

VITAE

Mark Stephen Blanke
Professor of Education
Appointed 1995

Academic Degrees

- BS - Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE, 1982, Education.
Director of Christian Education (DCE) Certification - Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE, 1982.
- MS - California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA, 1986, Counseling and Guidance.
- MA - Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE, 1992, Parish Education.
- Ed.D - Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 2000, Adult Education.

Professional Experience

- 1980-1981 - St. Luke Lutheran Church, Reno, NV, DCE Intern.
- 1982-1987 - Grace Lutheran Church, Ventura, CA, DCE/Principal.
- 1987-1990 - Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Concord, CA, DCE.
- 1990-1995 - Concordia University, River Forest, IL, Assistant Professor/DCE Program Director.
- 1995-1997 - Concordia College, Seward, NE, Assistant Professor/Associate DCE Program Director.
- 1997-2002 - Concordia University, Seward, NE, Assistant Professor/DCE Program Director.
- 2002-2008 - Concordia University, Seward, NE, Associate Professor/DCE Program Director (full professor - 2008).
- 2008-2009 - Concordia University, Seward, NE, Professor/Associate Provost/Interim Director of Graduate Studies and Lifelong Learning.
- 2009-present - Concordia University, Seward, NE, Professor/DCE Program Director/Director of Strategic Planning and University Institutes.

Faculty and Administrative Load

Fall 2010

- EDUC 480 - DCE Practicum - 1.5 hours
- EDUC 484 - Confirmation Planning and Implementation - 2.0 hours
- EDUC 481 - DCE Internship supervision - .5 hours
- DCE Program Administration - 6.0 hours
- Strategic Planning and University Institutes - 3.0 hours

Spring 2011

- EDUC 480 - DCE Practicum - 1.5 hours
- EDUC 481 - DCE Internship supervision - .5 hours
- EDUC 483 - Leadership Development - 3.0 hours
- THEO 487 - Planning Adult Education - 3.0 hours
- DCE Program Administration - 6.0 hours
- Strategic Planning and University Institutes - 3.0 hours

Other University Assignments:

Director – Masters of Religious Education Program
Chair – President’s Church Work Council (’09-present)
Advisor – 12 students
Member – Grad Council (’04-’06)
Chair – Institute for Religious Education (10/06-present)
Director – Concordia Foundation Inc. (9/06-12/09)
Chair – “Consider Christ’s Calling” weekend (10/06)
Chair – Retention Committee (11/05-12/06)
Member – Identity committee (UGC ad hoc)
Member – Provost search committee (1/06)
Member – Chaplain search committee (12/07)
Member – Fallbrook facilities design committee
Division Leader – Imagine the Mission campaign
Member – Institute for Rural Ministries
New Faculty Mentor (’04-’05)
GS 301 Practicum Mentor
Integrated Marketing Team member (’04-’05)
Liaison – Department of Youth Ministry
Liaison – National Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Association (NLOMA)

Current Professional and Academic Association Memberships

NADCE

Publications

“An ‘educated’ response to membership loss” – The Reporter – LCMS Publication – March 2010

“Program assessment – Reinvent...discard...stay the course?” – thESource – LCMS Youth Ministry (online resource) – February 2010

“DCE ministry: A catalyst for advancing the church’s mission” – Issues in Christian Education – CUNE – Fall 2009

“DCE: Generalist and Specialist Revisited” – Lutheran Education – LEA – Fall 2009

Book Review – Issues in Christian Education – Spring 2008

“DCEs and status” – Shaping the Future – A publication of Lutheran Education Association – Spring 2007

“Sunday School Scheduling” – Teacher’s Interaction – Concordia Publishing House – Fall 2005.

