

THE DISCIPLE PROJECT

The big surprise—God uses
ORDINARY people to do
EXTRAORDINARY things in this
world—including you.

Choose one of the 10 Learning
Tracks to grow in your
leadership capacity this
summer—**JUNE 26-30, 2011**
at Texas Lutheran University.

Invite a friend. Register NOW!
Go to gulfcoastsynod.org.



CHOOSE A TRACK!

BIBLE STUDY LEADER:

Sunitha Mortha is from a city called Hyderabad in the South Central part of India. Sunitha feels privileged and honored to testify, to the wondrous works of God in her life, through her stories and dance. She currently serves as the Director for Mission Formation and Relationships in Chicago at the ELCA church wide offices.

Sunitha will also lead one of the Pastor's Toolbox sessions on Global Mission.



CHAPLAIN:

Religion degree with Honors from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia (LTSP).

From 2002-2007, Rozella served as the Ministry Coordinator for Youth & Family Ministry in the Gulf Coast Synod. Rozella was recently named the team leader for the ELCA's 2012 Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE)

Rozella is passionate about pastoral care, youth and family ministry, vocational discernment and social justice. Rozella is the Minister for Youth, Families & Young Adults at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Atlanta, GA. She has a step-son, Grant Poston and is married to Pastor Timothy L. Poston.

MUSICIANS:



Tangled Blue is the music of Aimée and Joel Pakan, and on special occasions like the Disciple Project, Rob Ticherich brings his unique talents to the group. Aimée and Joel have traveled together for nine years. Covering over 420,000 miles of U.S. highways, they have entertained audiences from coast to coast with their songs and stories. Their newest recording, a collection of songs for worship, will be completed in 2011. Aimée is a singer/songwriter who also plays bass, percussion, and keyboards in Tangled Blue. Joel is a singer/songwriter who plays guitar and various wind instruments. Aimée and Joel live in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Rob is a teacher at Cuyahoga Community College and a professional drummer in Cleveland, Ohio; his favorite musical style is latin jazz. Tangled Blue performs throughout the U.S. at churches, coffee shops, colleges and festivals. For more information go to tangledblue.com.

Joel, Aimee and Rob are also the leaders of the Music Track.

AMIGOS & FRIENDS

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

Pastor Mike Widner and Mark Dellagiacoma and Team

WHO SHOULD COME? For anyone who wants to strengthen their gifts for listening, helping peers, welcoming a stranger and communication in the context of daily life.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with a mentor at least one time and talk about the different ways you have both cared for people in your life. Notice how your congregation is currently welcoming new people. Pray together. Make a plan to meet when you return to use new skills in your congregation and community.

WHAT? This track will help participants discover that everyday relationships, combined with skills and a caring attitude is a ministry essential to life.

WHAT TO BRING? Bring paper & something to write with, and of course your Bible.



Mike Widner is a pastor in Syracuse, Nebraska with special focus on education and youth ministry. He has been involved with Peer Ministry and the Disciple Project since 2003. He feels a deep sense of God at work through each of these ministries which allow God's grace to be felt and shared while building leadership skills for everyone to take and use in life.

ART 1 AND ART 2

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERSHIP: Bri Morris-Brock and Team

WHO? For anyone who wants to express their faith through visual arts. Use different types of art and mediums to deepen your faith and become more connected with themselves and God. Art 1 is for anyone who has anywhere from no to mild experience with art. Art 2 is for anyone who has more intermediate to advanced talent, or has taken leveled art classes.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your mentor at least one time. Pay attention to the symbols, colors, shapes and art in your church, neighborhood and home. What are symbols of faith you see in the world? In what kinds of art do you find God present?

WHAT? You will find artistic ways to express your faith in Christ. This is for people who would rather create an image of their faith than talk about it! You can sign up for one of three sections: 3D, drawing, or painting. We will look at the history of art in the Christian movement and symbols in our culture.

WHAT TO BRING? Bring a sketchbook 8x11, a set of pencils (including 2H, HB, and 2B), a gum eraser, and a white rubber eraser.

