# Rev. Elisabeth's D. Min Journey

Luther Seminary 2015-2018



# **Doctor of Ministry**

- What is that?
  - A "doctoral" level degree programme, for those who have M.Div, Th. M or equivalent. Involves research, courses, writing, practicums, designed to hone the craft of ministry
  - An opportunity for those in active ministry to continue to learn, stretch minds and souls, and to do so with motivated ministry colleagues, and excellent teachers/guides
  - An opportunity for congregations to benefit from a minister on a learning/growing curve – new insights, perspectives, energy, enthusiasm, shared discipleship

### Why me? Now? And At Luther?

- I can't stop learning. It's in my DNA.
- You deserve the best I can be. This is one way I can learn and grow alongside you.
- Why not?? I believe this is to our mutual benefit as people of God in the world, now.
- Luther Seminary? Good Question! (Next slide!!)



#### LUTHER SEMINARY





#### ABOUT

#### **QUICK FACTS**

MISSION AND HISTORY

LEADERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

ACCREDITATION

NEWS AND INFORMATION

CAMPUS RESOURCES

CAMPUS SAFETY

EMPLOYMENT

PEOPLE AND CONTACTS

#### Quick Facts

#### Luther Seminary at a glance

#### Enrollment

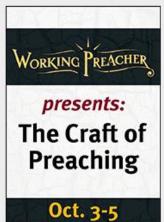
► 591 students

#### Enrollment by degree program

- ▶ 56% Master of Divinity
- ▶ 15% Master of Arts
- ▶ 10.5% Ph.D., Master of Theology
- ► 10.5% Doctor of Ministry
- ▶ 8% Graduate Certificate, non-degree or special programs

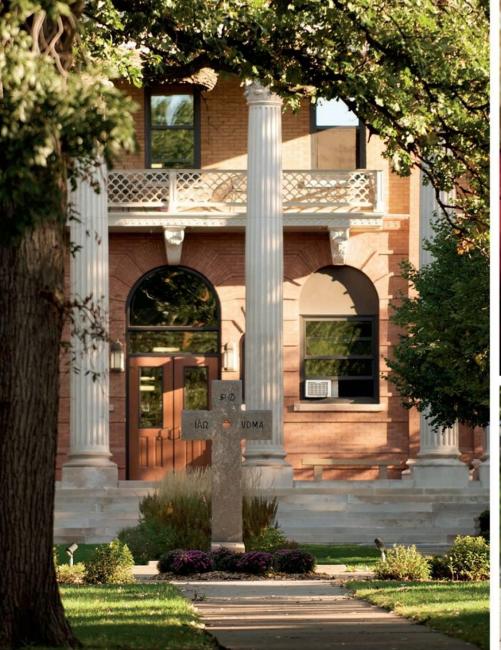
#### **Distributed Learning**

The Craft of Preaching



### **Luther Seminary**

- A large Lutheran Seminary in St Paul, MN. Has a strong, well-earned reputation in innovative education aimed at practitioners in the church, and 'homiletics' (= study of preaching)
- c. 600 students, 20% are in research or doctoral programmes, global student population
- ELCA is "reconciling" = LGBTQ affirming, Racial, gender and disability justice affirming









#### Dokimazo + An



# Minneapolis ~ Follow Me



# Clear | Feels like 42

# **My Cohort**

- Two Anglicans (EC USA, AC Barbados)
- Two Canadians, one Barbadan
- Two Presbyterians (USA)
- Two Lutherans
- One UCC (me!)
- One Disciples of Christ
- One American Baptist
- One Salvation Army
- = All over the map!



