

2013

Luther Seminary, May 2013

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THE
ONE HUNDRED *and* FORTY-FOURTH
COMMENCEMENT



3 P.M. SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2013

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

 **LUTHER SEMINARY**
moved by the promise

PARTICIPANTS *in the* SERVICE

PRESIDING MINISTER

Laura Thelander
Seminary Pastor

PREACHER

Richard Foss
Interim Seminary President

LECTORS

Denise Fossen
Master of Divinity Degree Candidate

Sitraka Rakotoarivelo
Master of Arts Degree Candidate

CALL TO MISSION READER

Lois Malcolm
Professor of Systematic Theology

STUDENT SPEAKER

Ashley Updegraff-Balow
Master of Divinity Degree Candidate

STUDENT MARSHALS

Daniel Hanson
Master of Divinity Junior

Erik Karlson
Master of Divinity Junior

Rebecca Mehl
Master of Divinity Senior

Carrie Smisek
Master of Divinity Junior

FACULTY MARSHAL

David Fredrickson
Professor of New Testament

ORGANIST

Mark Sedio
Cantor, Central Lutheran Church

CRUCIFER

Bob Rusert '83
Pastor, Minnetonka Lutheran Church, Minnetonka, Minn.

A WORD OF THANKS

The Luther Seminary community would like to thank the staff of Central Lutheran Church for their hospitality and assistance during this year's Commencement celebration.

A WORD OF WELCOME

Luther Seminary is pleased to welcome you to its 144th commencement ceremonies. Receiving their degrees today are your next pastors, congregational and community leaders, and theologians of the church.

The student speaker during today's service was elected by the senior class. Student marshals were chosen by the Office of the Registrar.

Some of the graduates will also receive awards for academic excellence. These are listed on page 14.

Graduates, family and friends are invited to an informal reception in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Richard ("Rick") Foss, interim president, came to Luther Seminary as director of Contextual Learning in 2008. Previously, he served as bishop for the Eastern North Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a position he held since 1992. He was named interim president in December 2012.

Following his graduation from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., in 1966, Foss earned a Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary in 1971 and a Master of Theology degree from Luther Northwestern Seminary in 1984. Foss was ordained in 1971. He served congregations in Minneapolis from 1971-1977. While at those congregations, he served as interim instructor of homiletics at Luther Seminary (1976). Foss has served congregations in Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington. In 1995 he was named as one of three finalists for presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Foss is co-founder of Daily Bread in Fargo, N.D., and served on its board of directors from 1991-2000. He was a founding advisory board member of Healthy Congregations Inc. (1997-2006), a member of the theological and ethical concerns committee, Conference of Bishops (1992-2004) and has served the governing boards of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.; Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota; Oak Grove Lutheran School in Fargo, N.D.; and Luther Seminary.

THE ORDER of SERVICE

THE PRELUDE

The congregation shall stand.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Day Full of Grace”

ELW #627

ALL

1. O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
your name on our hearts emblazon.

WOMEN

2. O day full of grace, O blessed time,
our Lord on the earth arriving;
then came to the world that light sublime,
great joy for us all retrieving;
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,
all shame and despair removing.

ALL

3. For Christ bore our sins, and not his own,
when he on the cross was hanging;
and then he arose and moved the stone,
that we, unto him belonging,
might join with angelic hosts to raise
our voices in endless singing.

MEN

4. God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.

ALL

5. When we on that final journey go
that Christ is for us preparing,
we'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,
all joy of the heavens sharing,
and there we will join God's endless praise,
with angels and saints adoring.

*Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt.
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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LITANY

- P: Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
C: **there is no limit to God's wisdom.**
P: We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks,
C: **calling upon your name
and declaring all your wonderful deeds.**
P: We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the
Lord,
C: **and the wonderful works God has done.**
P: Those who know your name, O Lord,
will put their trust in you.
C: **O Lord, watch over us.**
P: You never forsake those who seek you, O Lord.
C: **O Lord, watch over us.**
P: Sing praises to the Lord;
proclaim to the peoples the things God has
done.
C: **O Lord, watch over us.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
P: Let us pray. God our creator, the resurrection
of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth.
By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your
love, empowering our lives for service and our
tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

The congregation shall be seated.

