



Consortium *for* Classical
Lutheran Education

PROSPECTUS



2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For more than twenty-five years, the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education (CCLE) has advanced classical Lutheran education by supporting schools, educators, pastors, and homeschool families through school accreditation, teacher certification, professional development, continuing education, publications, online resources, conferences, and consultation.

Today, the CCLE serves a rapidly growing network of institutional and household members, supporting schools and homeschools that educate thousands of students. Through its programs and resources, the CCLE equips leaders, teachers, and parents to cultivate in their students wisdom, virtue, and faith in Christ.

Founded in 2024, the Institute for Classical Lutheran Education provides ongoing formation through courses in theology, pedagogy, leadership, the liberal arts, and classical languages. The annual CCLE summer conference, regional practicums, and fall symposia further strengthen the classical Lutheran movement across North America and beyond, attracting hundreds of educators, pastors, parents, and students each year.

Through the generosity of donors, foundations, schools, congregations, and individuals, the CCLE continues to expand its reach and advance its mission of renewing and cultivating Lutheran education rooted in Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and the classical tradition.

As demand for classical Lutheran education continues to grow, the CCLE is uniquely positioned to equip schools, form educators, and provide the resources and leadership necessary to ensure that future generations receive an education marked by wisdom, virtue, and a steadfast faith in Christ.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education is to promote, establish, and equip individuals and schools committed to confessional Lutheran doctrine and a classical approach to education.



VISION

The CCLE will advance and promote classical education within the context of confessional Lutheranism among students, faculty, administrators, pastors, and home educators by providing standards, conferences, professional development, resource materials, and consultation.



CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Consortium and every member accepts without reservation the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true exposition of God's Word. (CCLE Bylaws, Article III, paragraph 2)



CLASSICAL LUTHERAN EDUCATION IS LESS OF A METHOD THAN IT IS A RETURN TO THE RICH TRADITION OF AN EDUCATION ROOTED IN HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY AND THE CLASSICAL LIBERAL ARTS—AD FONTES.

*Adopting Classical Lutheran Education:
A Guide for Educators.*

(CCLE Press, Plano, TX, 2024), 11

ABOUT CLASSICAL LUTHERAN EDUCATION

“Liberal arts education,” “the art of classical learning,” and “classical education” all refer to the same enduring tradition—one that has set the standard of excellence in education for millennia. For the ancient Greeks and Romans, this was the only form of education worthy of a free person. The term *liberales artes* means “the arts of freedom,” signifying an education ordered not merely toward utility, but toward the formation of the whole person.

It was the recovery of this classical tradition that helped fuel both the Renaissance and the Reformation. Figures such as Martin Luther, Philip Melancthon, and Johann Sturm labored to restore these arts in the sixteenth century, establishing schools that became models for centuries to come, including in America. These schools aimed to cultivate wisdom, eloquence, and piety. Today, the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education continues this work, seeking to restore and sustain this rich inheritance among Lutheran schools and educators.

Classical Lutheran education prepares students for a lifetime of learning by emphasizing the arts of language: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric, as well as the mathematical arts of the *quadrivium*. Our students grow into members of society who communicate clearly, deliberate wisely, and act responsibly as citizens. While progressive educational models focus primarily on utilitarian endeavors and immediate job preparation, classical education equips students not only for present tasks but also for future callings—indeed, for ideas not yet imagined, for engaging books not yet written, and discoveries not yet made.

At its heart, classical Lutheran education is centered on Christ and His Word. Christ commands His Church to baptize and to teach all that He has commanded, and the Apostle Paul exhorts fathers in Ephesians 6 to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Lutheran education, therefore, seeks to form students within a worldview in which Christ is central, and Holy Scripture is the source of truth and salvation. It is both our prayer and God’s promise that He will keep them steadfast in the faith and bring them to life everlasting.

Classical education and Lutheran doctrine are bound together in a common pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness. While postmodern educational trends continue to embrace relativism, wokeness, and utility, a growing movement within Lutheran schools and homeschools marks a return to the time-tested educational pedagogy and timeless truths that once shaped Western civilization. Classical Lutheran education unites the seven liberal arts with the Lutheran Confessions, seeking to form not merely knowledgeable students, but wise and faithful servants of God and neighbor. In this harmonious union of Word and wisdom, classical Lutheran education stands as a bulwark against postmodern confusion and Godlessness—shaping minds and hearts for both earthly service and eternal life.

