lecture Coordinator

Steve Grams – Mentor Liaison

Tobi Johannsen - Registrar, Housing and Catering

Kaye Meissner - Secretary and Finances, Attendance, Rosters

Sue Pomplun – Registrar, Housing Coordinator, Public Relations

Kay Richter - Newsletter

Alley Shepek - Site Coordinator, Catering

❖ Questions

If you would like more information or have any questions regarding the East Central Synod of Wisconsin Eastern Lay School of Ministry or how to registration, please contact Sue Pomplun at 920-915-0209

❖ Do Something Just For You

The time you spend and the deepening in faith you gain from the Lay School of Ministry is a gift you give yourself. Fill out the attached registration form and start on a faith walk unlike any other.

East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Eastern Lay School of Ministry

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____

Congregation _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Pastor _____ Telephone _____

Do you wish to be housed on Friday evening with a local family? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have any special dietary needs? Yes _____ No _____

Why do you wish to participate in the Lay School of Ministry?

In what ways have you been or are you involved in your congregation?

In what ways would you like to be involved in your Congregation?

Any other information you'd like us to know:

Signature/Date

Signature of Mentor Pastor/Date

Return this application with your tuition deposit of \$100.00 to:

East Central Synod of Wisconsin
Lay School of Ministry
16 Tri-Park Way
Appleton, WI 54915

ATT: Diane Clark

Make registration fee payable to **East Central Synod of Wisconsin**

Please sign and send your registration as soon as possible so we may plan for book orders and class room size.

Thank you

Sue