“The servant style of leadership – A review 33 years in the making” – thESource – LCMS Youth Ministry (online resource) – January 2005

“The state of DCE Ministry” – Lutheran Education – LEA – Summer 2004

“Developing Core Adult Leaders” – theESource – LCMS Youth Ministry (online resource) – May 2004

“Raising our expectations: Youth, Servant Leaders” – Issues in Christian Education – CUNE – Winter 2003

“Slice of Life” – theESource – LCMS Youth Ministry (online resource) – December 2003

“The participation of adults in religious education experiences” – Lutheran Education LEA – Winter 2001

“The generation gap?” – Issues in Christian Education - CUNE – Fall 1998

Book review – Issues in Christian Education – CUNE – Winter 1996

“Strengthening the partnership: A dialog between men and women” – Issues in Christian Education – CCS – Spring 1999

“Assessing and increasing your students’ faith” Youth Bible Study Network – CPH – Winter 1995

“DCE: Generalist or Specialist” – Lutheran Education – LEA – March/April 1995

“Avoiding burnout through continuing education” – DCE Directions – LEA-TEAM – Spring 1993

Presentations

“The four truths that (should) shape adult education in the church” – Workshop presentation – Kansas District LCMS Professional Church Workers Conference – October 2009 – Overland Park, KS

“Developing youth as leaders” – Workshop presentation – National Youth Workers’ Conference – July 2009 – New Orleans, LA

“Nurturing youth as leaders” – Workshop presentation – National Youth Workers’ Conference – July 2008 – Indianapolis, IN

“Faith formation: Supercharging your faith” – Workshop presentation – The LCMS National Youth Gathering – July 2007 – Orlando, FL

“The priesthood of all believers, and other ecclesiastical legends” – Keynote presentation - Oklahoma District Pastors/DCE conference – October 2006 – Watonga, OK

“Building and implementing a 5-year plan for youth ministry” – National Youth Workers’ Conference – July 2006 – Orlando, FL

“Volunteers 101” – Resonate – July 2005 – Nashville, TN

“Initiating change and surviving to tell about it” – 2005 LEA Convocation – April 2005 – Indianapolis, IN

“The five ‘Ms’ of youth ministry” – PNW District Youth Workers Retreat – November 2004 – Camp Perkins, ID

“Healthy congregations developing healthy youth ministry” – Youth Ministry 2003 conference – January 2003 – San Antonio, TX

“The DCE as change agent” – Mid-South District DCE conference – November 2001 – Memphis, TN

“Initiating change in a congregation” – Missouri District Lutheran Educators Conference – November 2000 – Lake of the Ozarks, MO

“The role DCE ministry was made for – Mobilizing the laity” – Missouri District Educators Conference – November 2000 – Lake of the Ozarks, MO

“Just lead - Being an effective volunteer leader” – CLYC Conference – July 2000 – New Orleans, LA

“Growing teen leaders” – CLYC Conference – July 2000 – New Orleans, LA

“Enhancing participation in adult religious educational experiences” – National DCE Conference – April 2000 – Breckenridge, CO

“Lifelong learning for DCEs” – National DCE Conference – April 2000 – Breckenridge, CO

“Lay Mobilization” – July 1999 – Teachers of the Faith Conference – Kansas City, MO

“Faith nurture and development among youth” – January 1997 – Youth Ministry Towards 2000 Conference – Tampa, FL

“Training volunteer youth counselors” – November 1996 – Nebraska District Youth Gathering – Omaha, NE

“Energizing your adult education” – November 1996 – Department of Adult Ministry event in Milwaukee, WI

Research

“The State of Religious Education in the LCMS” – CUNE 2006

DCE Demographic Analysis – January 1995 – Completed through Concordia
University Research and Evaluation Services (CURES) – River Forest, IL

Recognitions

2006 CUNE Outstanding Teacher Award
2005 “Who’s who among America’s teachers”
2004 “Who’s who among America’s teachers”
2000 “Who’s who among America’s teachers”

Growth Opportunities

Professional sabbatical – 7/06-12/06
Professional Grant Writing Seminar – 8/04

Service

Member - Nebraska District Parish Education Ministry Committee – 5/07 to present

Advisory Committee – Teachers Interaction magazine – 2002-2003; 2004-2005

Study and Response Group Chairperson – St. John Lutheran Church – Seward, NE.
2003-2004