

Thursday, April 23, Agenda

4:00 PM	Registration/Check-In
5:30 PM	Supper at Camp
6:30 PM	Introductions & Opening Session with Rev. Julie Smith
7:30 PM	Campfire

Friday, April 24, Agenda

8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:45 AM	Opening Worship
9:45 AM	Keynote Session 1: Rev. Dave Wollan
10:45 AM	Small Group Discussion: Breakout groups will be offered for seminarians, clergy spouses, those discerning ministry, and first-call pastors.
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:15 PM	Panel Discussion
1:45 PM	Small Group Discussions
2:45 PM	Keynote Session 2: Rev. Steve Olcott
3:45 PM	Free Time
6:00 PM	Join the group or have supper on your own in Alexandria. Cost NOT covered in registration fee.

First call pastors and seminarians attending this retreat for the first time are requested to pay \$25/per seminarian/pastor.

Returning attendees and spouses are invited to attend for \$160 per person.

Register BEFORE Holy Week so you don't forget and miss out on early bird savings!!

Saturday, April 25, Agenda

9:00 AM	Registration Begins
9:30 AM	Opening Worship
10:15 AM	Presentation 1 with Rev. Nick Hopman
11:00 AM	Break
11:15 AM	Business Meeting & Distinguished Service Award
11:45 AM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Presentation 2 with Rev. Mike Hanson
1:30 PM	Break
1:45 PM	Breakout Sessions
2:45 PM	Coordinator Reports & Q & A
3:30 PM	Blessing and Sending

You are encouraged to stay Friday night and attend the 2026 District Convention on Saturday.

Your registration fee for the First Call Retreat covers your meals and lodging for the entire weekend, including Saturday's District Convention. If you are staying for the District Convention on Saturday you DO NOT need to register separately for that event.

Questions? We know you may have them, so please connect with us via:

 office@augustanadistrict.org

 320.234.8403

Refund Policy

28+ Days before event	100%
14-27 Days before the event	50%
13 day or less before the event	0%

BOUNDARIES and BALANCE



SABBATH, REST & LIMITS IN MINISTRY

FIRST CALL PASTORS RETREAT

April 23 & 24, 2026

Hosted By



**MOUNT CARMEL
MINISTRIES**

**800 Mount Carmel Drive NE
Alexandria, MN 56308**

Presented by



**AUGUSTANA
DISTRICT**

THEOLOGY | CHURCH | MISSION

**335 Main St. S
Hutchinson, MN 55350**

Calling All First Call Pastors & Seminarists!

Ministry comes with deep joy, but also real weight. Pastors quickly discover that ministry rarely stays within tidy hours or clear expectations. The needs are real, the requests keep coming, and the quiet question lingers: *How do I care for others without losing myself?* The Augustana District First Call Retreat invites pastors in

their first ministry context to step away, breathe, and listen again to the gift God gives in Sabbath, rest, and limits. Together we will explore what it means to live within boundaries that do not constrain ministry, but actually sustain it. Through worship, conversation, teaching, and shared rest, we will reflect on God's insistence on

Sabbath, not as a burden, but as a promise. This retreat is not about learning to do more or trying harder, but about receiving again the freedom of being human, forgiven, and free. Come rest, reconnect with old or connect with new colleagues, and rediscover how God's good limits make space for faithful, lasting ministry. This retreat is also open to seminarists, spouses, and those discerning a future in ministry.

No registrations will be guaranteed after April 13 so please make sure to register earlier rather than later.

Make all checks payable to Augustana District and mail completed form with check to:

**Augustana District
335 Main St S
Hutchinson MN 55350**

Or register online now at <https://augustanadistrict.org/events/2026-first-call-retreat/>

Or scan the QR Code:



Return attendees may be eligible for sponsorship help to attend if needed. Please contact the office for full details.

Registration Details

Name(s): _____

Congregation/Seminary Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Needs (**please register before April 13.**): _____

<input type="checkbox"/> I/we will attend Thursday - Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we will attend Thursday & Friday only
<input type="checkbox"/> Feel free to assign me/us cabin-mates.	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we will house with: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I will commute/stay offsite	_____

****NOTE:**** Each cabin accommodates 3 to 7 people, featuring separate bedrooms and a shared bathroom. We kindly ask you to list other attendees you would be comfortable sharing a cabin with. Some cabin mates may share a bedroom, while others may have their own room.

Cost Savings Ends April 2, 2026		Standard Cost: April 2 - 13, 2026	
1 st Call Pastor(s)/ Seminarists	\$25	1 st Call Pastor(s)/ Seminarists	\$50
Spouse/Repeat Attendee	\$160	Spouse/Repeat Attendee	\$175
Totals			