

## VIII. Teaching the Faith

### A. Course Description

This is a foundational course that examines the principles and practices of Christian education at the parish level. Special attention is given to a Lutheran perspective of education, the psychology of learning, the art of teaching, on-going catechesis, and support systems for parish education. "Teaching the Faith" is not the only course that equips students to teach parishioners the truth of Lutheran Doctrine. However, this course will concentrate its activities and readings on the subject of the education of the parishioners, young and old.

### B. Course Goals

#### 1. General: Students will:

- a. Grow in their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- b. Exemplify a life lived under the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins.
- c. Increase their reliance upon the Means of Grace for ministry.
- d. Grow in their understanding and their love of people, empathizing with them, and desiring to serve them according to their needs.
- e. Strengthen their commitment to the Scriptural truth that God desires all to be saved and to come to a knowledge of truth.

#### 1. Specific: Students will:

- a. Provide pastoral leadership based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions emphasizing outreach to the lost.
- b. Lead the congregation in Christian education and other nurture programs that care for the needs of all members.
- c. Integrate the theological disciplines (biblical, systematic, historical and practical) in his life and work.
- d. Properly interpret the Scripture, rightly dividing law and gospel.
- e. Pray for the members of the congregation and for the lost.

### C. Recommended Texts

1. A. L. Barry, Catechesis in the Lutheran Congregation
2. Donald L. Griggs, Teaching Teachers to Teach
3. Jane L. Fryar, Go and Make Disciples
4. Book of Concord
5. Luther's Small Catechism
6. Thomas Zimmerman, Christian Catechesis, CTS DELTO Course

### D. Lesson Summary

- Unit 1 - What is Teaching the Faith?
- Unit 2 - History and Future of teaching the faith
- Unit 3 - Theology of Education
- Unit 4 - Getting to Know the Students
- Unit 5 - Techniques I
- Unit 6 - Techniques II
- Unit 7 - A Global View for the Congregation
- Unit 8 - Putting It to Work