

Dear Prospective LSM Student,

We look forward to your being in the next year's class of the Lay School of Ministry which begins in September. We know you will be glad you made the decision to learn, explore, and grow in your faith.

Read this packet of information and return the registration form as soon as you can. Here, in a nutshell, is what LSM is all about:

The curriculum and educational objectives of the LSM emphasize the baptismal vocation of all Christians. Courses are designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the Bible and Lutheran Theology.

LSM's mission is to provide students with opportunities to reflect on their past and present ministries, while engaging in theological studies with peers and with encouragement and guidance from a faculty consisting of seminary professors and members of the clergy, including their own mentor pastors.

LSM is not designed to provide students with training or endorsement for specific ministries. Those seeking such training are encouraged to contact the synod office for further information and guidance.

Service offered by current and past participants of the LSM should always be performed as a part of the Church's one holy ministry offered by a community of baptized servants who are instruments of service at Christ's calling.

Participants who have completed the basic course of study are encouraged to make a personal commitment to continue their studies independently, and to utilize various opportunities for continuing education when offered by the LSM or through the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. LSM Continuing Education topics change each year and offer a full and complete package of study and growth.

Here is just a sampling of what some participants have said:

"God kept knocking on the door. I was always afraid to answer, but I finally did, and now my life begins to make sense. When God calls, please answer."

"The Lay School of Ministry is a look into a changing church and a developing lay ministry. Through education courses in the Bible, the development of doctrine and the Lutheran Confessions, church history, liturgy and ethics, we are able to expand our personal growth toward a more active lay ministry within our congregations."

May God bless you as you study!