

2011-12 Locations

Glendale Site Foundational Courses

Trinity Conference Center
Southwest California Synod Office
1300 E. Colorado St.
Glendale, CA 91205-1406
(818) 507-9591
www.socalsynod.org/elm

Academia de Diaconia Programa de lengua española (Spanish language program)

Ms. Maria Paiva
(818) 507-9591 x112
mpaiva@socalsynod.org

For more information contact:

Pastor Laurie Arroyo
Assistant to the Bishop for
Lay Mission Leadership

1300 E. Colorado Street
Glendale, CA 91205-1406

(818) 507-9591 x102

larroyo@socalsynod.org

A word from Bishop Dean Nelson

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The challenge of ministering to the diverse populations of our Synod requires not only dedicated and well-trained clergy, but also dedicated and well-trained lay persons. We are confronted with tremendous opportunities for mission in Southern California. We need laypersons to serve in **sharing the good news** of God's love for us in Christ, **teaching the essentials of the Christian faith** to children, youth and adults, and **organizing a wide variety of ministries** which serve the needs of the community.

Equipping Leaders for Mission (ELM) provides training, spiritual growth and networking for members of our congregations to better serve in their ministry contexts. As members of the Body of Christ in Southern California, many lay people are already serving in vital ways but need further growth to fully live out their calling to serve Christ.

Come and join with others who share this call and desire to be empowered and better equipped for leadership.

With You in Christ's Mission,
Bishop Dean W. Nelson

Equipping Leaders for Mission



2011-2012 Lay Leadership Development Program

Southwest California Synod, ELCA
www.socalsynod.org



BIBLE

Engaging the Old/New Testament

Taking our clue from Luther's view of the bible as "the manger in which Christ lies", the four segments of this course will cover everything you ever wanted to know about the bible but were never told. We will hear what Amos Wilder called "The great story and plot of all time and space" as we follow the acts of God in history and clarify their meaning for our lives today. The portions of this drama to be covered in each four-hour segment are: **The Law (Torah/ Pentateuch), The Prophets and Writings, The Gospels and Acts, and The Epistles and Revelation.**

Samuel Thomas, Ph. D. is Assistant Professor of Religion at California Lutheran University. He is a graduate of St. John's University (B.A., 1994), Yale University Divinity School (M.Div., 2001) and the University of Notre Dame (Ph.D., Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity, 2007). Dr. Thomas has a lasting fascination with the origins of Judaism and Christianity in Mediterranean antiquity. He studies the histories, languages, theologies, cultures, and peoples that contributed to the formation of the texts and the traditions of ancient Judaism and Christianity. Dr. Thomas is the Associate Director of the Center for Equality and Justice, is active in campus sustainability initiatives, and regularly teaches a course in Environmental Ethics.

The Rev. Julia Lambert Fogg, Ph. D is Associate Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity and Chair of the Religion Department at California Lutheran University. She is a graduate of Colgate University (B.A., 1992) and Yale Divinity School (M. Div., 1996) She has earned a Master of Theology (Chandler School of Theology, 1997) and Ph. D. (Graduate Division of Religion, 2006) at Emory University. In her teaching and research, Dr. Fogg explores the ways in which culture and social practices shape community expressions of faith. She invites students to go out into their neighborhoods to reflect on what is happening locally both with what they are reading in New Testament texts and the practices and problems of ancient faith communities.

HISTORY

Two Thousand Years of Faith and Struggle: A Brief History of Christianity

This course is an ambitious attempt to scan the long trajectory of Christian History from Jesus to the present, stopping regularly for closer looks at turning points that have helped shape the Church we experience today. The first will cover from the Apostles to the Western Schism; the second, from the Reformation to the present.

THEOLOGY

What Makes Theology "Lutheran": Exploring Our Confessional Tradition

This course will provide an introduction to the **main emphases of Lutheran theology: Luther's place in Western Christian thought; how Lutherans read the Bible; classical doctrines, the Creeds, and the catechism; the faith of the mind and the faith of the heart; and how Lutheran theology has been shaped and influenced by the passage of time.**

The Rev. R. Guy Erwin, Ph.D. is a professor of Religion and History at California Lutheran University. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Yale Graduate School, where he earned his Ph.D. in the History of Christianity. Dr. Erwin holds CLU's Gerhard and Olga J. Belgum Chair of Lutheran Confessional Theology, and specializes in the life and work of Martin Luther. He lives in Woodland Hills, and is a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in North Hollywood.



WORSHIP

Worship as the Center of Our Life Together

This course will explore the basic shape and theology of Christian Worship and its expression in the Lutheran Church. It will consider historical patterns of worship as well as the shifting nature of worship in today's church. The two key focuses of the course will be 1) skills and techniques for worship leadership, and 2) creating worship that is culturally and contextually appropriate.

The Rev. James Bessey is pastor of Christ Lutheran, Long Beach, and chair of the Southwest California Synod's Worship Committee. He has served parishes in Los Altos, Burlingame, San Francisco, and Berkeley. Pastor Bessey has a B.A. in music from California Lutheran University as well as an M.Div. from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN. His post-graduate studies were at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley with an emphasis on multi-cultural worship. Pastor Bessey also served as part of the introductory team for Evangelical Lutheran Worship in our synod.

MISSION

Leaders for Mission: Called, Gifted, Sent

This course will focus on the **common gifts for discipleship and leadership given to all of the baptized, as well as the unique spiritual gifts given to each of us for building up the body of Christ. Participants will explore various biblical models of leadership, examine the liturgical orders of our church for their vocational implications, learn their own personality type, identify their unique gifts for ministry, and gain new skills and insights for enhancing their abilities to serve as leaders for mission in their congregations, communities and daily lives.**

The Rev. Dean Nelson was elected to serve a second term as Bishop of the Southwest California Synod in June 2007. He has served 31 years as parish pastor of ELCA congregations (First, Torrance; Our Saviour's, Milwaukee, WI; Park View, Chicago, IL; and Faith, Enid, OK).