

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: My synod adopted a resolution to be a Book of Faith Initiative synod. Does my congregation still have to register?**

Yes. The resolutions encouraged congregations to “become Book of Faith congregations.” By registering your commitment by mail or by using the online form, you signal your decision to adopt the synod’s recommendation.

**Q: The online registration form offers a 10% discount on the next purchase of a Book of Faith Initiative resource, excluding the *Lutheran Study Bible*. Is this discount available if my congregation registers by mail?**

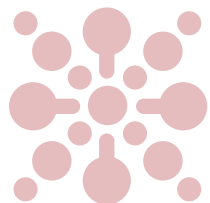
Unfortunately not. The online method is required to receive the discount. If you lack Internet access, consider using a computer at a public library to take advantage of online registration.

**Q: Is it true that Bible teacher training is to be part of the initiative?**

Yes. Augsburg Fortress will offer online training, and all synods have been invited to expand teacher training opportunities.

**Q: What happen after five years when the initiative ends?**

The five years only launch what will become a permanent emphasis on biblical renewal in the practices of this church.



## Contacts and Resources

**General information, general resources, Book of Faith logo, and networking opportunities:**

[www.bookoffaith.org](http://www.bookoffaith.org)  
[www.bookoffaith.ning.com](http://www.bookoffaith.ning.com)  
[vocation\\_education@elca.org](mailto:vocation_education@elca.org)

**Information about books and other published Book of Faith Initiative resources:**

Augsburg Fortress, Publishers  
[www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org)  
(800) 328-4648  
Mon–Fri, 7:30 am–5:00 pm (Central)  
Fax orders: (800) 722-7766

**Synod advocate contact information:**

Go to [www.bookoffaith.ning.com](http://www.bookoffaith.ning.com) or contact your synod office



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



# book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

*That the whole church become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.*

Book of Faith Initiative  
Vision Statement

## Welcome to the Initiative

Lutherans care about the Bible because Jesus Christ is present with us when we hear, read, study, reflect and meditate upon the Bible.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America invites all its members and the whole church



to renew and deepen engagement with the Bible through the BOOK OF FAITH INITIATIVE.



## What the Book of Faith Initiative IS and is NOT

The Book of Faith Initiative is an invitation to do what we have always claimed we do: read, study, reflect, and meditate upon the Bible together. We hope that the resources produced for the initiative help. We hope that the initiative's four-fold method for Bible study (see the book, *Opening the Book of Faith*) helps. But none of this is the Initiative. The initiative is a call for the whole church to embrace the vision by doing what the tagline says: Open Scripture and Join the Conversation.

The Book of Faith Initiative does not ask all congregations to adopt a specific Bible study program. The initiative is not a course, a kit, or a technique. You are not required to use all or any of the new books and other resources produced for the Book of Faith Initiative. There is no one way to participate in the Book of Faith Initiative.

What can you and your congregation do to become “more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture”? Respond to that question by participating in the Book of Faith Initiative.



## How to Get Started

### STEP ONE

**Ask how you and your congregation think about and use the Bible.**

What could be done to expand your engagement with Scripture? If you are uncertain how to begin, use the initiative's assessment tool. This tool is found in the initiative's foundational publication, *Opening the Book of Faith: Lutheran Insights for Bible Study*. The assessment tool is also available on the initiative's Web site, [www.bookoffaith.org](http://www.bookoffaith.org).

### STEP TWO

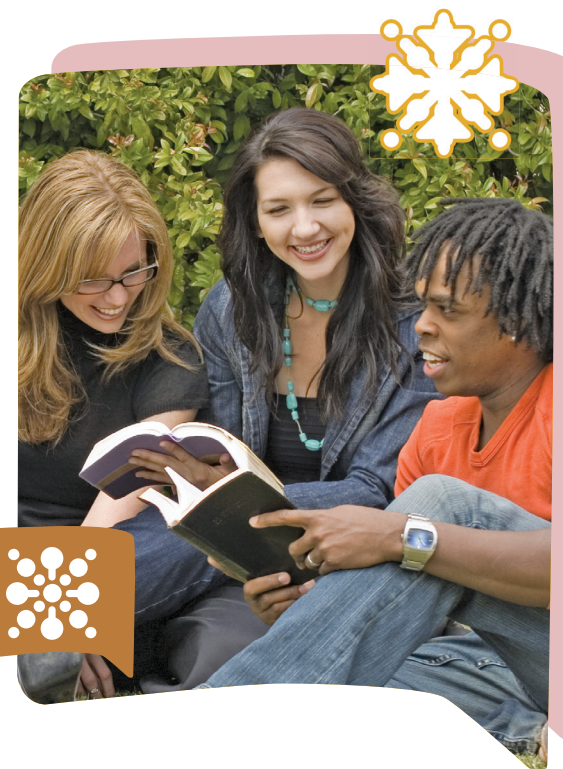
**Create and begin to implement a plan** for increasing your engagement with the Bible.

### STEP THREE

**Share your plan with others.** Register your commitment to participate at the initiative's Web site or by completing and returning a paper registration form. Join the conversation in your synod by reporting your plans to your synod's Book of Faith Advocate.

## The Initiative's Background

The 2005 Churchwide Assembly approved a request from the North Carolina Synod to develop an “ongoing effort to address issues surrounding the authority of Scripture.” In response, the 2007 Churchwide Assembly adopted the Book of Faith Initiative as a five-year collaborative effort by this church to expand its engagement with the Bible for the sake of God's mission in the world.



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