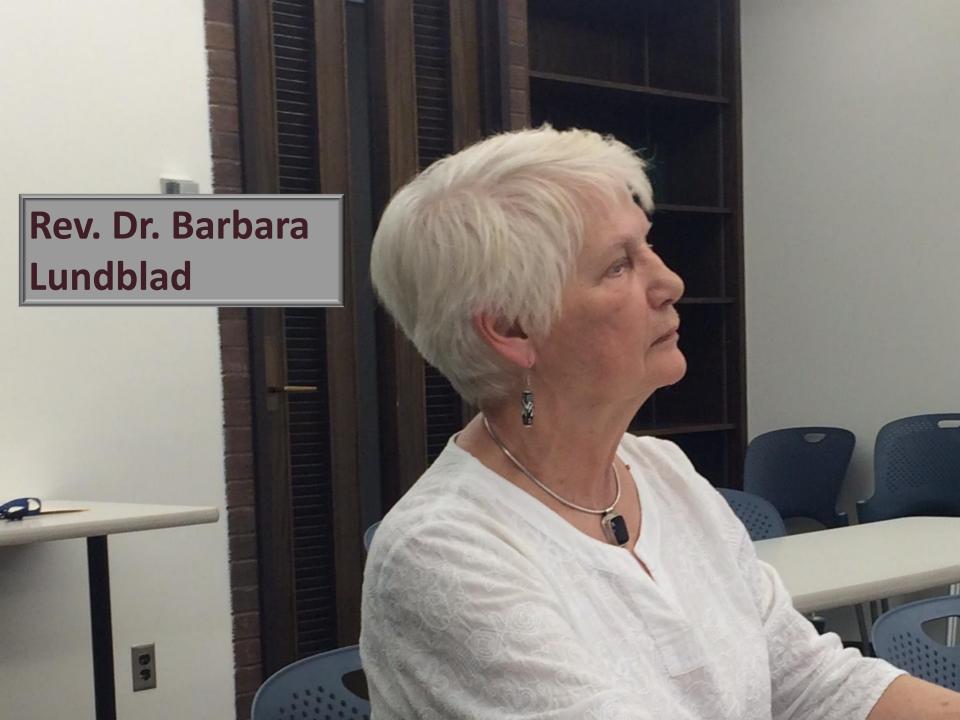




### **Teaching Faculty**

- Karoline Lewis Director D. Min BP
- Richard Rehfeldt Cohort Mentor
- Matthew Skinner Prof New Testament
- Rolf Jacobson Prof Old Testament
- Barbara Lundblad Visiting Prof (Union NY)
- Lucy Lind Hogan Visiting Prof (Washington)
- Richard Ward Visiting Prof (Philips, Tulsa OK)
- Paul Scott Wilson Visiting Prof (Toronto)