WHY COME? Do you enjoy expressing yourself with paint, clay or collage? Are you passionate about design or do you like to imagine new ways to create? Who knows what you will make!



CAMP HOPE MINISTRIES

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERSHIP:

Neil Christians, Ben Remmert, Jenny Richmond & the Associate Training Team

WHO? Youth and adults who serve on a Camp Hope staff as volunteers, staff members or mentors. Adults who are interested in learning more about Camp Hope are welcome. Camp Hope is a student-led neighborhood outreach that grows Biblically literate youth and adults.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your mentor and review your camp staff training manual. Have a clear understanding of your role at camp this summer.

WHAT? Youth and adults will learn to lead day camp ministry in their own congregations. This includes Bible study, personal faith development and team building for staffs. Advanced students will be invited to write curriculum by application.

WHAT TO BRING? Your Staff Manual, Bible and something to write with are critical. (Bible stories are not printed in the curriculum this year.)

Note: Students who are not on a Camp Hope Staff are encouraged to take a different Learning Track. Adults who want to observe the training in preparation for hosting Camp Hope in the future are welcomed.



Neil Christians is the Congregational Coach and Lead Trainer for Camp Hope. He guides new congregational leaders to get ready to provide Camp Hope for the coming summer. Neil ran Camp Hope for 9 years in Houston, TX before moving out to Charlotte, NC where he serves as the Director of the Family Ministry Team at Christ Lutheran Church. He has his Masters of Youth and Family Ministry from Luther Seminary and is a rostered Associate in Ministry.

Jenny Richmond—Jenny's passion to spread justice, human rights, and community development began with her involvement in Camp Hope at age thirteen.

The principles of Camp Hope cultivated her interest to explore the culture and political economy of developing countries. In 2008, she graduated from the University of Denver with a MA in Global Finance, Trade and Economic Integration. Jenny hopes to continue traveling and spreading her passion to improve the quality of life for others.



Ben Remmert was born in Corpus Christi, Texas and his love for warm weather began. Ben graduated from University of North Texas with a Bachelors of Science in Family Studies and a minor in counseling.

Ben also attended Wartburg Theological Seminary where he graduated with a Master of Arts in Youth, Culture, and Mission. Ben is currently the Director of Youth and Family Ministry at Peace Lutheran Church in Pasadena, Texas and is currently approved as an Associate in Ministry. Ben has a passion for comic books, snowboarding, reading, fishing, movies, and volleyball.

DANCE

DISCIPLINE PROJECT TRACK LEADERSHIP: Emily Dankert, Katy Reed & Jessica Silverio


WHO? This is for women who have had at least one year of dance training, private instruction, school dance team or liturgical dance.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your mentor to talk about the best way to present dance to your congregation. Find out information about local dance events and liturgical dance opportunities.


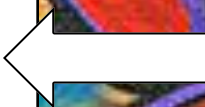
WHAT? You will focus on dance styles from around the world! Journey with us as we explore both the history of certain styles and learn about new cultures from around the globe. We will also engage in interactive Bible study and choreograph a dance routine that will be showcased at the talent show.

BRING: Jazz shoes/sneakers & Liturgical sandals, black jazz pants, black leotard, dance tights, appropriate dance/workout attire for a week. Each participant is asked to choreograph 4 (8) counts of a dance routine, set to their favorite music and style of dance.


WHY COME? This track has been specifically designed for young ladies with passion for and a gift of dance. This track will empower young women, give them an opportunity to use dance as a form of worship and send them home with the information they need to address teen issues among their friends and community.



Jessica Silverio is attending the University of Houston. She plans on majoring in Biology and going into medical school. She has been dancing for 13 years, and has danced: ballet, jazz, tap, pointe, hip hop, lyrical, & modern. Jessica was the president of her high school drill team.



Katy Reed is a History Major at Southeastern Louisiana University. She has been dancing for 10 years and has studied classical ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical, and modern. She was an officer on her high school's dance team and now is the junior high dance team coach at Northlake Christian School.



