



February 4, 2018

To: **ISM Directors and Volunteers**

From: Sharon Riordan, In-Depth Bible Seminar facilitator

RE: **In-Depth Bible Seminar for International Students, May 16 – 23, 2018**

The annual week-long leadership training conference for international students will take place from Wednesday, May 16 to Wednesday, May 23, 2018, at Sojourn: A Christian Retreat, Dittmer (St. Louis), Mo. Please identify **Christian and “Serious Seeker”** international students connected with your campus ministry who are leaders or potential leaders for Christian outreach and training and invite them to participate in this conference. **If you have sent others in previous years, you realize what an important event this seminar is for many who have attended.**

We continue to welcome “serious seekers” (those involved in Bible study for at least six months). The ISM, Inc. Board believes that Christians and “serious seekers” are a good mix; Christians will share the Good News and seekers may come to receive Jesus as Savior. Our goal is to have 20-plus students at the conference.

The week-long training is designed to provide leadership skills for international students in order that they might:

1. Better understand the basic teachings of the Christian faith
2. Gain skill and confidence in sharing the faith with non-Christians
3. Develop more fully in their personal faith
4. Grow as leaders of small groups

Along with this letter you will find the registration form and schedule. This information is also available on our website at www.isminc.org/conferences. **You or a staff member responsible for international ministry must sign the registration form.**

PLEASE SHARE THE ACCOMPANYING SHEETS WITH PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS!

In His service,

Sharon

Sharon Riordan

Questions? Sharon at 314-452-6406 or email her at ismstlouis@gmail.com

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Texts for the seminar will be provided for each participant.

1. *The Small Catechism* by Dr. Martin Luther (an overview of Christian teaching).
2. *The Bible's Big Story* by Dr. Harry Wendt (Crossways International) covering material from Genesis to Revelation.

Additional areas for study will be in outreach, leading small group Bible studies, prayer, and giving a personal testimony.

There will be study assignments and many opportunities for one-on-one conversation with the instructors about specific questions as well as regular times for prayer.

Please note: We apologize that we are unable to accommodate children.

Conference Facility:

Sojourn: A Christian Retreat, is located west of St. Louis in wooded, rolling countryside. Accommodations include air-conditioned rooms (2 to 3 per room) with full bathroom, group meeting room and dining area all under one roof. The camp has hiking trails and space for volleyball and other recreational activities. For more information about Sojourn visit, sojournretreat.org or call 636-274-4000. During the conference, there will be an opportunity to visit Concordia Seminary and the St. Louis Arch.

Cost:

1. Registration is \$150.00 and includes travel, lodging and meals. Your campus ministry may be able to help you cover this cost.
2. Transportation: The airfare for each participant will be reimbursed at the retreat upon receipt of a flight invoice listing the dollar amount. Tickets must be purchased three weeks prior to the first day of the retreat and at a cost less than car travel. Since we are a non-profit organization, we ask that you seek the least expensive way to come to the seminar. Please check with your ISM director for help in making travel arrangements.

In-Depth Seminar Staff:

Rev. Paul Hoemann is campus pastor at University Lutheran Chapel serving Texas A & M, College Station, Texas. Paul will teach the Overview of Christian Doctrine.

Rev. Lee Meyer, a retired campus pastor, served at Alleluia Lutheran Church and Arizona State University, Tempe. Lee will teach Salvation History, an overview of the Bible.

Rev. J.J. Voelker is campus missionary pastor at Faith Lutheran Church serving Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. J.J. will be the small-groups facilitator.

Sharon Riordan is the director of ISM St. Louis and serves as the facilitator for the seminar. She comes with a great love of the Lord and excitement for international student ministry.

The In-Depth Bible Seminar is limited to 25 students. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is March 19, 2018.

INFORMATION AFTER ACCEPTANCE TO THE SEMINAR

After we have received your registration and payment, you will be sent confirm that you have been accepted.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:

When confirmation of acceptance for the conference is received, please make the necessary travel arrangements. Travel will be reimbursed at the conference. Please have the proper documentation of ticket payment and the appropriate receipt to submit for reimbursement.

The ISM, Inc. board will pay up to \$400 per participant for transportation costs. Should there be special circumstances where the transportation exceeds that amount the Board will consider assisting with funding. The board recommends finding the most reasonable means of transportation available (all Board financial resources come from individual donors and congregations, and good stewardship needs to be practiced).

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE AT THE HOTEL NO LATER THAN 5 PM

FLYING:

1. If you are flying, schedule your flight so that you arrive at St. Louis Lambert Field on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, between 1 and 4:30 p.m. in the afternoon. Please send a copy of your itinerary to Sharon Riordan (ismstlouis@gmail.com) so she can make arrangements with the hotel.
2. Upon arrival at the airport, go to the baggage area to pick up luggage. Then proceed to the shuttle, outside the main doors, and board the "Airport Hilton" shuttle. Shuttles arrive every 15 minutes.
3. Upon arrival at the Hilton Hotel, check-in and relax. A pool is available. At 6:00 p.m., we will meet in the hotel lobby to leave for an area restaurant and then return to the hotel for the evening session.
4. If you are flying, you will be taken to the airport on Wednesday, May 23, so that you can catch your return flight. Please arrange your return flight to leave any time after 1:00 p.m. on that Wednesday afternoon.

