

Vision Statement

As approved by the Luther Seminary Board of Directors

October 14, 2017

The Holy Spirit calls Luther Seminary to lead faithful innovation for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a rapidly-changing world.

We face a moment where only radical trust in Christ, significant risk-taking, and faithful innovation can address the challenges of the world, the church, and our institution. The churches we serve struggle to form Christian community with their own members, their children, and their neighbors. We will continue to bear witness to Jesus Christ and educate leaders, as God calls us to move beyond ourselves to accompany local Christian communities to innovate and discover God's transformative work in the world.

- **Witness:** We believe God calls us to proclaim the Triune God in a pluralistic world. Grounded in God's Word as witnessed by Lutheran theology, we will generously confess God's grace, reconciliation, and hope amid injustice, division, and despair. We will work with the church to translate and embody this message in the languages and cultures of today.
- **Educate:** We believe God calls us to center our work in the needs of local churches and leaders for the world. We will develop leaders who are rooted in the gospel and can form Christian community and lead innovatively. We will meet learners where they are and open creative and accessible pathways and forms of theological education.
- **Accompany:** We believe God sends us to walk with and connect congregations and other Christian communities to discover breakthrough practices for cultivating Christian faith in people of all ages and cultures. God is also sending us to venture beyond existing faith communities to discern the movement of the Spirit and learn from our neighbors in God's world.
- **Discover:** We believe God's Spirit stirs local Christian communities, creating and renewing practices for faith formation and spiritual growth. We will adapt our own methods of theological education as we embrace the best practices of a learning community, including listening, interpreting, prototyping, testing, evaluating. In the face of uncertainty, change, and loss, we will claim the promises of Christ as we discern the future the Spirit is bringing forth.