FAITH CLUB FOR MEN

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

Pastor Brian Gigea & Pastor Greg Ronning

WHO? Men over age 18 are encouraged to attend this track — especially pastors, AiM's and key men's ministry leaders in congregations.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your pastor or key men's leaders and see what men's ministry looks like in your setting. Who's involved? Find out the name of the one or two men that others have difficulty saying "no" to! Create a list of current avenues of men's ministry. Create list of opportunities and your questions.

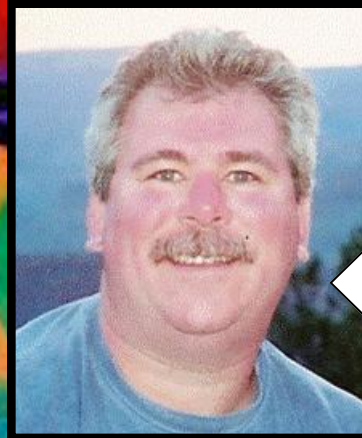
WHAT? Know that men's ministry is not rocket science. It's harder! Plan to meet with other pastors, AiMs and men's ministry leaders to evaluate the depth of ministry with and to men in your setting. Share in the history or the 'men's movement' in America and in the ELCA. See how ministry to men is a priority for strengthening the overall spirit of congregational life. Help in the planning of a "Men's Day" worship service and ongoing servant ministries.

WHAT TO BRING?

Bible, notebook and pen

WHY COME? To celebrate faith and congregational life with all men in your ministry setting. To challenge and affirm the men's ministry DNA already in place and create a plan for year-round and life-long ministry with men.

Track is limited to first 15 registrants!



Rev. Brian Gigea is the Senior Pastor at New Life Lutheran Church in Pearland. Brian is committed to men's ministry as a primary plan for revitalizing the faith of men and their families.



Rev. Greg Ronning is the Campus Pastor at Texas Lutheran University. Current interests include Men's Spirituality, The Emergent Church, and Music.

GO SERVE!

