

# The Called Life

*Helpful reflections on purpose and meaning for this “winter of our discontent” and beyond*

A Lenten Educational Opportunity Offered on ZOOM Through  
**New Life Lutheran Church**

Duluth, Minnesota

Phone: 218-464-4584

*Dates & Times:*

Tuesdays during Lent from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, and 3/30

*Instructors:*

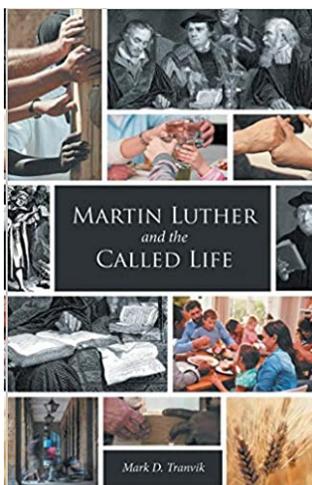
Rev. David Norland, New Life Lutheran Church, Rev. Arndt Braaten, M.D., Essentia Health System, Stephanie Johnson, Ph.D., College of St. Scholastica, Rev. Brad Jenson, CFP®, Lake Superior Financial Services, Inc.

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About this 6-week course: As we are still moving through the pandemic, this dark winter of discontent is a perfect opportunity to stop and reflect on one’s purpose and meaning in terms of “the called life.” This course will be inclusive from an inter-generational perspective— involving young people of college age up to those in their 80s and beyond. Because vocations are more than “occupations” the called life evolves and stays with us into retirement; indeed, throughout our earthly pilgrimage. It is through involvement in our vocations where we find significant purpose and meaning in our daily lives.

Text: We took the course name from the text we will be using: ***Martin Luther and the Called Life*** by Mark D. Tranvik, professor of religion at Augsburg University in Minneapolis where he has taught since 1995. Tranvik demonstrates how Luther’s rethinking of Christian vocation in the 16th century has implications for how the called life is perceived in our time. Tranvik was the director of Augsburg University’s Lilly Endowment grant on vocation, “Exploring Our Gifts.” Participants will need to buy their own book either through a local bookseller or online retailer. Cost: approximately \$15.)



In addition to the book, ***Martin Luther and the Called Life***, the instructors will bring in additional material that they have been working on. Two examples: Dr. Stephanie Johnson is co-editor of the essay collection *Discovering Vocation through Literary Studies* (Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming 2021) and will be presenting ways that literature can shape how we perceive and live out our vocations. In addition, Rev. Jenson is a coauthor of a forthcoming book, *Joining the Longevity Revolution*. He will be sharing information about how current advances in biotechnology and geroscience will be creating a “leap” in healthy longevity—post COVID-19—for many people and about how vocations can be rethought to capture the possibilities of the “100-Year Life.”

To register: Send an email to [bcjenson@charter.net](mailto:bcjenson@charter.net) or call the church office (see above). There is no other cost involved for participants other than buying a copy of the book ***Martin Luther and the Called Life***.