



Florida-Bahamas Synod's
School of Lay Ministry

Overview and Course Descriptions

“Let the one who would be great among you be your servant (diakonos).”

Mark 10:26

School of Lay Ministry prepares you through:

- **Spiritual formation and theological education in a well-rounded faith experience**
- **Identifying and encouraging skills in ministry**
- **Spiritual growth through worship and retreats**
- **A supportive**

Imagine if you were better equipped for ministry? You're already serving, but what if you knew more about the church, the Bible, and practical ministry.

Through our courses you would:

Be better prepared as a lay person for service in your congregation. Learn more about Lutheran theology, worship, and historical traditions. A deep commitment to service grounds School of Lay Ministry graduates.

Understand the baptismal vocation of all Christians to serve as Jesus did.

Participation in *School of Lay Ministry* is designed to deepen your life of faith and commitment to serve in the scriptural, theological, liturgical, and historical traditions of the church. Graduates serve the Church in a variety of ways: teaching, administration, liturgical leadership, action for social justice, evangelism, visitation of the sick, community organization, youth work, ministry among the elderly, and the like. They are helped by *the School of Lay Ministry* to grow closer to the image and example of Christ the servant. diakonia is Greek and means service among others.

For more information and how to enroll, visit our website: diakoniafl.org

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MARK 10:45

“ For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a

Are you one of the next diakonia Florida graduates?

How the Program Works

Diakonia is a course of study which consists of six to twelve courses; with weekly assignments and readings relating subject matter to your context of life and ministry (family, parish, community, area of ministry).

Choose Your Course Path

† Faith Formation Path (\$360-\$420)

Intro to the Hebrew Scriptures
Intro to the New Testament
Creeds and Confessions
Liturgical Worship
PLUS Two Electives

† Faith & Service Path (\$720-\$810)

Intro to the Hebrew Scriptures • Intro to the New Testament
Communicating the Gospel • Creeds and Confessions
Liturgical Worship • Christian Doctrine
• Ethics
Plus Five Electives

† Continuing Education Path

(for *diakonia* or other School of Lay Ministry graduates)
Any/all Foundational Courses* are a one time \$35 fee.

Other Courses and prices — visit diakoniafl.org/course-listing

Scholarships are available -

Our goal is that no one will be turned away because of financial need .

Two Venues

In-Person—offered in different geographic areas of the state with the enrollment of two or more students in that area.

Self-Study—offered through the School of Lay Ministry's website with an assigned coach. The Self-Study track is self paced.

See our website: diakoniafl.org and scroll down to *Frequently Asked Questions..*

Florida-Bahama Synod's
SCHOOL OF LAY MINISTRY

Courses

A more detailed explanation of the courses may be found on our website..

* Foundation Courses

Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures *

In relation to contemporary ministry contexts, you will be introduced to key themes and issues in the study of the Old Testament.

Introduction to the New Testament *

Relating the New Testament to contemporary ministry contexts, you will be introduced to key themes and issues in the study of the New Testament.

Christian Doctrine *

You will identify foundational doctrines, be introduced to Systematic Theology, and present a vision of the coherence of Christian beliefs to each other.

Ethics *

An introduction to concepts and systems by which the Christian tradition has taught personal and public morality.

By What Authority? *

You will see how the drama of the early (first 400 years) church's formation has direct connections to your life of faith today.

Connecting Sunday to Monday *

You will explore connecting faith to daily life. How do we live with our faith at the center?

We Must Plant the Church *

Understanding American Lutheran history can change the way we see ourselves and our future.

Creeds and Confessions *

Understand and express why disciplined thought and faithful confession is crucial for church leaders.

Liturgical Worship *

Explore the wide diversity of Cristian worship practices within the ELCA from traditional to contemporary.

Visitation *

You will be provided the opportunity to make at least one supervised visit in an institution and/or to the homebound, and you will be provided opportunities to relate visitation ministry to the theology and worship life of the church.

(Courses continued)

visitation ministry to the theology and worship life of the church.

Communicating the Gospel *

You'll explore a Christian way of doing functional theology and ministry, "at that exciting point where Word, world, and baptized servant converge."

Good God Questions (1) and Good God Questions (2)

Luther Seminary professors share their thoughts on questions arising from the complexities of life and faith.

Biblical Images

Centered in the "Great Commission" given to us by Christ, you will consider the implications of Biblical Images for the life of congregations and their ministries.

Equipping Households of Faith I and II

A passion and concern for teaching the bible with children, youth & their families is the heart of this series.

Meeting God in Prayer

Six session videos you may watch in any order on Prayer.

Service and Learning: A Way of Life

Focus on encountering scripture through the call to serve our neighbor as Christ loved and served us.

Systematic Theology

Twelve ELCA theologian presenters remind us that the unity all Christians share in the gospel does not call for a uniformity that denies or reflects the welcome truth that theology is best done in dialogue and conversation.



Contact

For cost, forms, FAQs,
or more information:

diakoniafl.org or

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