Martin Luther spoke passionately about the education of children, calling them “eternal treasures.” He taught that a faithful teacher—one who diligently forms and instructs the young—cannot be adequately repaid with any earthly reward. Indeed, next to the preaching office, he regarded teaching as the greatest and most noble vocation. The Consortium wholeheartedly affirms this conviction and exists to support those who labor in this high calling, providing a faithful Lutheran liberal arts education for the next generation.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1

OFFER CONFERENCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The CCLE's summer conference provides informative and inspiring presentations to equip educators, administrators, and families with knowledge and tools for classical Lutheran education. Our fall symposium spreads awareness and showcases programs regionally. Our practicum equips Lutheran educators to teach classically.

2

PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The CCLE offers certification for teachers, tutors, and administrators. Our conferences and Institute online classes provide training, formation, and continuing education while facilitating mentoring relationships and supporting new teachers.

3

PROMOTE INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The CCLE accredits classical Lutheran schools and maintains an Institutional Membership program which provides access to a School Resource Library.

4

MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS

The CCLE supports educators and schools both domestically and internationally. We continue to develop partnerships with the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, including our partnership as a Registered Service Organization (RSO) of the LCMS. We collaborate with our Board of Scholars, benefiting from their input.

5

PROVIDE RESOURCE MATERIALS

The CCLE annually publishes the Classical Lutheran Education Journal; this and other publications are available in our online store. Our conference presentation videos are available on our YouTube channel. Resource documents are regularly made available publicly on our blog and for Institutional Members and Accredited Schools in the School Resource Library.

6

RAISE AWARENESS OF CLASSICAL LUTHERAN EDUCATION

Through our website and social media, the CCLE has a strong online presence with excellent search rankings. Online activity and conventional advertising such as radio and print materials help parents and educators to discover the benefits of classical Lutheran education.

700+
ATTENDEES

annually at CCLE's conference,
practicums, and symposia

3000+
STUDENTS

enrolled in CCLE-accredited
and Institutional Member schools

1000+
HOMESCHOOL

families engaged in classical
Lutheran education

200+
EDUCATORS

in Institute classes and
webinars

76
CERTIFICATIONS

completed by CCLE educators

70+
PRESENTATIONS

delivered annually on classical
Lutheran education at CCLE
events

28
ACCREDITATIONS

completed by schools,
with more in process

10,000
UNIQUE VISITORS

to CCLE.org annually

INVESTMENT CASE

The CCLE is looking forward to the future with our hope in Christ. Currently, over two thousand students are being educated through our CCLE-accredited schools, and that number is rising. This does not include students in classical Lutheran schools that have not yet completed accreditation or the thousands of students in classical Lutheran homeschools. God be praised! In keeping with this, the need for teacher, administrator, and home educator training and support continues to grow rapidly. In order to meet these needs, the CCLE is developing more programs, events, classes, online resources, and print publications to provide schools with tools for faculty formation, to support administrators, and to equip our homeschool families to educate with excellence.



WAYS TO SUPPORT



Pray

Pray for the furtherance of the CCLE's mission and for our schools and homeschools as we seek to bring true, good, and beautiful education to our children. Psalm 127 reminds us that "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."



Donate

Through the generosity of our donors, we will provide scholarships for Institute classes, further expand and improve our conferences, and develop new resources to support classical Lutheran education.



Join

Become a CCLE member. Household Members and Institutional Members receive benefits like discounted products and event tickets while supporting the CCLE's mission with their membership dues. Join at ccle.org/membership.



Host

Hosting a practicum provides the CCLE with a location to train educators. Please contact our executive director at executive.director@ccle.org if your church or school is able to serve in this capacity.

LOOKING TO THE NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

For more than twenty-five years, the CCLE has worked to strengthen and expand classical Lutheran education. What began as a small conference in 1999 has grown into a vibrant network of schools, homeschools, churches, educators, and families committed to forming children in wisdom, virtue, and the Christian faith.

Today, the CCLE serves thousands of students through conferences, teacher certification, school accreditation, continuing education, professional development, publications, online resources, practicums, symposia, and free consultation for new and growing schools. More than 3,000 students are currently enrolled in CCLE-accredited or member schools, with many more benefiting through affiliated homeschools.

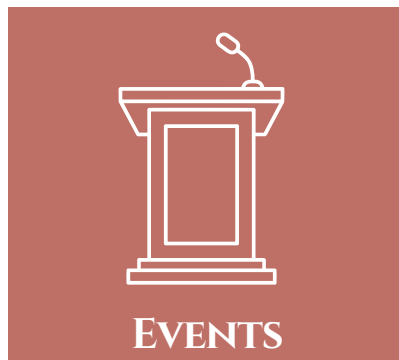
The opportunities before us are tremendous. As interest in classical Lutheran education continues to grow, so does the need for faithful curriculum, teacher training, leadership development, and support for schools and families.