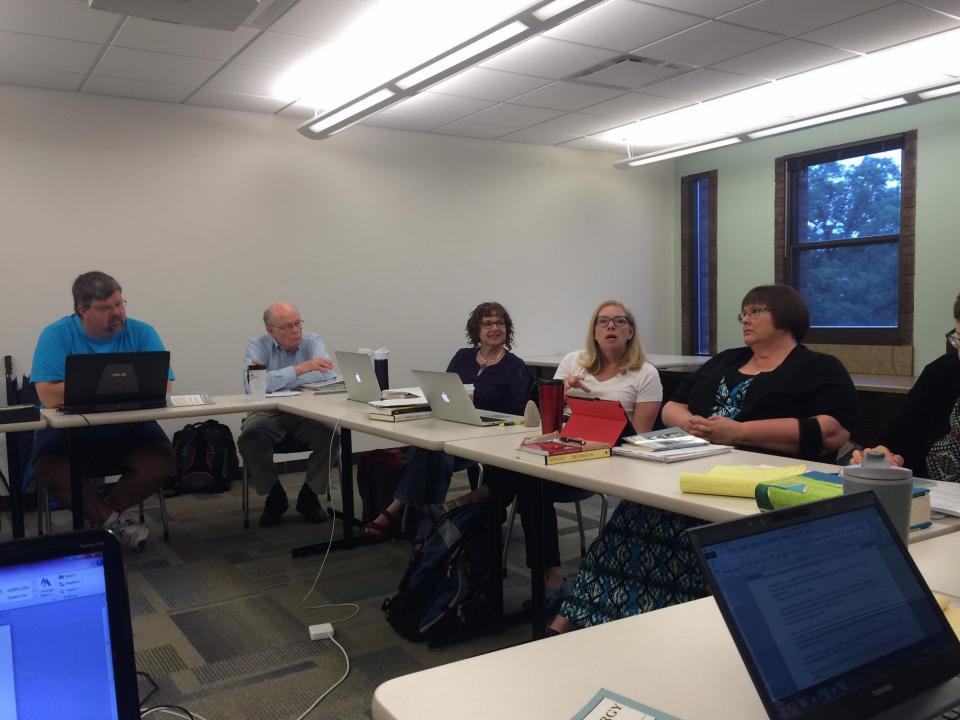




# The Program(me)

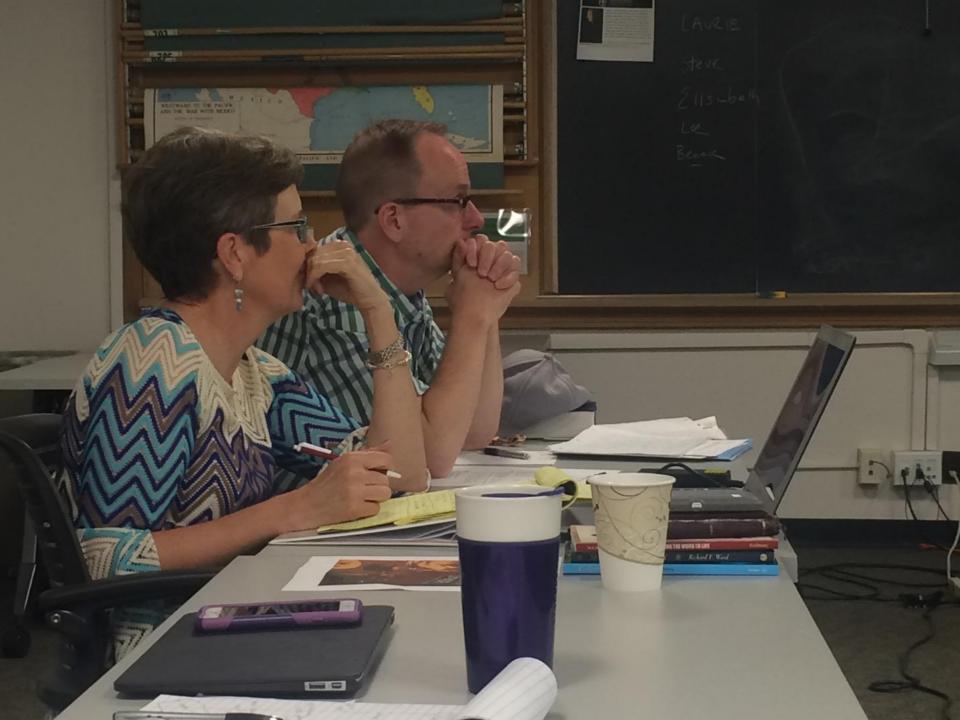
- Three annual "residencies" = 3 weeks of 'intensive' courses, for the first 3 years.
- "In community" course work throughout the year
  - Papers/research
  - Sermons, with a detailed process of congregational response
  - Reading, reading, lots of reading!
- "CRG" Congregational Response Group\*\*
- A Thesis written in the fourth year.