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:14-17

(following the reading...)

- L: The word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation shall stand.

THE ORDER *of* SERVICE

L: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 14:1-17

(following the reading...)

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation shall be seated.

THE SERMON

The congregation shall stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” ELW #631
(red book)

(1—sing in unison; 2 and 3—sing in harmony; 4—sing in unison)

GREETING

Out of respect for the graduates, please remain seated during the service, refrain from using flash photography and hold your applause until all names have been read.

THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES

All candidates listed on pages 8-13

Presentation of the Class Roland Martinson
Academic Dean

Conferring of Degrees Richard Foss
Jim Lindus
Board of Directors Chair

Diane Doncits
Registrar

Michael DeLashmutt
Associate Dean for First Theological Degree Programs

Paul Lokken
Associate Dean for Graduate Theological Education

Announcement of Student Awards and Honors Richard Foss

Master of Divinity *Honoris Causa* posthumously granted to Anthony Fair.

Winners of the G.M. and Minnie Bruce Prize in New Testament; A.E. Hanson Prize in Homiletics; and The Children, Youth and Family Prize receive modest cash awards.

The Graduate Preaching Fellowship is given to an outstanding Master of Divinity degree graduate from the senior class.

Descriptions are on page 14.

STUDENT SPEAKER

Ashley Updegraff-Balow
Master of Divinity Degree Candidate

THE ORDER of SERVICE

THE CALL TO MISSION

The graduates shall stand.

L: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; there are varieties of service but the same Lord; there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; between slave and free; between male and female; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows his riches upon all who call upon him.

C: **We are the Church, all kinds and conditions of people; but we are one body of Christ and individually members of one another.**

L: Graduating students, in the presence of God, we have met here to honor you for your perseverance, faithfulness, and diligence in study, and to present to the Church all of you who aspire to serve the Church of God in a variety of ministries. When he said, I have come not to be served, but to serve, Jesus defined the meaning of ministry. Luther Seminary sends you forth into this service with its love and blessing, and prays that you may be adequate to your task.

GRADUATES:

With faith in the Triune God, we commit ourselves to this ministry of service and mission. We pray that all our works, through God's gracious help, may be begun, continued, and ended in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The congregation shall stand.

THE PRAYERS

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Following each petition...

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

C: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

THE ORDER *of* SERVICE

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind” ELW #400

- 1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind,
as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort;
past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service,
there with Christ to bear the cross,
there with Christ to bear the cross!
- 2 God of blazing, God of burning,
all that blocks your purpose, purge!
Through your church, Christ's living Body,
let your flaming Spirit surge!
Where deceit conceals injustice,
kindle us to speak your truth,
kindle us to speak your truth!
- 3 God of earthquake, God of thunder,
shake us loose from lethargy!
Break the chains of sin asunder,
for earth's healing set us free!
Crumble walls that still divide us;
make us one in Christ our Lord,
make us one in Christ our Lord!
- 4 God of passion, God unsleeping,
stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish,
may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil;
claim us for your kingdom's work,
claim us for your kingdom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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THE POSTLUDE

CANDIDATES *for* DEGREES

CERTIFICATE

The certificate programs are designed to equip lay leaders across denominational lines. This program provides a basic grounding in Christian theology and tradition, in addition to focusing on various aspects of ministry.

Elizabeth Anne Feltes

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minnesota

Joan Marie Lorenz

Scott Eugene Rowley

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fresno, California

Susan Lucille Vivatson

United Lutheran Church, Cavalier, North Dakota

Cheryl Lynae Whitchurch*

Zion Lutheran Church, Litchfield, Minnesota

MASTER of ARTS

The Master of Arts degree serves to enrich a person's understanding of the Christian faith and its tradition, to prepare a person to serve in Christian communities and their mission in the world and to provide the basic theological degree for further graduate study.