Your gift will help us expand these resources and equip the next generation of Lutheran educators, parents, and students. Together, we can bring classical Lutheran education to more schools, churches, and families across the country and around the world. Please pray for the continued work of the CCLE and consider making a gift today. Every contribution makes a difference.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



Our books and journals provide tools for educators, administrators, and homeschool parents. Your donation can support curriculum development, including the creation, testing, evaluation, and publication of CCLE instructional materials.



In-person events assist in faculty formation, supporting administrators, and equipping our homeschool families to educate with excellence. Your donation will expand and improve these events.



The Institute is a new online learning center offering professional educational classes for adults—helping teachers, administrators, and homeschoolers to hone their craft. Your donation can fund costs and scholarships.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

One-time or Recurring Gifts

Donations to our general fund give the CCLE the greatest freedom to use your gift where it is needed the most. Monthly donations provide recurring income and stability for our operating budget including staffing, technology platforms, program evaluation, and outreach needed to sustain and expand CCLE's impact.

Sponsor a Publication

Help bring trusted resources to educators, pastors, parents, and school leaders around the world. Your support enables the development, publication, and distribution of books, journals, guides, and other materials that strengthen teaching and learning in the Lutheran tradition. By sponsoring a publication, you help preserve and promote a distinctly Lutheran vision of education for future generations.

Sponsor an Institute Class

In 2025, the CCLE was delighted to award ten need-based scholarships for continuing education courses through the Institute. Help equip current and future Lutheran educators with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to serve faithfully in their vocations. By investing in teacher formation, you are helping to shape generations of students with wisdom, virtue, and a firm foundation in Christ.

Sponsor an Event

Help advance the work of classical Lutheran education across schools, churches, and homeschools. Event sponsorship provides valuable support for conferences, practicums, symposia, and teacher training opportunities while connecting your organization with educators, pastors, parents, and school leaders from across the country.



SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE CCLE

To donate to our general fund on a recurring or one-time basis, use the QR code to the right, or visit ccle.org/donate.



To select a specific sponsorship opportunity, use the QR code to the left, or visit ccle.org/sponsorship.

HELPING YOUR GIFT GO FARTHER

Fee-free Donations with Zeffy

In order to steward our donors' gifts most effectively, we collect donations through Zeffy, a platform that covers payment processing fees for non-profits. At checkout, donors have the option to contribute toward Zeffy's costs so they can continue to assist organizations like the CCLE. No contribution is required; whether you donate to Zeffy or not, the transaction will be free of cost for the CCLE.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

You may now designate Thrivent choice dollars to:

Consortium for Classical and Lutheran Education, Storm Lake, IA

To remove or change your automatic recurring direction, visit thrivent.com OR livegenerously.com

Or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say, "Thrivent Choice" to make these changes.

Corporate Giving

Many employers provide matching donations for non-profit organizations like the CCLE. Ask your employer about matching gifts and multiply the impact of your donation. Business owners also have opportunities for sponsorship, establishing a partnership between the CCLE and businesses.

Make a Tax-Free Gift From Your IRA

If you are 70½ or older, you can support CCLE with a gift directly from your IRA. This type of gift—called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)—may reduce your taxable income and can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution if you are 73 or older.

CLASSICAL LUTHERAN EDUCATION

When [Lutheran] schools flourish, things go well and the church is secure. Let us make more doctors and masters. The youth is the church's nursery and fountainhead. When we are dead, where are others [to take our place] if there are no schools? God has preserved the church through schools. They are the preservers of the church. Schools don't have a beautiful appearance, and yet they are very useful. Little boys have learned at least the Lord's Prayer and the Creed in the schools, and the church has been remarkably preserved through such small schools.

—Martin Luther
Table Talk No. 5557, *LW* 54:452



Your support will do more than sustain the work of the CCLE—it will help shape the future of classical Lutheran education. Your gift enables us to develop faithful curriculum, train and mentor teachers, support school leaders, strengthen Lutheran schools and homeschools, and bring the blessings of a Christ-centered classical education to more children and families.

The opportunities before us are significant, but we cannot accomplish this work alone. We invite you to partner with us in this mission. Please keep the CCLE in your prayers and consider making a gift today. Through your generosity, you can help ensure that future generations are formed in wisdom, virtue, and the truth of God's Word. Every gift, regardless of size, has a lasting impact.



NOT ONLY IS IT OF GREAT VALUE FOR THE LUTHERAN CHURCH TO SUPPORT CLASSICAL LUTHERAN EDUCATION, IT IS A DUTY OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH TO ENSURE OUR CHILDREN ARE TRAINED UP IN THE FAITH AND TAUGHT WELL.

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison

President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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For more information about our
leadership, visit ccle.org/leadership



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