



Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

# Call for Nominations

## SEMINARY PRESIDENT

The Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. has announced his retirement from service as President of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), at the end of the 2023–2024 academic year. Therefore, the Board of Regents, with the approval of the President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, seeks nominations for the position of Seminary President. **The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2023.**

The mission of Concordia Theological Seminary is to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. The duties and responsibilities of the President as the “spiritual, academic, and administrative head” of the institution are described in the Synod *Handbook* (Bylaw 3.10.5.6). To fulfill these duties and responsibilities, nominees for this office will have the following qualifications and experience:

1. Be a rostered ordained minister in good standing of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who has consistently and publicly demonstrated his commitment to the Holy Scriptures and the primacy of the Gospel in teaching and practice, faithfulness to the Lutheran symbolical books, dedication to the ministry of the Word and Sacraments, and the ability to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ clearly and persuasively.
2. Possess an earned doctorate in theology or a related field of study and demonstrate the ability to understand and respond creatively and evangelically to contemporary theological issues and challenges.
3. Have a minimum of three years of pastoral experience in a congregation.
4. Be dedicated to missions in fulfillment of our Lord’s mandate to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19–20). Experience in local, global, and multicultural missions is desirable.
5. Be devoted to the centrality of worship in the life of the seminary community and support its spiritual life by word, deed, and example within our church’s rich liturgical and hymnic tradition.
6. Have ability and zeal for fundraising, donor development, and strategic planning.
7. Be able to articulate positively and joyfully the seminary’s mission and needs to various constituencies and to the community at large.
8. Be willing and able to travel and represent the seminary both nationally and internationally.
9. Be a faithful churchman familiar with the Synod’s history and structure, especially with regard to the seminary and its governance.
10. Possess personal leadership qualities that inspire confidence and cooperation and foster a spirit of harmony and peace among students, faculty, and staff, as well as the Synod’s pastors and people, church leaders, and supporters of the seminary.

Nominations may be submitted by the congregations of the Synod, the Board of Regents of CTSFW, and the faculty of CTSFW (Bylaw 3.10.5.6.2 [a]). **A form for congregational nominations is available at [ctsfw.edu/presidential-search](https://ctsfw.edu/presidential-search).** Please send nominations to [nominations@ctsfw.edu](mailto:nominations@ctsfw.edu) or to the Rev. William M. Cwirla, Concordia Theological Seminary Board of Regents, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN, 46825-4996. Nominations must be received by December 31, 2023, for consideration.