

Keynote speaker for 2006 Bishop's Leadership Days

The Rev. Dr. Mark N. Swanson
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

The Rev. Dr. Mark N. Swanson joined the faculty of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago on July 1, 2006, as the Harold S. Vogelaar Professor of Christian-Muslim Studies and Interfaith Relations. He is also working with the newly-formed Center for Christian-Muslim Engagement for Peace and Justice, which will be inaugurated this Thurs., Sept. 21, and followed by a major conference.

With his spouse, the Rev. Rosanne Swanson, he has served parishes in Cairo, Egypt and Rome, Italy. From 1984 – 1998, Swanson taught Greek, New Testament exegesis, and Arabic Christian theology at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo, Egypt. He joined the faculty of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., in 1998, where he was director of the Islamic Studies Program until joining the LSTC faculty this summer.



Swanson holds a doctorate from the Pontifical Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies in Rome. He earned the master of arts degree in religious studies (Islamic studies) from the Hartford Seminary in Connecticut and the master of divinity degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. His writings include numerous articles on the Arabic Christian theological and churchly heritage, especially as it relates to Islam. Since 1998, he has given lectures and workshops for over 100 church groups on the topics of Islam and Christian-Muslim relations.

Swanson will be speaking twice at the Delaware-Maryland Synod Bishop's Leadership Days: Sunday evening and Monday morning. The two different presentations will be on the broad topic of Christian-Muslim relations and ministry in today's world.

For an excellent and very readable introduction to Dr. Swanson, click on the article Mark Swanson Joins LSTC Faculty in the Summer 2006 edition of The Epistle, the LSTC magazine. (lstc.edu/resources/publications/epistle/summer_06/sum06_sec1.pdf#search=%22Swanson%22)