

# Christian Education Symposium

## Commemorating the Quincentennial of the Lutheran Reformation, 1517–2017

The Bible calls upon parents and pastors to have a multi-generational vision of God's Kingdom, passing the Christian faith to their children and to their children's children. Martin Luther keenly understood the need for Christian education—in the home, in the congregation, and in the school. The Lutheran Reformation left a legacy, and as heirs of that legacy we now may bequeath to future generations the blessings of our God through the Bible, the hymnal, and the catechism.

### “Priests of Their Homes”

**Professor Ryan C. MacPherson** will explain the history behind Luther's Large and Small Catechisms, revealing Luther's vision for parents to lead home devotions. This session will include practical advice, equipping parents to serve as their children's spiritual shepherds in the home. Dr. MacPherson is Chair of the History Department at Bethany Lutheran College (Minnesota), founding president of the Hausvater Project, and author of numerous books, including *Studying Luther's Large Catechism* and *Telling the Next Generation*.

### “The Family, the Church, and the State in Education”

**Attorney Nathan K. MacPherson** will glean insights from the Reformation to identify the vocations God has assigned the the family, the church, and the state regarding education. Should church and state be strictly separated, or do they have an overlapping interest in the realm of education? Do public schools have authority to do as they please, or do parents retain constitutional rights over their children's education? How does the First Amendment apply to private school vouchers and charter schools? Mr. MacPherson is a second-generation Constitutional defense attorney whose expertise includes advising parents, pastors, and government officials on First Amendment, taxation, education, and parental rights issues. This conference will be the first time that brothers Ryan and Nathan MacPherson appear as fellow presenters.

### “Intergenerational Mentoring”

**Professor Ryan C. MacPherson** will reveal the New Testament's model for parents to impact not only their children's lives but also the lives of their children's children. From Titus 2:1–8, he will explain how the local congregation and the family mutually support one another according to the distinctive vocations of pastor, elder, husband, wife, father, and mother. With church memberships declining steeply across denominations, largely from a neglect of these family vocations, prudent pastors and parents will hearken to God's call to renew their intergenerational vision.

### “Table Talk”

**Pastor Robbin Robbert** will moderate a panel discussion in the tradition of Martin Luther's informal *Tischreden*, or “table talk,” sessions. The featured conference speakers will field questions from the audience concerning their presentations as well as broader issues. Pastor Robbert has served for twenty years in the ministry, spending the past five years at King of Kings Lutheran Church. He also chairs the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Committee for the Ministry to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

### Plan to come early and stay late (and bring your children for Mini VBS)!

**Main events:** Saturday, July 1, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. **Bonus sessions:** Friday evening and Sunday morning.

For complete details, including affordable lodging opportunities, visit: [www.hausvater.org/events/368](http://www.hausvater.org/events/368)

King of Kings Lutheran Church  
Wasilla, Alaska, July 1, 2017  
(freewill donation)

The  
**Hausvater**  
Project  
[www.hausvater.org](http://www.hausvater.org)

**Hausvater:** /HAUS-fah-ter/  
noun (*German*) 1. Housefather.  
2. Spiritually responsible head  
of household, including the  
housefather as assisted by the housemother.

**Register for lunch plus free childcare & Mini VBS: [www.hausvater.org/events/368](http://www.hausvater.org/events/368)**

“Die Kirche muss immer reformiert werden.”  
“The Church must always be reformed.”—Martin Luther