## **Testimonials**

"I became more connected with the Lord, strengthened my faith and developed a new spiritual direction."

"diakonia has provided me the spiritual nourishment that I have been seeking. In return, it has helped to empower me to go forth in service to others with joy."

"My faith grows daily as I study and think."

"We are all called to serve. We are all called to bear witness to the gospel. But it can be very challenging to discern exactly HOW to serve. For those adults in our congregations who are engaged in a process of looking for new ways to live out their baptismal calling, one outstanding resource is the diakonia program. Through a two-year course of study, prayer, and growing faith friendships, diakonia has led dozens of dedicated Christians to a deeper engagement with faith and life."

- Bishop Wayne Miller, Metropolitan Chicago Synod (2007-2019)





#### For more information:



Email Ellen Lindemann, National Chairperson Ellen.Lindemann@raritanval.edu



We are active in 11 synods! Visit our website www.diakoniausa.org



Find the National diakonia Program on Facebook! Like our page and join our group.





Fquipping the Saints
for diakonia;
Building up the
Body of Christ.

- **Ephesians 4:12** -



# Is diakonia right for you?

- Are you looking for a deeper faith life?
- Have you been wondering what God has in mind for you?
- Do you want to be better equipped for Christian service?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, **diakonia** may be what you're looking for!

## What is diakonia?

The **diakonia** program is a process of spiritual formation and theological education for baptized members of the ELCA or anyone wishing in good faith to study these teachings. This process occurs in three ways:

- By thorough grounding in classic seminary disciplines
- By identifying skills and aptitudes for ministry
- By providing spiritual growth through worship, retreats and a supportive community of fellow students, mentors and instructors
- Our instructors are local pastors, deacons or lay leaders

### **Courses**

#### **Series A**

- ⇒ Introduction to the New Testament
- ⇒ Church History: The First 400 Years
- ⇒ Practical Ministry I: Biblical Images of the Life of the Church
- ⇒ Creeds and Confessions
- ⇒ Practical Ministry II: Visitation: The Sick, the Homebound, the Grieving
- ⇒ TheDaily Life of a Christian

### Series B

- ⇒ Introduction to the Old Testament
- ⇒ Christian Doctrine
- ⇒ Faith in the American Context
- ⇒ Practical Ministry III: Communicating the Gospel
- ⇒ Christian Worship
- ⇒ Christian Ethics

## What does diakonia cost?

- ⇒ Tuition: \$60.00 per course
- ⇒ Books: Costs vary per course; the average cost is \$25-\$35
- ⇒ Fees: A \$25 non-refundable registration fee is required for first-time students. Graduation fees vary by program and cover graduation expenses, including the presentation of a commemorative diakonia cross.
- ⇒ Financial aid: Financial aid is available for tuition only. Congregations are encouraged to help with costs. It is our goal to never turn someone away due to financial need.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** God's work. Our hands.

