



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**God's Beloved Community Educational Retreat: *Fostering a Synod Where Trust Can Thrive*
First Call Clergy, Synod Authorized Ministers, and Pulpit Supply**

August 20-22, 2026 Central Time Zone

The Dakota Event Center & Hampton Inn, Aberdeen, SD

3216 7th Ave SE. Aberdeen, SD 57401 t: 605.262.2600

Presenter: Deaconess Valerie Webdell

Chaplain: Pr. Shadoe Hanson

Thursday, August 20 (hotel check-in is any time after 3:00pm)

- 3:00-4:00 PM Arrival and Check-in at Dakota Event Center & Hampton Inn
- 4:15-4:45 PM Welcome & Introductions – Pr. Renee Splichal Larson
- 4:45-5:45 PM **Session I – You Can't Do It Alone** – Deaconess Valerie Webdell
- 5:45-6:00 PM Break
- 6:00-7:30 PM Dinner at Dakota Event Center
- 7:40 PM Opening Worship
- 8:25 PM Announcements
- 8:30 PM Fellowship

Friday, August 21

- 8:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel
- 8:30-9:00 AM **Morning Devotions and Bible Study:** Pr. Shadoe Hanson (Exodus 18.13-27)
- 9:00-10:00 AM **Session II – Everything Isn't Terrible** - Deaconess Valerie Webdell
- 10:00-10:30 AM Break
- 10:30-12:00 PM **Session III – Healthy Community** – Deaconess Valerie Webdell
- 12:00-1:00 PM Lunch
(deadline for one-on-one signups)
- 1:00-2:15 PM **Session IV – Emmaus Walk** - Deaconess Valerie Webdell
- 2:15-6:00 PM Sabbath Time: (optional board games/puzzles/social time)
- 3:00-5:00 PM Individual Conversations available with Synod Staff and Presenters
30-minute slots offered with:
Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

Jonathan Vehar
Renee Splichal Larson
Kathy McHenry
Joel Pakan
Kari Webb
Deaconess Valerie Webdell
Pr. Shadoe Hason
Pr. Tim Schroeder

6:00-7:00 PM Dinner
7:00-8:00 PM Rotation (20 min)
1. Bishop Constanze
2. Lutheran Planned Generosity (Kathy McHenry)
3. Protico (Pr. Tim Schroeder)
8:00 PM **Evening Devotions and Bible Study:** PR. Shadoe Hanson
8:15 PM Hospitality & Fellowship provided by Lutheran Planned Generosity

Saturday, August 22

8:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel
8:30-9:00 AM **Morning Devotions and Bible Study:** Pr. Shadoe Hanson
9:00-9:40 AM **The Second Most Fun Conversation: Stewardship** (The first most fun is Robert's Rules of Order)
with Pr. Vehar
9:40-9:50 AM Stretch Break
9:50-10:30 AM **Resources for Ministry: Pasque** - Pr. Kari Webb
10:30-11:00 AM Break
11:00-11:30 AM **Q & A with Synod Staff & Resource Sharing**
11:30 - Closing Worship
12:00 PM Lunch