

## Purpose

We believe in the life-long calling to live out our baptismal covenant: to learn, to grow, to serve, and to love one another.

Our synods' School for Lay Ministry embraces the vital ministry of helping God's people discern their gifts and use them with confidence within their families, friends, congregations, and communities.

## History

Formerly known as the GIFTS program, the School for Lay Ministry traces its roots to a program started in western North Dakota by Pastor Arland Fiske in 1986. He started the program to train lay people to serve as pulpit supply.

It has now evolved to:

- ◆ Further educate lay people
- ◆ Empower lay people to serve their congregations as learners and leaders of bible studies, Sunday School, youth groups, visitors to shut-ins, supply preachers, worship leaders, music ministers, prayer leaders, and many other positions to which they

## For more information:

**School for Lay Ministry**  
[www.nwmnsynod.org](http://www.nwmnsynod.org) or  
[www.eandsynod.org](http://www.eandsynod.org)

c/o Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Concordia College  
901 8th St. S  
Moorhead, MN 56562 or

c/o Eastern North Dakota Synod  
PO Box 2019  
3911 20th Ave South, Suite A  
Fargo, ND 58103

## Or you may contact:

Pastor Laurie Natwick  
(218) 299-3019  
[natwick@cord.edu](mailto:natwick@cord.edu)

Jerry Peterson  
(218) 736-5515  
[maggip1944@msn.com](mailto:maggip1944@msn.com)

Shar Gumke  
(701) 952-6754  
[shar@eandsynod.org](mailto:shar@eandsynod.org)

Pastor Sue Koesterman  
(701) 232-2574  
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## School for Lay Ministry

Serving the synods of  
Northwestern Minnesota  
and Eastern North Dakota



A continuing and enriching way to  
support God's people as they grow  
in faith and service.



## Curriculum

Classes are offered three times per year, usually in February, April and October.

Over a 2 year period, courses are offered in:

- ◇ Old Testament
- ◇ New Testament
- ◇ Worship & Liturgy
- ◇ Pastoral Care
- ◇ Lutheran Confessions
- ◇ Church History

Completion of the certification program is not necessarily a goal of people who attend classes. However, if a participant wishes to work toward a certificate, they must complete all 6 categories for eligibility.

Attendance at a session of Luther Seminary's School for Lay Ministry call can help fulfill curriculum requirements and one session is required for certification.

## Schedule for 2016/2017

Classes will be held at the Lutheran Social Services headquarters located at  
3911 20th Ave S.  
Fargo, ND 58103

### October 8, 2016

The Theology of Rubble: Jeremiah, Pain, and Promise

Rev. Dr. Michael Chan

Assistant Professor of Old Testament

### March 4, 2017

#### **Creating Worship Vitality in Any Setting**

Jay Beech

Director of the Center for Worship and Music Studies

### April 22, 2017

#### **Bereavement: Reaching out with Care and Healing**

TBA

### November 28-30, 2016

*Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN*

\* **Congregational Planning and Innovation**

\* **Martin Luther: A Grand Assortment of Insights; Part 2**

## Logistics

- ◇ Courses are usually held on Saturdays, 10:00 AM—4:00 PM
- ◇ The fee of \$50 per course covers materials, morning refreshments and a noon meal.
- ◇ Students should keep track of their own credits, and when they have completed the 6 course categories and seminary session, they can submit a request to the School of Lay Ministry Advisory Committee for approval to receive a certificate.
- ◇ Those individuals serving as a synodically authorized minister or providing pulpit supply are expected to attend.
- ◇ People often continue attending classes after they obtain a certificate as part of their life-long learning to live out their baptismal covenant.



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