



When: Jun. 21-25, 2021 | **Held:** In Brookings (Tentatively)
Registration: Call Kelli Anawski at (605) 692-9337 or email kanawski@ilt.edu

Theology of Oswald Bayer

Oswald Bayer is one of the most important German Lutheran theologians within the last half century. In contrast to mediating or secularizing theologies which reduce theology either to a comprehensive morality (Kant) or a philosophical “system” (Hegel) or religious motivation (Schleiermacher or Feuerbach) Bayer affirms theology as both experiential and sapiential, both informing and returning to worship life, as the “grammar of the language of the Holy Spirit.” He understands the gospel as able to relieve modern humans of the overwhelming responsibilities that they place upon themselves to create an ideal world. His legacy results in a vibrant Lutheran response to various ecumenical engagements, worship life and preaching, and articulating Christian doctrine. Through a close reading of Bayer’s most important theological texts, we will seek to access where and how his theology should influence contemporary theology and ecclesial policies.

- **General Public:** invited to participate. For more information, please contact Kelli Anawski at kanawski@ilt.edu
- **Schedule:** Begins Monday, June 21 at 9:00a.m. and ends at 4:00p.m. on Friday, June 25. Evenings are free.
- **Sessions** are 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Monday-Friday



Professor:
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REV. DR. MARK MATTES

Mark Mattes serves as the Lutheran Bible Institute Chair in Theology as well as Department Chair at Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa. Prior to this call, he served parishes in Gardner, Illinois and Antigo, Wisconsin. He holds the Ph.D. from The University of Chicago, the M.Div. from Luther Seminary, and earned his BA from St. Olaf College, where he was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He has authored several books, including *Luther’s Theology of Beauty: A Reappraisal* (Baker Academic, 2017), *The Role of Justification in Contemporary Theology*, *Imaging the Journey*, and *Law and Gospel in Action: Foundations, Ethics, Church* (New Reformation Press, 2019). He has also edited many other books and has authored numerous essays and reviews for peer reviewed journals. He serves as an associate editor for *Lutheran Quarterly* and on the Continuation Committee of the International Luther Congress. His wife teaches kindergarten with Des Moines Public Schools and his three children live and work in Des Moines.