

## Northwest Synod of Wisconsin–Lay School of Ministry

The Lay School of Ministry of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin is accepting applications for the two-year program beginning in September. This pioneering effort of our synod, which began in 1993, has attracted nation-wide attention. Enclosed you will find application materials for admission to the next class of the Lay School of Ministry. We will meet on Zoom this year with session held Friday evening and Saturday morning once a month (on the second Saturday of each month and the Friday before it) September through May. The foundational program lasts two years. Full schedule details are located on our website, listed below.

The faculty members for the Lay School of Ministry have been selected, and they are looking forward to working with you during the coming year in the following areas: Old and New Testament studies; Systematic Theology; the creeds and confessions of the church; worship; the ministry of all the baptized and the mission of the Church. For reading assignments and syllabi go to our website listed below.

You will notice that you are asked to secure the agreement of a pastor who will serve as your mentor. Those Lay School participants who have enjoyed a close working relationship with their own pastor have expressed strongly that this mentoring relationship was an important part of the program. You will find a copy of mentoring guidelines on our website.

To assist in your preparation for the Lay School of Ministry, the Synod Resource Center has copies of all the text books available for you to look at. Resources, which your mentoring pastor may be able to supply in the areas of scripture and the faith of the church, will be good preparation for the beginning of the Lay School in September.

Tuition for the Lay School of Ministry is \$475 per year. Book costs are approximately \$250. Please include your tuition deposit of \$100 with your application. Some scholarship assistance is available. Please inquire. You have two options for applications and registration. You may fill out forms and pay fees online (INCLUDE LINK) or checks could be made payable to the “Northwest Synod of Wisconsin” and mailed along with the application to Diane Kaufmann, 5207 70th St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

We look forward to receiving your application and to our partnership in the Gospel in the coming years. If you or your mentor pastor have any questions about the LSM that are not answered in this announcement or the accompanying materials, check out: [www.layschoolofministry.org](http://www.layschoolofministry.org). You are welcome to call either John Kurschner (715-924-3367), our LSM dean, or myself (715-577-1173) for additional information.

Sincerely, Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones