**Faith Integration: A New Practice**

A model for professional development investigating and using the critical faith questions asked by students according to age/grade/development.

How do you present a consistent faith message to your students, given a diverse faculty? Brain storm common faith topics/questions/discussions among students, share stories from the field with teachers of similar grade students, and explore how to integrate the faith school wide using a perspective and practice that goes beyond subject-area application.

Objectives:

* Identify common faith questions of students across the grades through conversation/interaction with same grade teachers.
* Engage the expertise of teachers of those grades in developing age-appropriate answers.
* Team with your school faculty for preliminary discussion.
* Formulate a professional development plan for your faculty/staff to explore the questions and answers, for consistency across the school environment.

**Dr. Beth Pester Bio**

Associate Professor of Education, at Concordia University since 2005, after spending 10 years in Lutheran and public schools as a high school and middle school science and religion teacher. She is in her 26th year of service as a Church Work professional for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Born and raised in East Tennessee, she’s the daughter of Ron and Elaine Royuk, both life-long LCMS Church workers. She is a graduate of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO, and Concordia University Nebraska with a BS Ed in Math and Biology, and a MEd in Administration. She earned her PhD in Education from Trident University, studying the relationship of high school block scheduling and academic performance of first-year college students.

She served in the Department of Education at Concordia University Nebraska as Director of Middle Level Ed and Director of Student Teaching for many years. She’s passionate about growing the next generation of church workers, and about her kids, Tara and Tim.

She currently serves as the Director of Dual Credit at Concordia University Nebraska.

**A/V Needs:**

Projector/screen