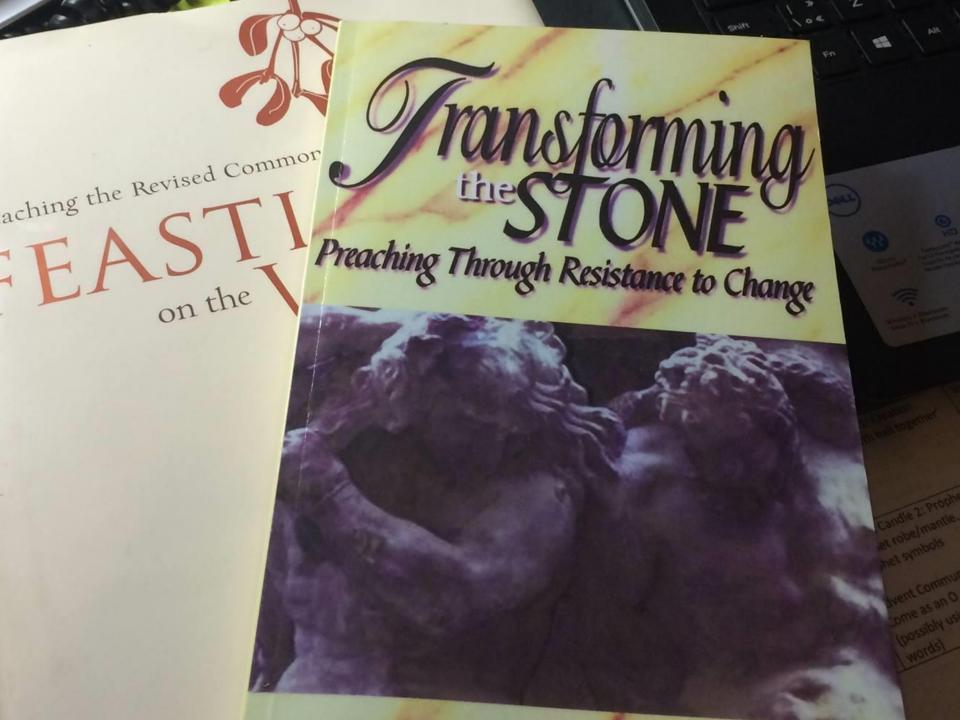




#### Year One

- Pre-Reading for three courses
- June Residency:
  - Core One: Preaching a "Holy Word"
  - Elective One: Feminist Dimensions in Preaching
  - Colloquy One: Preaching as applied ministry
- Post-Residency Assignments:
  - Sermon 1 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Sermon 2 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Integrative Paper 40 pgs





#### **Integrative Paper**

#### "They Have Ears and Hear Not" The Community and the Word of God.

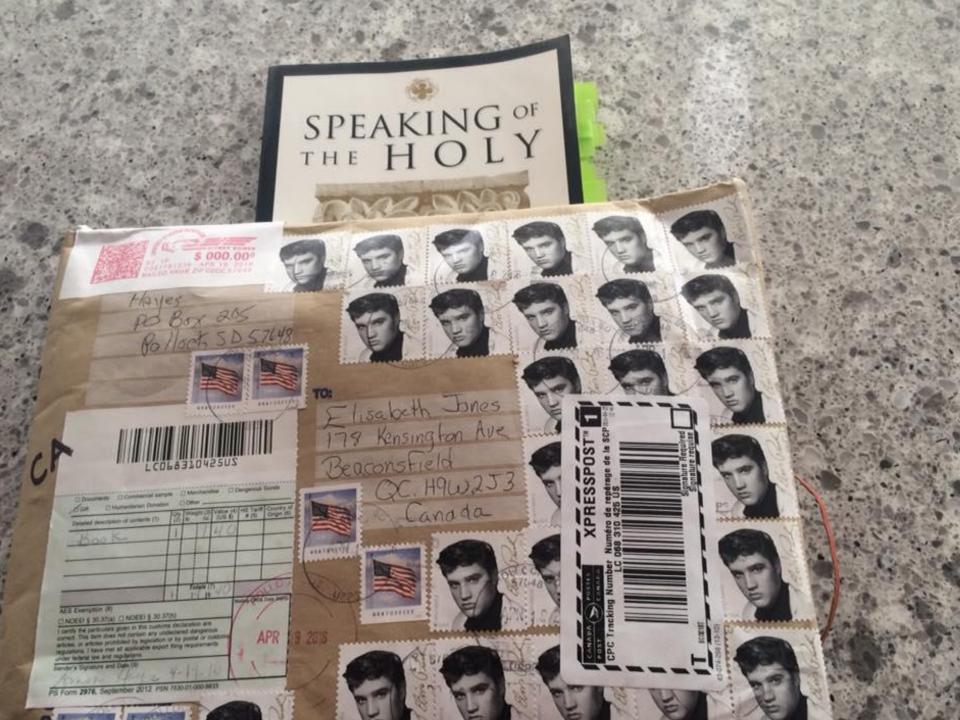
How can we help a community to 'hear' Scripture as a "Lively Word" that is relevant and real in this world?