Grace Pardun Alworth

Jacob Scott Anderson*

Sarah Leslie Bane

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, Minnesota
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minnesota

Karin Lynelle Gustafson Bergstrom

Yasir Bilgin

Allen Arthur Blegen

Heather Lynn Carufel

Elim Lutheran Church, Scandia, Minnesota

J. Dieter Doyle

Robin Lynn Eberlein

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Raul Garcia III

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Maple Grove, Minnesota

Joseph Geeba Gayflor*

Agape Pentecostal Church
Christian Life Center
Central Lutheran Church

Marcia Elizabeth Giordano

Shades Valley Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Alabama

Amanda Jewel Hagen

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Williston, North Dakota
Faith Lutheran Church, Williston, North Dakota

Shanna Raylene Hauck*

First Lutheran Church, Williston, North Dakota
St. John's Lutheran Church, Killdeer, North Dakota

Melissa Leigh Johnson

All Saints Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, Minnesota

Brigitte Kathleen Leininger

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Woodbury, Minnesota

Peter Matano Mnene

Taveta Lutheran Parish
Jerusalem Lutheran Parish
Uhuru Highway Lutheran Cathedral

Rode Shewaye Molla*

Christ Lutheran On Capitol Hill, St. Paul, Minnesota
Normandale Lutheran Church, Edina, Minnesota
St. Paul Mekane Yesus, St. Paul, Minnesota

Elizabeth LeeAnn Narr

Normandale Lutheran Church, Edina, Minnesota

Amanda Mae Nelson

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Missoula, Montana

Cody Lewis Oaks

Verilyn Roxane Pelava

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Kelsey Jo Plummer

Messiah New Hope Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Sitraka Rakotoarivelo*

FLM, Madagascar

George Mugambi Rinkanya

Camphor Memorial UMC, St. Paul, Minnesota

Chantell Marie Siltman

Erin Lee Sweet

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Kiester, Minnesota

CANDIDATES for DEGREES

George Changlak Timlak
CBC, Cameroon
Emmanuel Mennonite, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Hossana Yohanna
*The Lutheran Church of Christ In Nigeria (LCCN) Ikeja,
Lagos, Nigeria*
*The Lutheran Church Of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN) Federal
Capital Territory, Abuja, Abuja Diocese*
*The Lutheran Church Of Christ In Nigeria (LCCN) Kufuru
Gorobi, Mayo-Belwa Diocese*

Kyle Windham Zvejnieks* †

MASTER of SACRED MUSIC

The Master of Sacred Music degree is designed to educate church musicians theologically for service in the church as professional pastoral musicians.

Jason Michael Horner*
Minnetonka Lutheran Church, Minnetonka, Minnesota
Eastside Community Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Brice David Petersen*
St. James Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minnesota

MASTER of DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity degree provides a professional theological education for mission and ministry. This degree program prepares persons for ordained ministry in Christian communities.

Timothy John Balfanz

Jodell Lee Bauman Johnson*
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Nathaniel David Bendorf
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato, Minnesota

Norma Cleopatra Benson
St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church, St. Paul, Minnesota
*Eliza Turner African Methodist Episcopal Church, Monrovia,
Liberia*

Steven Eric Biedermann*
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Ankeny, Iowa

Ryan David Birkman*
University Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, St. Cloud, Minnesota
Salem English Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Heather Jo Bogacz
First United Church of Christ, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Elaine Marie Boyd
First Presbyterian Church, Willmar, Minnesota

Christopher William Brademeyer
Elim Lutheran Church, Fargo, North Dakota
St. John Lutheran Church, Verona, North Dakota

Amanda Brobst-Renaud * □
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin

Sharon Rose Brown
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, Norwalk, Ohio
St. John Lutheran Church, Sandusky, Ohio
Trinity Lutheran Evangelical Congregation, Sandusky, Ohio

Mark Alan Brynestad*
Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sierra Vista, Arizona
Grace Lutheran Church, Ridgecrest, California

Adam King Butler
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, Minnesota
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village, Colorado

Melissa Ann Carmack
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minnesota
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minnesota

Amy Joan Chalupnik*
Zion Lutheran Church, Buffalo, Minnesota
Word of Peace Lutheran Church, Rogers, Minnesota

Nancy Lynn Christman
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta, Georgia
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Anthony Doran Christoffels
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lake Wilson, Minnesota
Peace Lutheran Church, Fargo, North Dakota

Names of churches are the candidate's home and/or supporting congregations.

