

Are You Someone Who

- ◆ Desires to develop skills in Bible, pastoral care, church history, spirituality, leadership and more?
- ◆ Has a heart for the people of God and an interest in serving others as a member of the “priesthood of all believers”?
- ◆ Demonstrates spiritual maturity?
- ◆ Demonstrates leadership skills which can nurture and guide others?
- ◆ Feels a deep sense of commitment to serve Jesus Christ and the Church?



If so, we invite you to prayerfully consider becoming a Parish Ministry Associate in the Nebraska Synod, ELCA.

The PMA Program helps you identify God-given gifts and equips you for the ministry of sharing the Good News among all people in response to the unique ministry needs in our Nebraska synod. PMAs answer God’s call and serves according to the interests and availability:

- ◆ Specialized volunteer in their home congregation
- ◆ Pulpit supply in their area
- ◆ Serving on a church or parish staff
- ◆ Assignment by the bishop to a congregation where full-time pastoral services are not possible

Pastors, congregation members, spiritual directors, friends and synod staff can help you discern your call to ministry.



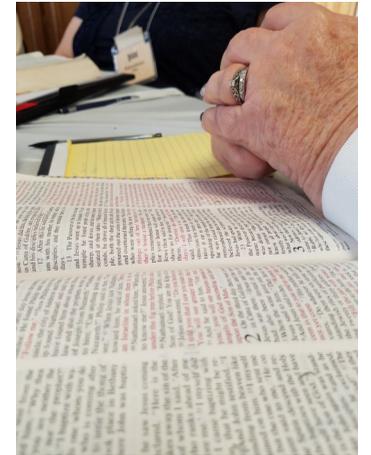
PMAs feeling called to an even deeper commitment to learning and service are encouraged to pursue ordination as a pastor or deacon. A wide variety of study options are available.

Serve
the LORD
with
Gladness

Forms of Ministry

Upon successful completion of requirements and certification for ministry, PMAs serve their congregation or our synod by providing leadership in areas such as:

- ◆ Worship Leadership
- ◆ Pulpit Supply
- ◆ Christian Education
- ◆ Pastoral Care
- ◆ Church Administration
- ◆ Youth & Family Ministry
- ◆ Transitional Ministry in Congregations



Expectations

- ◆ Commitment to completing your studies in two to five years
- ◆ An active relationship with a mentoring pastor
- ◆ Financial commitment to your studies
- ◆ Endorsement by your pastor and home congregation
- ◆ A willingness to serve after being trained, including in ways you may not have imagined
- ◆ Always working in partnership and support of pastors
- ◆ 12 hours of continuing education per year

Application Process

The application packet is on the Parish Ministry Associate page at www.nebraskasynod.org. All program information is there and downloadable. Send your completed application to the PMA office address listed on the back page. Checks are payable to Nebraska Synod. In the memo line please write “PMA Application”. Admission decisions are made by the PMA Steering Committee and include a background check.



Parish Ministry Associate

Required Training

Self-paced course over two to five years
29 credit hours of required courses
5 credit hours of electives
Attend 2 PMA Convocations
(usually in March or April)

Courses take place in Nebraska
Either through a facilitator-led course with other students
or online with Select Learning
Tuition varies dependent on learning method and credit hours

Required Courses

Bible

How Lutherans Interpret the Bible
Introduction to the Old Testament
Introduction to the New Testament

Theology & Ethics

Getting Down to Basics: Augsburg Confession & Small Catechism
Systematic Theology: Fundamentals of Christian Theology
Ethics in Lutheran Perspective

Church History

From Jesus to Luther
Reformation Roots
We Must Plant the Church

Ministry Practice

Foundations of Biblical Preaching
Good God Questions
Let's Talk About Death
Leadership course

Spiritual Discernment & Faith Development

Electives

Explore an area of interest to you more deeply or broaden the scope of your studies.
We encourage studies in Worship, Outreach, Youth Ministry, Education,
Stewardship and Leadership.

For more information, contact:
Pastor Carol Mapa
PMA Administrator
308-532-0252, option 4
pma@nebraskasynod.org

Mail applications to:
PMA Office
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
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Nebraska Synod

Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America