



The diakonia Program

Growing in Faith: The Diakonia Program

2023 Grand Canyon Synod Mission and Ministry Story

Re-imagined

Growing in Faith: The Diakonia Program is a 40+ year old ministry within the ELCA committed to fostering learning environments for followers of Jesus to grow in faith. In the fall of 2022, the program was reimagined, taking the best of the existing program, adding new elements and more flexibility with a Foundation Year and optional subsequent Practical Year tracks.



Community of Disciples

There are currently three Growing in Faith communities in the Grand Canyon Synod with cohorts in Metro Phoenix, Tucson, and Online offering classes, retreats, and mutual care to equip followers of Jesus to live out their faith.



Faith Development

A two-year curriculum allows folks to move at their own pace to progress through foundational and practical learning. The program accepts people where they are in their faith understanding and challenges them to grow to a deeper level. Individual courses of interest are available and attended on an ala carte basis.

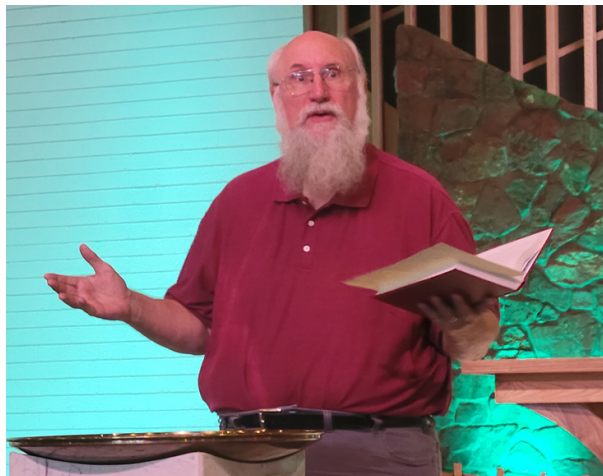


Practical Ministry

Growing in Faith has touched the lives of hundreds of participants in the Grand Canyon Synod since classes were first offered in 2017 helping people to discern their callings in the world and to support them in following those callings.



Growing in Faith Diakonia Summer 2022 Retreat
The Life of Faith Initiative
Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Craig L. Nesson – Wartburg Seminary



The “agents” of Christian mission are the lives of the baptized lived out in service to others, including to creation, in all their roles and relationships in life.

Celebrating Milestones

We are looking forward to an in-person graduation celebration led by Bishop Hutterer after the close of Grand Canyon Synod Assembly on June 10th at 12:30pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Oro Valley, Arizona.

Graduation Statistics:

Diakonia Two Year Program Graduates 2019-2022	52
Diakonia Two Year Program Graduates 2023	8
Growing in Faith Foundation Year Graduates 2023	15

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberle Kennedy, Chair
Grand Canyon Synod Growing in Faith Diakonia Steering Committee
Website: www.diakonia.education

Longing to **G R O W?**

Plant yourself in good soil