** Requirements to be met by August 31, 2013*

*** With distinction*

*✕ G. M. & Minnie Bruce Award
in New Testament*

□ A. E. Hanson Prize in Homiletics

◇ Graduate Preaching Fellowship

◆ The Children, Youth and Family Prize

Prize/fellowship descriptions, see page 14

CANDIDATES *for* DEGREES

Stephanie Rae Christoffels

Bethany-Elm Lutheran Church, Ivanhoe, Minnesota

Scott Allen Dalen

First Lutheran Church, Milford, Iowa

Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Audubon, Iowa

Trinity Lutheran Church, Sibley, Iowa

Angela Katherine Denker

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Maple Grove, Minnesota

Community Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, Nevada

Hope Marie Deutscher

Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead, Minnesota

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Hermosa, South Dakota

Elizabeth Michelle Dieseth

St. Stephen Lutheran, Urbandale, Iowa

Henry Sonoway Dolopei

African United Methodist Church, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

Living Spirit UMC, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Scott Francis Donnelly

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Erik Anders Doughty

Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer, Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Paul Reformation Lutheran, St. Paul, Minnesota

Salem Lutheran, Peoria, Illinois

Joshua Paul Feala

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Gretna, Nebraska

Chapel of Reconciliation, Augustana College, Sioux Falls,

South Dakota

Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

Chase Zangs Foreman

Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul, Minnesota

Central Lutheran Church, Arizona City and Casa Grande, Arizona

Denise Anne Fossen

Lord of Life Lutheran, Ramsey, Minnesota

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church on Franklin Lake,

Pelican Rapids, Minnesota

St. James Lutheran, Crystal, Minnesota

Aaron David Fuller ♦

St. Michael Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Balsamlund Lutheran Church, Aldrich, Minnesota

Frederick Maurice Gillespie

New Bethel Baptist Church, Manly, Iowa

Pilgrim Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Erik Paul Gravrock

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Novato, California

Alicia Ann Hilding

Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minnesota

Bethel Lutheran Church, Hudson, Wisconsin

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Rochester, Minnesota

Benjamin Carl Hilding

Bethel Lutheran Church, Hudson, Wisconsin

Edmonds Lutheran Church, Edmonds, Washington

First Lutheran Church, St. Peter, Minnesota

Christine Lynn Hjelmstad*

Ascension Lutheran, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Benjamin Alan Hollingsead

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, Bellevue, Nebraska

St. John's Lutheran Church, Stacy, Minnesota

Nicholas Konrad Huseby*

St. Mark Lutheran Church, Circle Pines, Minnesota

Susanne Lynn Johnson*

Family of God, Duluth, Minnesota

Waters of Life, Duluth, Minnesota

Emmanuel, Two Harbors, Minnesota

Maryanne B. Kehlenbach

St. Mark Lutheran Church, Dunedin, Florida

Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church, New Port Richey, Florida

Scott Michael Kiehn*

Bethesda Lutheran Church, Carlton, Minnesota

Lisa Jean Kipp

Zumbro Lutheran Church, Rochester, Minnesota

Natalie Anne Kramer

Ascension Lutheran Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Peace Lutheran Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Jeremiah Anson Lideen

Crossroads United Methodist Church, Lakeville, Minnesota

St. John's Lutheran Church, Howard Lake, Minnesota

Tricia Dawn Mattson

Family of God Lutheran Church, Duluth, Minnesota

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Timothy George Maybee

Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley, Iowa

Julie Elaine McCain

First Lutheran Church, Torrance, California

CANDIDATES for DEGREES

Jennifer Marie McLellan

*First Lutheran Church, Longmont, Colorado
Bethany Lutheran, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Trinity Lutheran, Brainerd, Minnesota*

Bradley Michael Mills

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, East Bethel, Minnesota
Easter Lutheran Church, Eagan, Minnesota*

Julia Elyse Nelson

Zion Lutheran Church, N. Manchester, Indiana

Zachary Charles Nelson

St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Hastings, Minnesota

Jennifer Vija Pietz *

*St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Lutheran Church of the Reformation, St. Louis Park, Minnesota*

Jesus Edilberto Purisaca*

*Park Avenue United Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Simpson United Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Iglesia La Puerta Abierta, United Methodist Church,
St. Paul, Minnesota*