DRIVING:

1. If the driving mileage is less expensive than the cost of an airline ticket, you will be reimbursed for the mileage (30 cents per mile). If the cost of an airline ticket is less than the mileage amount you submit, you will only be paid for the amount of what the airline ticket would have been. Please use the most economical method of travel.
2. At the conference, you will receive a reimbursement form on which you will record the number of miles driven. You must attach a MapQuest (or similar form) itinerary with the number of miles already calculated. It is assumed that the round trip is double the one way mileage.

Be sure to bring: Informal clothing, including a jacket/sweatshirt, swim suit for the first night, toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, hair dryer, etc.) small flashlight, camera/phone and Bible. Sheets, blankets, pillow, washcloth, and towel are provided. WIFI is available.

REGISTRATION

In-Depth Bible Seminar for International Students

May 16 – 23, 2018



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY or FILL IN THE FIELDS in the PDF FORM

Name:			
Street	City	State	Zip
Address:			
E-mail Address:			
Telephone with area code:		Best time to reach you:	
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Age:	Country of Origin:	
Dietary Restrictions:			
How do you plan to travel? <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Train <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> Airplane	From which city?		
Name of Campus Ministry:	How long have you been associated with this ministry?		
Are you Christian? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, when were you baptized?		
How long have you been studying the Christian faith?			
Name of University:	Major:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Scholar <input type="checkbox"/> other:			
Why do you want to come to this Bible Seminar and what do you hope to learn? (If necessary, use another sheet.)			
FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY STAFF PERSON			
I recommend that the above named person be accepted for the In-Depth Bible Seminar for the following reasons:			
<i>Signature of campus staff person:</i>			
REGISTRATION FEE: \$150 (TO BE INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION) All other costs –travel, meals and lodging are provided by ISM, Inc. through gifts received from supporting individuals and congregations.			
Make check or money order payable to ISM, Inc. Send registration form and check or money order by <u>March 19, 2018</u> to: ISM, Inc., 3177 State Hwy. 66, Rosholt, WI 54473			
<i>You will be notified by March 26, 2018, if you have been accepted as a participant.</i>			

SCHEDULE

In-Depth Bible Seminar for International Students

May 16 – 23, 2018

Sojourn: A Christian Retreat, Dittmer (St. Louis), Missouri



Wed. May 16	Thurs, May 17	Fri. May 18	Sat. May 19	Sun. May 20	Mon. May 21	Tues. May 22	Wed. May 23
	Breakfast at hotel Leave hotel for IC at 7:00 a.m. Salvation History 10:00 - Chapel 10:30 – short visit to the museum Christian Teaching	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast 8:45 Prayer & Praise Christian Teaching Salvation History	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast 8:45 Prayer & Praise “Telling My Story” Preparation time for writing your testimony	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast 8:45 Prayer & Praise Salvation History Christian Teaching	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast 8:45 Prayer & Praise Christian Teaching Salvation History	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast 8:45 Prayer & Praise Christian Teaching Salvation History	7:40 Matins 8:00 Breakfast Evaluation Packing Up 10:45 Leave for airport
1 – 4:30PM airport arrival Take shuttle to Hilton Airport Hotel PLEASE ARRIVE BEFORE 5 PM.	Lunch at IC – 12:30 Leave for retreat center 1:30 p.m. Free Time Salvation History	Lunch – 12:00 Christian Teaching Salvation History Free Time	Lunch – 11:00 Afternoon is for a visit to Concordia Seminary, and a trip to the famous St. Louis Arch on the Mississippi River. Paul – tour leader	Lunch – 12:00 Salvation History Christian Teaching Free Time	Lunch – 12:00 Christian Teaching Salvation History Free Time	Lunch – 12:00 Christian Teaching <u>WRAP UP</u> for all sessions Q and A Time Free Time	
Meet in the hotel lobby at 6:00 PM to go to a nearby restaurant Get Acquainted Small Group Prayer	Dinner – 5:30 Small Group Teaching Prayer, Praise and Care Time	Dinner – 5:30 Christian Teaching Prayer, Praise and Care Time	5:00 – Worship at Historic Trinity 7:00 – Dinner Prayer, Praise and Care Time	Dinner – 5:30 Salvation History Prayer, Praise and Care Time	Dinner – 5:30 Sharing My Story Prayer, Praise and Care Time	Dinner – 5:30 Campfire Vespers and Commissioning Prayer, Praise and Care Time	Staff: Paul Hoemann Lee Meyer JJ Volker

