



J. Christopher Pickett
M.Div., M.A., LCPC, CADC

Chris has been an ordained minister since 1982 and served the Villa Park Covenant Church for 6 years after completing his M.Div. in 1981. During his time there, he became involved in helping those with substance use disorders and mental illness in the community. After completing a Clinical Pastoral Education residency (1987-1988) where he also trained as an addictions counselor, he began working with Parkside Lutheran Hospital and the addictions treatment program. After 12 years of working with addicts and alcoholics, he accepted a position as counselor with Midwest Ministry Development Service doing career counseling and assessment. Through his work with Midwest, Chris has gained significant experience working with ministers in times of crisis as well as in developing strategies for working through very difficult and conflictual situations. He is adept in helping ministers understand their personality traits and developing leadership strategies that are comfortable and effective for them. Chris also has a small private practice with Barrington Behavioral Health and Wellness where he sees clients for anxiety, substance use disorders, marital and couples counseling and anger management. In April of 2020 Chris moved to semi-retirement, continuing to periodically work with Midwest while maintaining a small practice at Barrington Behavioral Health and Wellness.

Chris is married and has two adult children and three grandsons and a granddaughter on the way. He has been described as warm, caring, compassionate and helpfully engaging. His hobbies include reading mystery novels, woodworking, boating and sailing. He and his wife are actively involved in the Ridgefield Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church.