#### Year Two

- Pre-Reading for three courses
- June Residency:
  - Core Two: Preaching as Proclamation
  - Elective Two: Prophetic Preaching/Church Future
  - Colloquy Two: Research seminars for Thesis Proposal
- Post-Residency Assignments:
  - Sermon 1 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Sermon 2 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Thesis Proposal 15 pgs

# Highs and Lows: Residency 2

- Week 1 was awesome!
- Week 2 was..... An opportunity for learning....
- Week 3 was HOT! (and good)
- The Cohort is amazing
- Cohort Mentor is a gift of God
- Georgetown Margarita
- Library has A/C
- I missed y'all
- I'm learning mid-west American





JULY/AUGUST	
8/1	Tidy Up files from summer residency
8/11	Gather CRG and (1) lead a discussion of Core Course 2 and Elective,
0/20	Thesis proposal, and post-residency work schedule
8/20	Begin work on Thesis Proposal and IRB application
SEPTEMBER	
9/13	Meet with CRG to discuss plans for Core Two sermon
9/18	Last day to preach sermon for Core Two.
OCTOBER	
10/1	Core Two sermon, reflection paper and CRG report.
104	Post on MyLutherNet
10/1	Hogan elective "essay" due
NOVEMBER	
11/1	Meet now (or earlier) with CRG re: Hogan elective sermon
11/6	Preach Hogan elective sermon
11/8	Meet with CRG to discuss sermon preached for Hogan elective
DECEMBER	
12/1	Hogan sermon plus CRG report. Post to MyLutherNet
12/8	Confirm with your Advisor that you are current with your work
JANUARY	
1/3/2017	Begin (or continue) working on Literature Review for Thesis Proposal
1/17	Begin (or continue) working on Chapters II & III of Thesis Proposal
1/31	Begin (or continue) writing the remainder of your Thesis Proposal
FEDDUADY	
FEBRUARY	Send first draft of Thesis Proposal to Advisor via email attachment
2/10 2/28	Advisor returns first draft of Thesis Proposal with comments
2/20	Advisor returns hist draft of mesis Proposal with comments
MARCH	
3/13	Send final draft of Thesis Proposal (and IRB if required) to Advisor.
APRIL	
4/3 4/25	Begin readings for June three week residency classes
4/25 4/28	Meet with CRG to discuss Thesis Proposal Post Thesis Proposal to <u>MvLutherNet</u>
4/20	

A Revealer of Greats Jewish and Christian Biblical Interpretation MARC HIRSHMAN

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#### How are we doing so far??

FINE!!!(Seriously, very fine)





#### How can we be involved?

- In a Sermon Response Group (CRG)
- In meetings like this
- By completing some sermon questionnaires
- Joining in the Lunch and Learns and evening Bible Fun/Study series I will be planning for the Fall and for Lent
- Being "Caring Community" with one another so that we can share the burdens and blessings together
- Praying! (Especially when we're getting close to a deadline!)



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#### What's a CRG?

- Group (or groups) of congregation members who commit to reflect before and after "D Min Sermons" (2 each year), complete questionnaires = 4 to 5 meetings per year.
- Offer support/ feedback, and form the core of respondents for thesis project research
- How do you get involved? Email or talk with me!!

### It's not all classroom and Bible

- Visits to events, churches, sightseeing, cultural experiences
- Discussions over meals
- Thursdays at "Chiantis" wine and theology!
- Residential community
- Closed Cohort Facebook page for ongoing connection, support





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# Year Three/Four

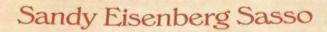
- Pre-Reading for three courses
- June Residency:
  - Core Three: Preaching in Context
  - Elective Three: ??
  - Colloquy Three: Research seminars for Thesis
- Post-Residency Assignments:
  - Sermon 1 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Sermon 2 video, CRG, reflection, script
  - Thesis 150 pgs \*\*

#### **Thesis Proposal**

(Re)discovering a Midrashic Biblical Imagination for a Progressive-Liberal Missional Community

(that's Thesis talk for:

How can we discover a lively imagination in relation to Scripture, that will nourish us in worship, and inspire us to live the Dream of God in our daily lives?)



# MDRASH

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Reading the Bible with Question Marks

Afterword by Joan Chittister