

ALCM Chaplains

Each of these persons has offered their time as a listening ear for anyone who needs one. Whether you're having a problem with church staff, a question regarding vocation, a troublesome relationship, or just need to hear a friendly voice, they are here to help. They have provided a bit of information about themselves, so you can choose someone who seems to be a good fit. You can start this conversation via email, but all of them are willing to speak by phone as well. We hope this is a useful resource and will help support you in your calling.

Christine Blice-Baum

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Christine served as a church musician from the age of 15 and served in a number of parish positions as organist and choir director. She is an ordained ELCA pastor of 32 years, serving 20 of those years as an Air Force chaplain. She is now retired.

Alvera Brandt

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As an ELCA parish pastor and as a chaplain in a faith-based facility, Alvera has always considered it a gift to listen and to be trusted with the life experiences that people have shared with her. When these conversations occur, her prayer is to bring into the experience an open heart, an open mind, and a nonjudgmental spirit!

Christa Even

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Christa Even recently retired from full-time music ministry at Our Savior Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Livermore, CA. As director of music there for 38 years, she planned the services, played organ and piano, and directed musical groups (choir, children's choirs, bells, and brass). She worked with four different pastors (having differing levels of collaboration), and over that time also dealt with some serious congregational and pastoral issues.

Paul Haverstock

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The Rev. Paul Haberstock is a retired church organist, hospital chaplain, pastor, and Christian day school teacher (LCMS, English District) with critical incident stress listening skills taught by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. His 20+ year healthcare mantra has been: *Engaging the whole person in the healing process.*

Paul Hoffman

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Paul Hoffman is the retired pastor of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church in Seattle, WA, and a long-time member of ALCM. He is currently under call in the NWWA Synod, ELCA as a writer and teacher, and spends many hours these days as a pastoral mentor. Paul is also an avocational organist and enjoys supply work as an organist, preacher, and presider.

Brian Johnson

brian.johnson1@valpo.edu

Brian Johnson serves at Valparaiso University. An ELCA pastor, he works in the areas of worship, liturgy, and the arts. He worked for several years on a psychiatric crisis unit as an associate therapist.

Ron Koch and Zita Weyland

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Ron is a parish pastor and musician who has worked with church musician Zita Weyland at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (formerly LCMS, now ELCA) in Gilroy, CA for over 25 years. He is also a retired marriage and family therapist and writes the Dear St. Cecilia advice column for ALCM. Zita's degrees are in elementary education and music. She also teaches piano in her home studio. Ron and Zita work together on all aspects of worship planning.

Thomas Lichner**tclichner@rcn.com**

The Rev. Dr. F. Thomas Lichner has been an ordained pastor in the ELCA since 1977. He was a clinical member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors for ten years. Tom has been certified as a spiritual director by two training institutions. He has been practicing as a spiritual director and writing centering prayer chants since 1989.

John Morris**jdm9lives@aol.com**

Pastor John Morris serves as senior pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Dublin, OH. He works closely with director of music Jeremy Bankson and long-time church organists Lucille Gill (26 years) and Jim Hoyt (15 years). At Prince of Peace, the planning of worship is a shared venture among the whole staff but always rooted in the rich liturgical heritage of the Reformation.

Craig Mueller**craigmue@comcast.net**

Craig Mueller is lead pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Chicago. He has served on three planning committees for ALCM biennial conferences and has been chaplain four times for Lutheran Summer Music.

Lee Rupert**leerupert@outlook.com**

Lee Rupert served 39 ½ years as an ELCA pastor, twice a mission developer, and speaker for the living, with skill in conflict resolution. Having retired and resigned from ministry in 2012, he likes to remind people that he is the formerly reverend, but reverend no more.

Richard Tietjen and Sandra Tietjen**uptietjen@gmail.com**

Pastor emeritus Richard Tietjen, a 1965 graduate of Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, has served LCMS parishes in northern California, southern Ohio, and Tacoma, WA. After 46 years in the active parish ministry he retired in 2011 and currently resides in University Place, WA.

Sandra Tietjen, raised in St. Louis, was employed as administrative assistant at Lutheran Hour Ministries, Concordia Seminary (St. Louis), Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and in several corporations. A trained church musician, she served as organist, vocal and change-ringing bell director for over four decades. She currently resides in University Place, WA.

Gwenn Trout**pastorgwenn@verizon.net**

Gwenn Trout has served as pastor at Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA), Enola PA since 2003, and is currently chair of her synod's worship committee.

Steven Wilco**steven.wilco@gmail.com**

Steven Wilco has served as the pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Amherst, MA, since 2011, where he works together with staff and lay leaders to shape worship for the assembly. He serves on the advisory council of the Institute of Liturgical Studies and is a graduate of Valparaiso University and The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.