

Luther Seminary

Application for DOCTOR OF MINISTRY IN BIBLICAL PREACHING

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Graduate Theological Education, Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108
gte@luthersem.edu, 651-641-3203

Personal Information

NAME: _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

CURRENT POSITION: _____

WORK ADDRESS: _____
Organization Street

City State Zip Code

HOME PHONE: _____ **OFFICE PHONE:** _____

E-MAIL: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____

FULL NAME OF YOUR DENOMINATION: _____

DATE OF YOUR ORDINATION: _____

Academic Background

Please give the following information for each degree you have earned:

Institution	Location	Degree Earned	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Have you ever been denied admission to, been dismissed from, or been on disciplinary probation at any seminary or graduate school? Yes No

If "yes," please attach an explanatory statement.

Ministerial Experience

All students are required to have been engaged at least three years in a full-time, church-recognized ministry such as a parish, a church administrative position, an educational, or a social or humanitarian position. Please list all such positions of ministry in which you have been employed, beginning with the most recent.

Position	Congregation or Agency	Dates

If ministry is a "second career," please attach a statement detailing your employment history outside of ministry.

Transcripts

Official transcripts of college, seminary, or other graduate work must be sent directly from the schools to the Office of Graduate Theological Education (see address on page 3). Transcripts must clearly show that you have received the Master of Divinity degree or its formal academic equivalent.

Letters of Reference

Three letters of reference must be sent directly to Office of Graduate Theological Education (see address on page 3). Given the practical orientation of the DMin degree, your most effective sources of reference will include your ministry supervisor (Bishop, etc.), a clergy colleague, and a lay person (e.g., the president of your congregation, agency, etc.) familiar with your current ministry. Please list below those persons from whom such references may be expected:

Reference 1: _____

Reference 2: _____

Reference 3: _____

NOTE: If you come from a school that does not give letter grades or uses some form of the pass/fail system, provide names and email of two professors who are familiar with your academic work:

Academic Reference 1: _____

Academic Reference 2: _____

Assessment of Vocation and Ministry

Please reflect self-critically and theologically about the following questions. Each essay should be no more than three double-spaced pages in length, and will serve also as a writing sample. Therefore, please construct your responses so that they accurately reflect your ability to communicate clearly in written English.

1. Describe and reflect upon your practice of preaching, making explicit the theological themes, principles, and values that inform it.
2. Reflect upon how you hope this D.Min. program will help you to improve your preaching, describing what you see as your strengths and primary areas for growth.

Sermon Sample

You must include with your application the written text of one of your preached sermons.

Letter of Support

A letter of support by your congregation or other ecclesial community in the form supplied (page 4) is required. The requirement of such sponsorship highlights the practical and contextual nature of this program, as participants will view and use their congregational context as a primary locus of their learning and will rely upon the active participation of the members of their community to complete their degree.

Application Deadline

All application materials must be postmarked to the Luther Seminary Office of Graduate Theological Education addressed as follows by February 15:

Dr. Paul J. Lokken
Associate Dean – Graduate Theological Education
Luther Seminary
2481 Como Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

If you believe that there are any special circumstances in your background, experience, or current situation bearing upon your candidacy not elsewhere reflected in your application, please feel free to include them in a covering letter.

Seminary Policies

Notification of results will normally be mailed to each applicant on or about April 1. Your application will be treated as confidential material. Luther Seminary admits students of any race, color, sex, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin.

Attestation and Signature

I acknowledge that all statements on this application and its attachments are true to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNED _____ **DATE** _____

Congregational Letter of Support

Description of the Program

Because Luther Seminary's Doctor of Ministry program in Biblical Preaching offers a course of advanced theological study that is practical and contextual, the support of a sponsoring ecclesial community (usually a local congregation) is critical to the success of each candidate.

In addition to preparing for and participating in three three-week summer residency courses of instruction, participants will:

- Preach two sermons in their ministry context as part of their post-residency work each year;
- Make use of a Parish Response Group both to shape and evaluate these sermons and to reflect more generally with the participant on his/her course of study; and
- Design and execute two projects related to their ministry context as well as a final thesis connecting this work to their primary area of interest.

Pledge of Support

Understanding these components of the course of study, _____ (name of sponsoring community) pledges to support _____ (name of candidate) in his/her work in the following ways:

- Lift up the candidate in prayer;
- Encourage the candidate in his/her study;
- Allow adequate time for preparation for, and participation in, the summer residencies; and
- Support the candidate's post-residency work by forming a Parish Response Group and participating in the candidate's projects as appropriate.

NAME _____ **POSITION** _____

SIGNED _____ **DATE** _____