



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

There are terms, which you will hear used during discussions of Lay Deacons and those Licensed for Ministry within the Southeastern District.

Certified Lay Minister

A professional church worker on the LCMS Roster of Commissioned Ministers.

Currently there are 15 Certified Lay Ministers who are members of the Southeastern District.

Lay Deacon Program

A series of 10 online courses offered through Concordia College – New York designed to train and equip the laity for service within their congregation and community.

Currently 13 lay people from the Southeastern District have graduated from and 11 lay people are enrolled in the Lay Deacon Program.

Certified Lay Deacon

A lay person who has completed the 10 courses, as well as a prescribed number of supervised service hours within their congregation. They are able to serve in many areas of ministry (Mercy, Education, Visitation, Outreach, Evangelism and Church Planting – but not in public preaching or administration of the sacraments).

NOTE: This term is used for both men and women as the term “Deaconess” refers to a Rostered position.

Licensed for Ministry

A professional church worker on the LCMS Roster of Commissioned Ministers or a trained lay person who has been granted special permission by the District President to serve in Word and Sacrament Ministry at the request of a congregation in need.

Applications for an individual must be submitted by a representative of the requesting congregation to the Office of the President. These applications are good for one calendar year and must be renewed annually each January.

Within the SED we have both Commissioned Workers and Trained Lay Workers serving in these roles.

Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP)

A professional church worker on the LCMS Roster of Ordained Ministers.

SMP Colloquy

A regional interview process yet to be established at the Synodical level that will allow those who have been trained and served in a Licensed for Ministry capacity for 2 or more years, and are over 50 years of age to apply for this alternate route to ordination.