

Please fill out the enclosed registration form and submit payment to Trinity Lutheran Church by Tuesday, February 19.

Registration forms can also be found on our website at [www.trinitystpeter.org](http://www.trinitystpeter.org)

The Barbara and Justin Simpson Endowment Fund supports this event.

*The registration fee of \$15 per person covers refreshments and a catered meal.*



511 S 5th St  
St. Peter, MN 56082  
507-934-4786

## Immigration and Us

### What Do We Know? What Must We Know?

**Saturday**  
**February 23, 2019**  
**9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

The topic of immigration has been discussed and debated at great length. And yet, there exists both significant confusion and a general lack of knowledge about basic elements related to the topic.

Presenters at the 2019 Simpson Forum will offer information and insights as to the nature of various issues related to immigration.



## SCHEDULE

### Welcome and Preamble

9:00 am Dr. Darrell Jodock

### Session I Who Comes to the United States, and Why?

9:15 am Yusuf Abdi, presenter

- Yusuf's Story
- *Immigration and Refugee Nomenclature*
- *Laws today regarding refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers*
- *Statistics regarding refugees and immigrants*
- *International standards and norms for Immigration*
- *Children as refugees – DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) – and consequences of being undocumented in college and job market*
- *Unaccompanied minors*
- *Families separated on southern border*
- *Screening currently existing*
- *Those who arrive legally but overstay visa*

10:15 am Questions

10:30 am Break

### Session II A History of Immigration in the United States

10:45 am Jodi Harpstead, presenter

- *A history*
- *As Americans, whom have we excluded?*
- *Post 9/11 fears*
- *The value of welcome and resettlement*

11:45 am Questions

12:00 pm Lunch

### Session III The Economics of Immigration

1:00 pm Dr. Jeff Owen, presenter

- *Contributions of refugees and immigrants*
- *Shortage of farm workers*
- *Taxes and social security*
- *Financial assistance received by refugees and immigrants*
- *Proposed changes regarding assistance*

2:00 pm Questions

2:15 pm Break

### Session IV Immigration and Us—A Panel on Theological and Biblical Perspectives

2:30 pm Yusuf Abdi & Dr. Blake Couey  
Dr. Darrell Jodock (moderator)

3:30 pm Questions

3:45 pm Group Discussion

### Postscriptum

4:45 pm Dr. Darrell Jodock

5:00 pm Close

## PRESENTERS

**Jodi Harpstead** is the Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration at Michigan State University. She serves on the Board of Directors for Lutheran Services in America and the Association of Residential Resources in Minnesota (ARRM). Jodi and her husband, Stan, live in Arden Hills and have two grown children.

**Yusuf Abdi** is the Program Director of Refugee Services for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota and provides overall leadership for the development, direction and integration of refugee services to meet the needs of refugees and the communities in which they settle. He represents Lutheran Social Service on the anti-racism taskforce and serves as an accredited representative of the Board of Immigration Appeals in Minnesota. He is a graduate of North Dakota State University and lives with his wife Fatima and their five children in Savage.

**Dr. Jeff Owen** is an associate professor of economics at Gustavus Adolphus College. He holds undergraduate degrees in economics and history from Gustavus and a doctorate in economics from the University of Iowa. His teaching interests are focused in microeconomics and in the related fields of economic history, environmental economics, and sports economics. He and his wife Susan live in St. Peter.

**Dr. Blake Couey** is an associate professor of religion at Gustavus Adolphus College, and serves as faculty associate for Research, Scholarship, & Creativity and director in Comparative Literature. He earned his B.A. from Mercer University, M. Div. and Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary. He teaches in the area of **Hebrew Bible**, introduction to the Bible, and upper-level courses on prophets, women and gender in the Bible, and biblical conceptions of God.

**Dr. Darrell Jodock** is professor emeritus of religion and the Drell and Adeline Bernhardson Distinguished Professor in Lutheran Studies at Gustavus Adolphus College. He came to Gustavus in 1999 and taught in the areas of Lutheran studies, religion in American culture, the Holocaust, the history of Christian thought, and Jewish-Christian relations. He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and holds degrees from Luther Seminary and Yale University.