

Discerning a Call

- Are you on a personal spiritual journey?
- Are you committed to a faithful prayer life?
- Are you willing to share your personal faith experience?
- Do people seem drawn to you for a discussion of spiritual questions?
- Do you seek a strong foundation from which to refine your skills to respond to God's call?
- Is God calling you to companion others on their spiritual journeys?
- Do you have a spiritual director?

Dates for the
upcoming
Cohorts in 2023
will be coming
soon

Questions? Contact:

Pastor Brad Meyer,
2556 S. 138th Street
Omaha, NE 68144
pastorbrad@rejoiceomaha.org
402-334-1999

www.seekingthespiritwithin.org



Nebraska Synod ELCA
Program of Christian
Spiritual Direction Formation

Mission Statement

We seek the Spirit within to
prepare people for the ministry of
spiritual direction.

Vision Statement

Program Fees

\$75 Non-refundable application fee.

\$1,200 each of 4 semesters.

Fees include:

- Instruction
- Supervision
- Accommodations/ Meals for residential retreats
- Handouts
- Use of meeting space

*Members of NE Synod may apply for a mission grant for 20% of the cost.

What is **NOT** included:

- Books
- Travel
- Computer expenses

Application Procedures

Persons interested in this program should contact the Director for materials, complete required application form and submit a personal faith essay.

Each applicant should ask his/her pastor and one other person from his/her church home to submit a reference form and letter of recommendation. Each applicant will be expected to participate in a one-on-one interview. A background check will be required for all persons admitted to the program.

To receive the Certificate of Completion, the participant must complete the following:

- Required readings
- Assigned papers during the two years
- Timely participation on dialogue board
- Practicum of giving and receiving spiritual direction
- Practicum supervision
- Participation in all scheduled residencies

- Develop a culture of spiritual growth in the Nebraska Synod so that we might more effectively serve for the sake of the world.
- Deepen understanding of prayer and spiritual practices.
- Increase vocabulary to articulate spiritual experiences.
- Develop capacity to trust and listen contemplatively to others.
- Understand principles and practices of discerning God's voice in spiritual journeys.
- Deepen understanding of self, others, and God; and understand possible barriers to spiritual growth.
- Study and learn from mystics and the deep heritage of spiritual direction from the past.
- Discover and understand strengths, limits, and shadows of one's divine giftedness.
- Serve as director for individuals while participating in Supervision.

Program Description

Spiritual Direction is an ancient form of strengthening and encouraging one another in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Spiritual Direction seeks to attend to God's activity in the lives of both director and directee.

The Nebraska Synod of the ELCA seeks to respond to an increasing request for spiritual direction and spiritual retreats by preparing those who are experiencing a call from God for this ministry.

While we recognize and honor spiritual beliefs and practices of other faith traditions, this is a Christian program.

Program Requirements

The Nebraska Synod offers a two-year program of development for people sensing a call to be spiritual directors for others who are seeking to deepen their spiritual lives and personal relationship with Christ.

Participants will meet in regularly scheduled residencies, study materials to deepen their understanding of the practices and principles of spiritual direction, and develop skills in both listening and speaking to others about matters of spiritual development.

Participation in every residency is essential for the successful completion and certification for this program.