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

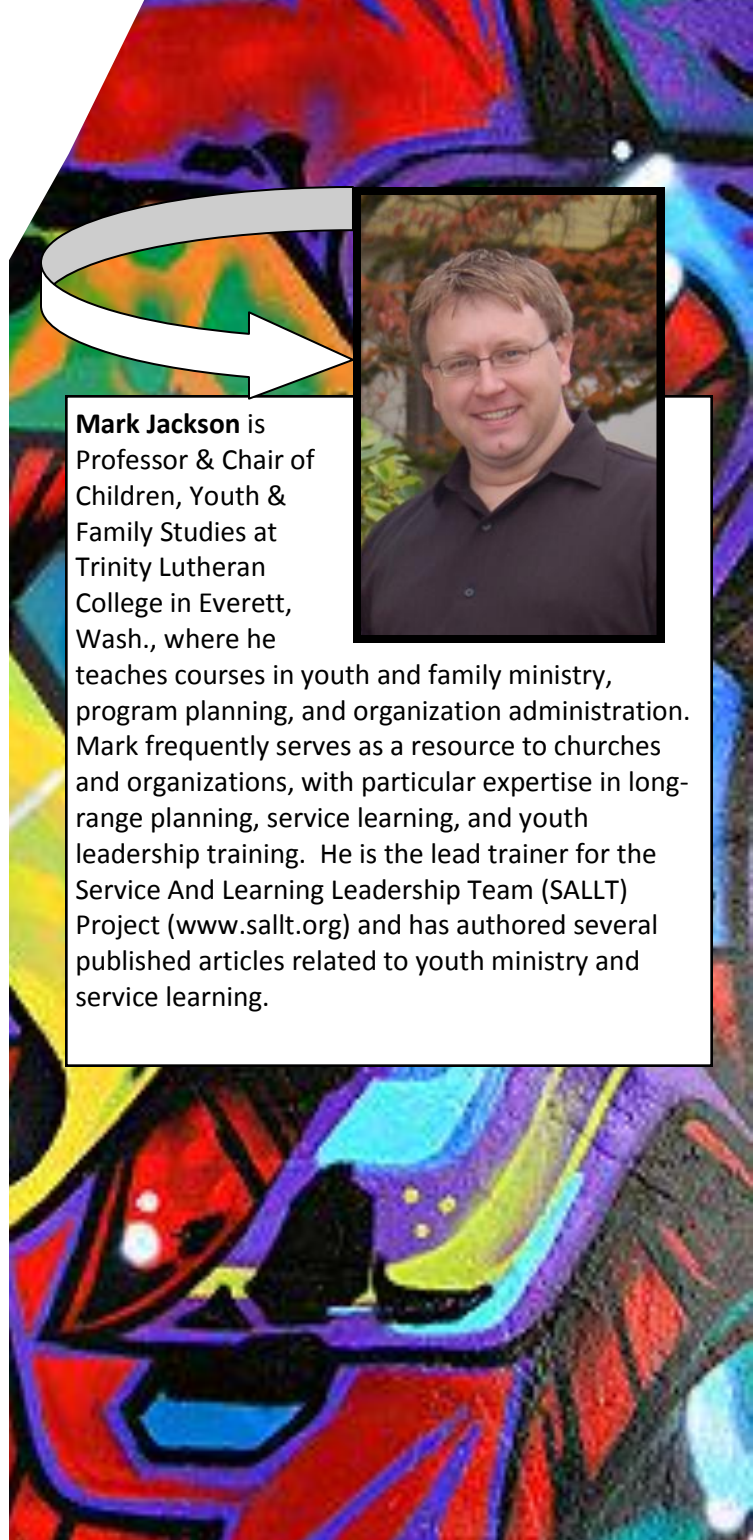
Mark Jackson, and Team

WHO? 8th graders through adults who are involved or interested in leading transformative service experiences in their home churches – such as local service projects and national or international mission trips.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your mentor and discuss when you first observed or learned what “service” was all about. Talk about how God is calling you to engage in service and mission experiences, as well as leading others in those experiences.

WHAT? This track will introduce a process called “service learning”. Service learning goes deeper than simply “volunteering,” as it gives attention to how a group prepares well for the service experience and the crucial role of reflection in the service learning process. The group will learn the service learning model (as well as experience it through a local service project); explore biblical themes of service, mission, and justice; and discuss the transformative nature of service on our lives. Participants will leave with the tools and confidence to lead meaningful service experiences in their home communities.

WHAT TO BRING? Bring a Bible, paper, pen, close-toed shoes (for the service project), and a story of when you first observed or learned what “service” was all about.



Mark Jackson is Professor & Chair of Children, Youth & Family Studies at Trinity Lutheran College in Everett, Wash., where he teaches courses in youth and family ministry, program planning, and organization administration. Mark frequently serves as a resource to churches and organizations, with particular expertise in long-range planning, service learning, and youth leadership training. He is the lead trainer for the Service And Learning Leadership Team (SALLT) Project (www.sallt.org) and has authored several published articles related to youth ministry and service learning.

MUSIC

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

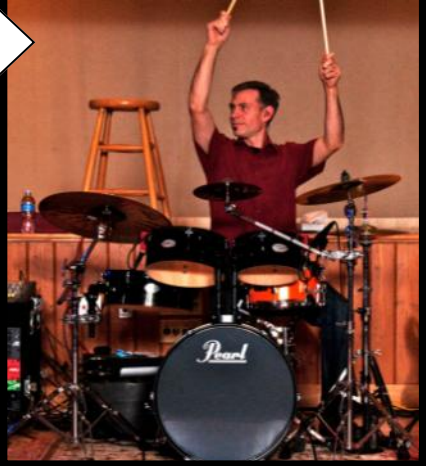
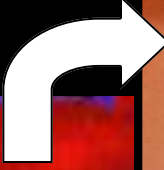
Aimée & Joel Pakan (Tangled Blue)
& Rob Ticherich

WHO? Instrumentalists and vocalists interested in improving their music leadership skills. Anyone interested in broadening their understanding of music and how it is utilized in worship services and elsewhere.



BEFORE YOU COME? Students must meet with a mentor before and after DP. At least one year of training and/or lessons on their instrument/voice is required. Advanced students will have both an opportunity to grow in their craft and mentor peers.