Valorie Lynn Putt

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Everett, Washington
First Lutheran Church of Harris, Harris, Minnesota*

Sarah Lee Raymond

*Calvary Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota
Our Savior's, Devils Lake, North Dakota
Our Savior's, Valley City, North Dakota*

Elizabeth Ann Reinking

St. Thomas/Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri

Rachel Beth Ringlaben ◊

*Faith Lutheran Church, Little Rock, Arkansas
El Milagro Iglesia Luterana/The Miracle Lutheran Church,
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Trinity Lutheran Church, Vermillion, South Dakota*

Michael Walter Rusert

*Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Monticello, Minnesota*

Amanda Ellen Schultz

Adams Mountain Lutheran Church, Adams, North Dakota

Joseph Thomas Skogmo*

*Grace Lutheran Church, Wenatchee, Washington
Augustana Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota*

William Ryan Starkweather

*Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marietta, Georgia
Good Shepherd Lutheran, Mound, Minnesota
Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Ashley Elizabeth Updegraff-Balow ◻

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Manchester, Missouri
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Naperville, Illinois*

Bee W. Vang

Michael Robert Walerius

Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minnesota

Elise R. Wied

*Living Word Lutheran Church, Buda, Texas
Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Randy Lee Winsand

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, West Allis, Wisconsin
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Oro Valley, Arizona
Gilmanton United Methodist Church, Gilmanton, Wisconsin*

Cynthia Margaret Wunder

*Lake Nokomis Presbyterian, Minneapolis, Minnesota
First Presbyterian, Bend, Oregon*

Ann Yvonne Zastrow

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, Minnesota

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** Requirements to be met by August 31, 2013*

*** With distinction*

*✕ G. M. & Minnie Bruce Award
in New Testament*

◻ A. E. Hanson Prize in Homiletics

◊ Graduate Preaching Fellowship

◆ The Children, Youth and Family Prize

Prize/fellowship descriptions, see page 14

CANDIDATES *for* DEGREES

DOCTOR *of* MINISTRY

The Doctor of Ministry is the most advanced professional degree for ordained persons in the parish or related ministries. The primary emphasis of this degree is theological learning and research in the context of the practice of ministry.

Mary Elizabeth Albing *Minneapolis, Minnesota*
“Preaching to Heal: Narrative Therapy Practices in Christian Proclamation”

Kerry R. Aucker *Lock Haven, Pennsylvania*
“Cooperating Congregations in Mission: Fostering a New Vision”

Ronald Lawrence Baerg *Saskatoon, Saskatchewan*
“The Intersection of Faith and Management: How Does Christian Faith Impact the Work of Managers in Faith-Based Organizations?”

Wesley Dean Bixby *Janesville, Wisconsin*
“Companions in Preaching: Intentionally Involving the People of God in Sermon Creation”

Ramona Schadeberg Bouzard *Waverly, Iowa*
“Identity and Mission: Cross-Generational Connections at Wartburg College”

Karn Severson Carroll *Phoenix, Arizona*
“Preaching and Clifton StrengthsFinder: Engaging the Listener by Targeting Talents”

Glorestine Johnson Creighton *St. Paul, Minnesota*
“Ordination of Women in the African American Baptist Churches”

Jacob William Kwesi French *Accra, Ghana*
“Ethnic Enclaves or Missional Communities: A Study of Ghanaian Immigrant Congregations/Churches in Toronto, Canada”

Evan Paul Gaertner *Brighton, Michigan*
“Catechetical Preaching: A Purposeful Element for Faith Formation”

Peggy Lynn Harvey-Marose *Lewiston, Idaho*
“Send Down the Fire: The Reframing of Missional Identity during Recovery from a Fire”

Jeffery Joseph Heiderscheid *Plymouth, Minnesota*
“An Exploration of Partnership Between Congregations and Civil-Society Organizations”

James Alan Hendricksen *Edmonton, Alberta*
“Tilling the Good Soil: Faith Formation Through a Christian Preschool”

Jim Jacob Heuving *Surrey, British Columbia*
“Spirit-led Leadership: A New Way of Leadership for a Missional People”

