

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

- Youth completing grades 11 or 12 by June 2009.
Please include multicultural representation.
- Member of an ELCA congregation.
- Persons willing to commit to serious biblical and theological study. Academic ability is important because of the reading required, as well as the fast pace of the sessions with seminary faculty.
- Persons willing and able to work on their own to complete reading assignments and projects.
- Persons willing to participate in a small group process for reflection and dialogue.
- Persons who could be challenged and confronted with the Gospel in significant ways and who, in the future, would tend to benefit by and use the experience for ministry in their daily life -- no matter what that may be.

*The experience is **NOT** primarily for, focused on, or limited to persons who would, at this time, consider attending seminary. It **IS** an event which might present that opportunity to young persons or help them discern a sense of calling. It **IS** a good opportunity to identify youth who may be among those who could serve well in the future as a rostered leader.*

- Persons who are not currently active in synod or congregational youth ministry programs, as well as those who are currently active, should be considered and encouraged to participate.

This event may appeal to some youth who are not currently involved, precisely because it is a different kind of event.

For more information, please contact:

Sandra Holland, AIM
Region 9-ELCA
4201 North Main Street
Columbia, SC 29203
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Phone: 803-461-3263
Fax: 803-461-3380

YOUTH INFORMATION FORM

Bishop's School 2009

(To be completed by youth participant)

Please write clearly on this form

Name _____ M / F
Current year in school: 11th grade / 12th grade *(circle one)*
E-mail address _____
Address _____

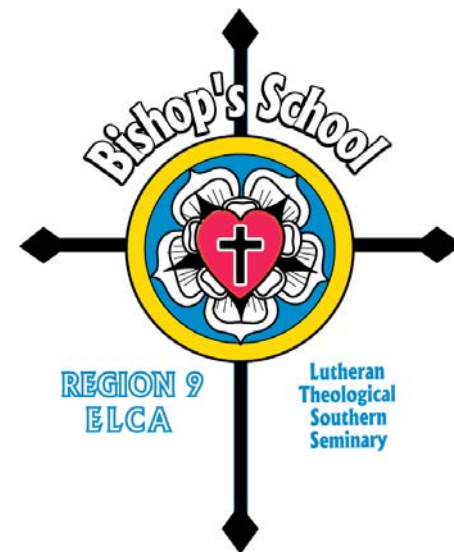
City _____ State _____
Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
Home Congregation _____
City/State of congregation _____
Birth date _____
T-shirt size: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL *(circle one)*
Special Interests _____

Hobbies _____

Past involvement in the church *(local, synod, and/or beyond)*

Each youth applying to the 2009 Bishop's School is required to provide a one or two paragraph paper describing why he or she is interested in this event. Please attach the paper to this Information Form.

Please return this form to your home congregation pastor to send in with the nomination form. All nominations are due by March 1, 2009.



June 20-27, 2009

Sponsored by
Region 9-ELCA and
Lutheran Theological
Southern Seminary
Columbia, SC

Purpose: To recognize, encourage, equip, enlighten, and inspire Lutheran senior high youth through a resident seminary educational experience focused on Christian faith, theology and doctrine, biblical understanding, church history and heritage, institutional structures, and a multicultural immersion experience.

The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2009.
Only 30 students, who are currently in
11th or 12th grade, will be accepted.

What is Bishop's School?

BACKGROUND:

Bishop's School was introduced in Region 9 in 1991 and first implemented in June 1992. Since that date, over 275 high school youth have participated in this life-changing event. Bishop's School takes place on the campus of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. Youth are housed in the Seminary dorm, worship in Christ Chapel, and study with seminary faculty.

The event is designed for in-depth study and discussion of basic theological tenets of the Christian faith. Participants are in class several hours a day, spend time in daily reflection and study, and participate in small groups for reflection.

A multicultural immersion experience in the Latino/a community in Columbia will offer numerous opportunities to assist youth in their faith journeys. Faith interviews, a variety of worship opportunities, and local service projects will provide a rich experience away from the campus. Free time is scheduled to help balance learning with reflection and relaxation.

STAFF:

Professors for the event include the Rev. Shauna K. Hannan, Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary; Lutheran clergy, and other lay rostered leaders, seminarians, and the Bishop in Residence, the Rev. Jim F. Mauney, Bishop of the Virginia Synod. As faith enablers, they meet in small groups with youth to reflect on class sessions, discussion questions, and issues of concern. The coordinators for Bishop's School are Sandra Holland, AIM, Associate Director for Ministry, Region 9-ELCA, and Jenny Tomalka, Director of Admissions, Southern Seminary.

PARTICIPANTS:

Participants include 30 youth nominated by a parish pastor or lay rostered leader in his or her home congregation. Each rostered leader is encouraged to use the guidelines for inclusiveness in nominating youth (see back panel).

HOW TO NOMINATE:

The home pastor or adult youth leader of each applicant completes the attached nomination form and writes a letter of reference. Each youth nominated writes a paragraph or two about why he/she wants to participate in the event and also fills out the attached information form.

COSTS:

A registration fee of **\$425** for each youth participating covers all housing and meals during the event. Transportation costs to and from Columbia are not included. **Synods or the home congregations of participants are encouraged to pay these costs.**

(Qualified youth should not be left out because of lack of funds. If such a situation arises, contact your synod office to request scholarship funds.)

Nomination Form Bishop's School 2009 (To be completed by a rostered leader)

Name of youth _____

Why are you nominating this person? (please attach a letter of reference)

Please list below any issues, problems, concerns, or special needs which would assist Bishop's School staff in working with this youth.

Person making this nomination:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Agency or individual responsible for paying the registration fee of \$425:

_____ Synod (specify)

_____ Home Congregation

_____ Nominee

(payment will be due upon acceptance)

Rostered leader's signature:

Please return to:

Sandra Holland
Region 9 - ELCA
4201 North Main Street
Columbia, SC 29203

Fax: 803-461-3380

E-Mail: sandrah@ltss.edu

Please mail in:

- 1- Youth information form**
- 2- Paragraphs prepared by the youth nominated**
- 3- Nomination form signed by rostered leader**
- 4- Letter of reference by rostered leader**