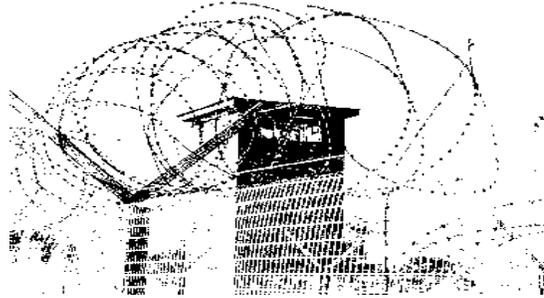


The Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and the Concordia University Department of Criminal Justice and Crossing HOME are pleased to offer:

An Introduction to Correctional Ministry and Rehabilitation



This course is free. No prerequisites are involved. Lay people, pastors, and priests of all denominations are welcome. (Course credit is also possible, but for a fee.)

Jim Seemann, Ph.D., course instructor, has met with thousands of incarcerated people since he began working as a volunteer classroom teacher inside the Missouri corrections system some forty years ago. He became involved in Stillwater Prison when he moved to Minnesota in 2002.

This course will provide a brief history of corrections, an overview of the phenomenon known as mass incarceration, and a series of effective approaches, both clinical and Christian, which has been proven not only to help reduce recidivism, but also to help with those who are in need of transformation and change.

“Desistance is the goal of correctional ministry,” Dr. Seemann suggests. “People do not commit crimes for logical reasons. Most suffer from trauma, depression, and dissociative disorders. Volunteers need not be psychologists, but, they can, and should, help to address these underlying emotions with understanding and compassion. The word “ministry” is relevant because the Christian Gospel provides a common cross-cultural language as an authoritative source for reconstructing a new life based on the freedom which comes from faith in Christ.” A diverse group of preachers, missionaries, and former prisoners will serve as guest speakers on a number of additional topics which are sure to challenge and to provide fresh perspectives to this age-old problem.

The course text will be supplied for free. Online learning is also available.

Classes will meet for eight Tuesday nights from 7-9 PM Luther Hall 109 Concordia Campus Jun 22, Jun 29, Jul 6, Jul 13, Feb 18, Jul 20, Jul 27, Aug 3, Aug 10..... Interested? R.S.V.P. seemann@csp.edu