Corey William Johnsrud *Santa Rosa, California*
“Healthy, Missional Churches: An Exploration of the Impact of the Veritas Seminar on Congregations”

Mark Roger Olson *Leech Lake, Minnesota*
“Walking the Red Road, The White Road, The Middle Road, or No Road? An Inquiry Into Ojibwe Spirituality in Northern Minnesota”

Blair Alison Pogue *Shoreview, Minnesota*
“The Worship God is Bringing Forth: Discerning God’s Leading in a Congregation Seeking to be in Relationship With its Neighbors”

Charles Edward Ransdell Jr. *Port Huron, Michigan*
“What Does This Mean? Confirmation as Missional Community in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod”

Carol Lynn Reed *St. Louis Park, Minnesota*
“Meeting God: Spiritual Practices and Transformation in the Congregation”

Audrey Lynn Schindler *Eugene, Oregon*
“A Heart as Loud as Lions: Poetic and Prophetic Voice in Women’s Preaching”

Daniel Walter Selbo *San Jose, California*
“Sermon Series and Faith Development: A Supplement to Lectionary Preaching”

CANDIDATES *for* DEGREES

Charles Kendall Stewart *Hector, Minnesota*
“Walking Together: The Development of a
Missional Relationship with Companion Synod
Partners Based on an Accompaniment Model”

MASTER *of* THEOLOGY

The Master of Theology is a research degree that provides continuing theological study through the discipline of academic excellence.

Yuki Goto** *Shizuoka, Japan*
“Missional Leadership in the Japan Evangelical
Lutheran Church”

Choong Un Lee *Seoul, South Korea*
“A Study of Lesslie Newbigin’s Missionary
Ecclesiology Regarding the Church, Mission, and
Culture within the Context of the Presbyterian
Church of Korea (PCK)”

Tae Woong Lee *Daejeon, Republic of Korea*
“The Suffering of God in Jeremiah”

David Thang Moe *Mindat, Chin State,
Myanmar (Burma)*
“Pyithu-Dukkha Theology: A Paradigm for Doing
Dialectical Theology of Divine Suffering and
Human Suffering in the Asian-Burmese Context”

Benjamin Joseph Shank *St. Paul, Minnesota*
“The Healing of Interpretation: Salutary Force as
a Hermeneutical Criterion for Reading Christian
Scripture”

DOCTOR *of* PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy is an advanced research degree designed to develop scholarly leadership for Christian churches and for work in the community of theological scholarship throughout the world.

Raymon Paul Hanson* *Maple Grove, Minnesota*
“A Socio-Rhetorical Examination of Twin Psalm
III-II2”

Sorle Stenersen Hovdenak *Holmestrand, Norway*
“Perspectives on Christianity in the Making of
Modernity: Luther’s Theology of Scripture and the
Seventeenth-Century Thinkers Grotius, Hobbes
and Spinoza”

Imliwabang Jamir* *Nagaland, India*
“Civic Vocation Among the Naga Christians in
Light of a Barthian Hermeneutic”

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in New Testament*

▣ A. E. Hanson Prize in Homiletics

◇ Graduate Preaching Fellowship

◆ The Children, Youth and Family Prize

Prize/fellowship descriptions, see page 14

CANDIDATES *for* DEGREES

AWARDS *for* ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Each year, several awards for excellence are given to students.

The awards given this year are:

A.E. HANSON PRIZES *in* HOMILETICS are awarded to graduating seniors based on homiletical skills.

THE G.M. *and* MINNIE BRUCE PRIZE in New Testament is awarded to one or more students based on papers written by graduating Master of Divinity or Master of Arts degree students in the area of New Testament.

THE GRADUATE

PREACHING FELLOWSHIP

is given to an outstanding Master of Divinity degree graduate from the senior class. The fellowship provides the recipient with financing to study preaching overseas to enhance his or her career in preaching and parish ministry.

THE CHILDREN, YOUTH *and* FAMILY PRIZE

is given annually to one or more students who demonstrate excellence in reflecting theologically, culturally and pragmatically on the practice of children, youth, young adult adult or family ministries.





Luther Seminary educates leaders for
Christian communities

- + called and sent by the
Holy Spirit
- + to witness to salvation through
Jesus Christ
- + and to serve in God's world

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