WHAT? Survey & experience:
- traditional worship forms, utilizing the Psalms in worship.
- music and how to craft and lead a worship service or concert
- using music as a creative expression outside of the church



WHAT TO BRING: Bring your own musical instrument and your Bible. (Drummers bring your own sticks/cymbals/hand drums). Students must bring a song (original composition or song from a favorite composer) that they have shared with their mentor and plan to share in their community after Disciple Project.



Rob Ticherich is a teacher at Cuyahoga Community College and a professional drummer in Cleveland, Ohio; his favorite musical style is Latin Jazz.



Aimée Pakan is a singer/songwriter who also plays bass, percussion, and keyboards in *Tangled Blue*.



Joel Pakan is a singer/songwriter who plays guitar and various wind instruments.

PASTOR'S TOOLBOX

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

Pastor Don Carlson has coordinated diverse presenters - theologians, people with expertise in particular fields, and practitioners - to cover critical leadership topics for pastors.

WHO? Pastors and professional lay leaders who have primary responsibility for congregational mission and ministry - and who want to fine-tune their skills.

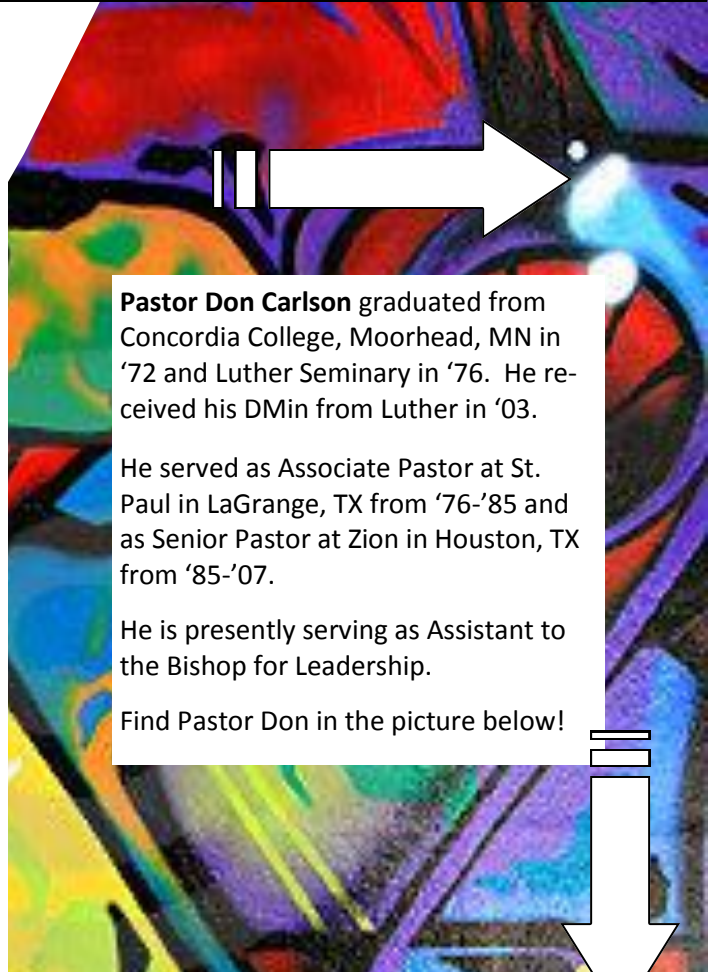
BEFORE YOU COME? Reflect on the last five years of your own leadership and look forward to the next. How have the highs and lows from the past shaped you? What do you need for the future to increase your leadership influence and strategically nurture your own life and lead the congregation?

WHAT? Equipping areas include:

- Personal Finance
- Church Council & Governance
- Capital Fund Appeals
- Evangelism
- Children, Youth & Family Ministry
- Preaching & Technology
- Social Networking
- Global Mission
- Biblical Studies / Theology

WHAT TO BRING?

Bible, paper, pen, and passion.



Pastor Don Carlson graduated from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN in '72 and Luther Seminary in '76. He received his DMin from Luther in '03.

