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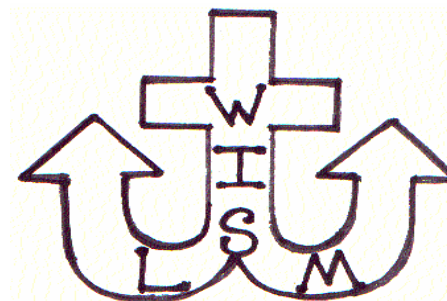
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The  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Western Iowa Synod

**Lay School of Ministry**

anchored in  
**Biblical Study,  
Christian Theology,  
and  
Christian Service**

The next class begins September 2008.

## **What is the Western Iowa Synod Lay School of Ministry?**

The Lay School of Ministry is a two year program designed to assist lay people in deepening their faith in Jesus Christ and expanding their understanding of Lutheran identity and leadership in the mission of the church in our context.

Upon completion of this program, participants, in conversation with their pastor and council, will create a covenant stating how they plan to use their leadership gifts at the congregational and synodical levels.

## **Who May Attend?**

Any lay person who wants to grow in their faith and seeks a deeper understanding of the Bible and Lutheran theology, expanded leadership opportunities within congregational or synodical ministry, and identification and development of gifts and goals for ministry is a welcome participant.

All participants are nominated by their pastor and church council.

## **What will the course of study be?**

Year one includes Old Testament and New Testament, Christian Theology and Lutheran theology.

Year two offers a “Vision for Lay Leadership in the ELCA” which provides a broader understanding of the church and of themselves as missional leaders. It also offers participants the opportunity to develop leadership skills in particular ministry areas.



## **Who teaches the courses?**

- Bible is taught by Pastor John Hagberg, St. Mark in Sioux City and synod pastors.
- Theology is taught by Professor Steve Smith of Waldorf College in Forest City and synod pastors.
- The second year is taught by Professor Nate Frambach of Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque and synod pastors.

## **Where and when will LSM meet?**

The year of study consists of two semesters beginning in September and January. Each semester consists of a retreat and four monthly regional gatherings facilitated by synod pastors. The regional gathering sites are determined by location of participants. The 4th semester retreat is held at the Lutheran Center in Chicago.

## **What is the cost?**

The non-refundable course tuition is \$350 per semester plus books and materials. Tuition includes the cost of retreats and lunch at the monthly regional gatherings. Congregations are encouraged to help with tuition. There is no partial tuition.

## **How will the church benefit?**

Congregations and the Western Iowa Synod are enriched by persons with a deeper faith in Jesus Christ and a greater understanding of Bible and theology who are equipped and energized to be missional leaders.

