

# Diploma in Christian Ministry

*Entering Students of the 2023-2024 Academic Year*

The Diploma in Christian Ministry is designed to prepare mature students who sense a call later in life to serve within the Church of the Lutheran Brethren or in other church bodies or mission organizations but do not have the bachelor's degree which is prerequisite for the Master of Divinity Degree (see Non-Degree Applicant section). The Diploma in Christian Ministry provides an opportunity for students who have completed 32 general education credits as prescribed to complete a program of ministry training without receiving a formal academic degree. The General Education prerequisites are required in the belief that they are needed for the student to have the basic skills to benefit from this course of study leading to being prepared for Christian ministry.

The student will follow essentially the same course of study as prescribed for the Master of Divinity degree.

Should a graduate of the LBS Diploma ever subsequently complete an accredited college baccalaureate degree, the Diploma degree may be exchanged for either an MTS or MDiv degree, upon the recommendation of the faculty, provided that: 1.) Diploma credits have not been used in another degree program; and 2.) all of the academic requirements stipulated in the current LBS catalog for those degrees are satisfied.

## Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret the Bible in its parts and in its whole through use of its original languages and appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical methods.
- B. Articulate and apply the doctrinal teachings as set forth in the Scriptures and confessed in the CLB Statement of Faith.
- C. Proclaim God's saving work in Jesus Christ through the public and private ministries of the Word and Sacrament.
- D. Demonstrate knowledge and skills for leading congregations.
- E. Demonstrate capacity for faithful involvement in God's mission through His Church.
- F. Demonstrate personal integrity and love for God, His Church, and the world.

## General Education Prerequisites for the Diploma in Christian Ministry (32 credits)

**At a minimum, the student must meet the following general education prerequisites prior to admission into the program:**

### Communications (6 credits)

Speech	3 credits
English Composition	3 credits

### Behavioral/Social Science (12 credits)

Western Civilization, I, II	6 credits
General Psychology	3 credits
Introduction to Sociology	3 credits

### Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credits)

Introduction to Philosophy	3 credits
Literature	3 credits

### Natural Science/Math

**(3 credits)**

**The following are also required either prior to or following admission:**

Humanities Electives (5 credits)

### Total General Education Prerequisites 32 credits

In addition, 90 Seminary credits are required. The Diploma in Christian Ministry will be granted to students who have completed the 32 credits of prescribed general education prerequisites plus the 90 required credits outlined in the Seminary Diploma in Christian Ministry program of study.

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## Seminary Year 1

PT 900 Introduction to Seminary Education 1

**Total Credit 1**

### Fall

EB 635	New Testament Introduction I	2
HT 715	Church History	3
NT 601	New Testament Greek I	3
PT 912	Supervised Ministry Education	1
WM 757	World Religions & New Religious Movements	3

**Total Credits 12**

### Spring

EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3
EB 636	New Testament Introduction II	2
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
NT 602	New Testament Greek II	3
PT 901	Homiletics	3
PT 913	Supervised Ministry Experience	1

**Total Credits 15**

## Seminary Year 2

### Fall

NT 605	Exegesis of a Gospel	3
OT 601	Beginning Biblical Hebrew	4
PT 903	Preaching Lab	1
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3
PT 914	Supervised Ministry Education	1
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

**Total credits 15**

### Spring

EB 612	Old Testament Prophets	3
NT 636	Exegesis of Galatians	3
OT 602	Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis	3
PT 915	Supervised Ministry Education	1
ST 822	Systematic Theology II	3
WM 755	Cross Cultural Communication	3

**Total credits 16**

## Seminary Year 3

### Fall

EB 613	OT Poetry & Wisdom	3
PT 905	Preaching Lab	1
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3
WM 751	The Church in Mission	3

**Total credits 13**

### Spring

PT 932	Theology & Practice of Evangelism	3
PT 965	Personal Wellness in Ministry	3
ST 824	Systematic Theology Capstone	1
ST 836	Ethics	3
ELEC	Directed Study	2

**Total credits 12**

### Biennial Courses

*Offered every other year to 2nd & 3rd Year students*

PT 920	Worship	2
PT 909	Leadership in Ministry	2
PT 911	Teaching ministry of the Congregation	2

*Offered:*

Fall	2023
Spring	2024
Spring	2025

**Total required credits 90**