He served as Associate Pastor at St. Paul in LaGrange, TX from '76-'85 and as Senior Pastor at Zion in Houston, TX from '85-'07.

He is presently serving as Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership.

Find Pastor Don in the picture below!



PHOTOGRAPHY

Moving from taking snapshots to creating images

DISCIPLINE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

Mandy Faucett and Larry Bose

WHO? This track is for anyone in 8th grade and up who is interested in photography and would like to take great photographs with any camera. It's also for those who want to learn how to "get off Auto" and learn to use their camera's manual settings. A camera is required for taking this course, please bring a camera that you are familiar with using.

BEFORE YOU COME? Meet with your mentor and share the ways you may feel called to use your creative gifts in the area of photography for the benefit of others. Read your camera manual completely at least once (twice is even better!).

WHAT? In this track, you will learn about the basics of creating a pleasing image and the elements that make up an intentionally-composed photograph: line, shape, form, texture, pattern, color, scale, composition. These concepts are applicable to taking photos with any camera. The track will also cover how to use the manual settings on your camera to achieve the creative results you want (for example, aperture priority mode, shutter priority mode, full manual mode).

WHAT TO BRING? A camera that you are familiar with, camera memory card, cable to download your images to a computer, a USB flash drive (1 GB minimum, if you have one), camera manual, spare batteries (especially if your camera uses disposable batteries), camera battery charger. If you own a DSLR camera with multiple lenses, bring your favorite 1 or 2 lenses along with your camera.



Mandy Faucett has always been interested in taking pictures but was always frustrated by not being able to recreate the effects she saw in professional photographer's work. Then she got a Canon Rebel (DSLR) for Christmas in 2010, and the rest is history.

Mandy is the Event Ministry Coordinator for the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. She also owns a portrait photography business, Amanda Faucett Photography, specializing in portraits for newborns, children, families and high school seniors.

Larry Bose is a member of Covenant Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas, where he participates in the audio/video ministry and assists in youth and family ministry and as a facilitator for the confirmation program.

Larry has been an avid photographer since the mid-1970's, with interests in photographing landscapes, nature, and people engaging in life activities. Mostly retired, with a background in electrical engineering and project management, Larry enjoys "working for my home congregation and with synod events, spending time with photography, listening to music and cycling. Both the technical and artistic aspects of photography interest me, especially the use of natural light and image design."

If you have access to a DSLR camera, or a compact zoom camera with the capability to adjust the camera settings manually, please bring it!

SPORTS & FITNESS

DISCIPLE PROJECT TRACK LEADERS:

Noel Kahl, Heather Hansen and Team

WHO? For people who want to strengthen their physical and spiritual life at the same time and grow as a Christian leader through sports! This physically active track will be both outdoors and indoors.

BEFORE YOU COME? You must meet with your mentor before and after DP. Talk about the ways you are currently taking care of your health, ways you can grow and how you see faith intersecting with sports and physical activity. When you return, make a plan to use your skills in your community.

WHAT? You will participate in a variety of sports, working on skills, as well as sportsmanship and discipleship. You will be outside in the Texas heat part of the time, but it will be worth it! Bring your competitive edge, athletic talent, faith questions and goals with you!

WHAT TO BRING: Bring a week's worth of athletic clothes, sneakers, socks, refillable water bottle, Bible and athletic gear for your favorite sports. Please mark everything with your name.



Noel Kahl recently graduated with a Master of Arts from Luther Seminary and was commissioned as an associate in ministry in April 2011. She serves at Faith Lutheran Church in Knoxville, TN and enjoys long runs on the beach and reading poetry. Her favorite Christmas Carol is the first Noel. Her favorite food is pizza.



Heather Hansen currently serves at the Southwestern Texas Synod Office of the ELCA as Youth Ministry Coordinator. She also hangs out with college students at Texas Lutheran University, teaching youth ministry and working with campus ministry small groups.

Heather spends the rest of her time in San Antonio with her husband, Mark, and two awesome children, Hannah and Alex. They love to bike, walk, camp, play games and watch movies together. Sports have always been an important part of Heather's life and she can't wait to co-lead the sports track at Disciple Project!