

## Program Curriculum

The program consists of the following courses:

- Life of Christ
- New Testament Overview
- Old Testament Overview
- Small Catechism
- \*Life of Luther
- \*Law and Gospel
- \*Church and Ministry
- \*The Christian Family
- \*Christian Leadership
- Biblical Worship
- Evangelism (3 modules)
- Teaching (2 modules)
- Christian Doctrine
- Other Churches and Religions

*\* indicates courses that can be taught by a guest speaker as a one-day seminar hosted by your congregation*

## Capstone Courses

Students completing the above courses will qualify for a final program of Capstone courses:

- WELS History and Structure
- Basics of Culture
- Bible Interpretation

## For Further Information

*Please Contact:*

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM



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# CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM

**Preparing Men and Women for  
Service in their Local Congregation**

**Let us not become weary in doing  
good, for at the proper time we will  
reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

**Therefore, as we have opportunity,  
let us do good to all people,  
especially to those who belong to the  
family of believers.**

**Galatians 6:9-10**

## ***What is a Congregational Assistant?***

A Congregational Assistant is a called worker who works within his or her own congregation by assisting the congregation and its pastor in various areas of service.

There are many areas of service to which an assistant can be called. The work an assistant may do mainly depends on the needs of the congregation and talents of the worker. Some areas of service that assistants have been called to include outreach and evangelism, senior ministry, youth and family ministry, adult spiritual growth, assimilation, visitation ministry, and mentoring and coordinating volunteers.

An assistant call can take the form of a volunteer position, a part-time salaried position, or a full-time salaried position. Because calling bodies may find needs for assistants of either gender, the program is open to men and women alike.

One strength of the program is that students are able to serve while they are studying, and what is learned can immediately be applied in the local setting.

## ***How Does This Program Work?***

The majority of the courses are taught by the student's local pastor or staff minister, and they are often scheduled as a part of the congregation's offerings for adult spiritual growth; this minimizes the additional work for the pastor and expands the variety of opportunities for nurturing within the congregation. Where there are interested individuals and congregations in geographic proximity, pastors are able to take turns and share the teaching load of the courses. Five of the courses can also be taught by an outside instructor as a one-day seminar.

The final component of the program, the only element not offered locally, is a 8-day Capstone Session split between New Ulm, Minnesota, and Milwaukee and Mequon, Wisconsin. Students participate in Capstone after completing the other program requirements.

The congregational assistant courses do not earn credit toward any other form of synod certification except the Pastoral Studies Institute of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

## ***What Does It Cost To Participate?***

The only cost for the courses is the cost of the materials. The cost for one complete set of materials is around \$100.00. The materials may be purchased from our website or by emailing the administrative assistant.

For the 8-day Capstone Session there is a minimal fee for the courses taught, a fee for room and board, and whatever the student's transportation costs might be.

## ***How Do I Enroll ?***

The first step in enrolling in the program is to talk to your pastor about participating. Since he will be teaching the majority of the courses, both of you need to be ready to make a three to five year commitment, which is the typical length of program completion.

Next, you will fill out an enrollment form and your pastor will fill out a pastor's recommendation form. Both of the forms are then returned to the CAP office for approval. After the director has approved your enrollment, you are ready to begin your studies.