

# *School of Mission*

**Southwestern Texas Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**



## **Mission Statement:**

*The School of Mission will provide a strong educational voice for developing committed, mission-oriented disciples.*

## **Scheduling:**

*Contact Rev. Danielle Moore Casey, Chair, at 830-693-2253 or [dmcasey@zeecon.com](mailto:dmcasey@zeecon.com) for more information or to schedule a class.*

### **What is the School of Mission?**

The School of Mission is a major effort of the Synod's Commission for Congregational Life to make *high quality lay education* available, in local settings, throughout the Synod. The classes will be scheduled and held on location in the conferences, cutting the necessity for long distance travel for participants.

### **What is the purpose of these classes?**

The School of Mission seeks to contribute to the church's ministry and outreach by helping create, nurture, and sustain learning communities of Christians in local settings. Fewer than 10% of Christians have even read the Bible, and even fewer have engaged the other writings and teachings of the faith in a significant manner. *The*

*School of Mission seeks to help people take theology and integrate it more fully into their everyday lives.*

### **Do these classes offer any credits?**

The School of Mission classes will all provide continuing education contact hour *credit for all rostered lay and clergy persons* of the Synod who have such requirements. The typical class offers six contact hours.

### **What is the cost?**

The School of Mission classes will cost \$25.00 per participant, which includes lunch and all materials. Scholarships will be available.

### **How do I schedule a class?**

The School of Mission classes can be scheduled by contacting Rev. Danielle Moore Casey, Chair, at 830-693-2253 or [dmcasey@zeecon.com](mailto:dmcasey@zeecon.com).

### **CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:**

#### ***Luke: The Holy Spirit and the Mission to the Gentiles***

*Instructor: Rev. Dr. Ray Pickett, Associate Professor of New Testament at The Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest*

Christian adults explore the Gospel of Luke by studying selected pericopes from the upcoming Church Year's Sunday Gospel lessons, with an emphasis on ministry and mission. This is a great resource for all who either teach or proclaim the lessons on Sundays, as well as for all those who wish to prepare themselves for hearing such teaching and proclamation with greater insight. Participants are energized for enriching their congregational and individual ministries.

#### ***Church in Crisis: Evangelism and Mission in the New Century***

*Instructor: Ken Schroeder, Former Pastor and Director of Education at St. Martin's (Austin, TX)*

In this class, Christian adults take a hard, fresh look at evangelism and mission with a focus on how to move forward—not wishfully, but from scripture. Christians will explore modern religion's withdrawal, collapse, and failure—*its irrelevance*—and celebrate, because this deep failure opens the door, like nothing else since the Reformation, *for the fire of the gospel to light up this present darkness*. Explore a renewed vision of the Gospel and building vibrant, energized congregations.

### ***St. Benedict on the Freeway***

*Instructor: Anne Province, Spiritual Director and Adjunct Faculty at The Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest*

This class, designed around Corrine Ware's book of the same name, will assist you in developing a wider and deeper prayer life through the use of St. Benedict's rule of praying the hours. Such a prayer life helps build a living faith and spirituality to underpin the mission effort with a mission heart.

### ***The Holy Land***

*Instructor: Rev. Ann Helmke, Animating Director at the San Antonio peaceCENTER*

This course will provide participants an overview along with resources in addressing the current situation in the Holy Land. Topics will include the current context, the implications of Christian theology, Lutheran involvement in the area, and our complicity in the conflict as well as our responsibility to our sisters and brothers in that land.

### ***Mark: The Kingdom of God Is at Hand***

*Instructor: Rev. Dr. Ray Pickett, Associate Professor of New Testament at The Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest*

Christian adults explore the Gospel of Mark by studying selected pericopes from the Revised Common Lectionary Year A, with an emphasis on ministry and mission. This is a great resource for all who either teach or proclaim the lessons on Sundays, as well as for all those who wish to prepare themselves for hearing such teaching and proclamation with greater insight. Participants are energized for enriching their congregational and individual ministries.

### **FUTURE COURSE OFFERINGS:**

*The Cross and Resurrection*

*From Poverty to Self-Sufficiency*

*Faith in the Workplace*

*And many more!*