We welcome The Rev. Dr. Norbert Hahn as our new Campus Minister!

Pastor Hahn, as he likes to be called, was born and raised in what formerly was West Germany. His educational journey began in Germany where he earned a B.S. equivalent in Physics and German Literature and a Master of Theology equivalent. He continued his education at Harvard University where he earned a Master of Divinity and Emory University where he completed a Ph.D. in Theology and Psychology. His dissertation focused on how congregations foster or inhibit the faith development of their members and friends.

While at Harvard University, he fell in love with the Lutheran Church in America and felt God's call to ordained ministry in the LCA, a predecessor body of the ELCA. Since his ordination he has served congregations in Georgia, North Carolina, and, most recently, Pennsylvania. His ministry included campus ministry at three different universities, developing German-speaking congregations in Atlanta and Charlotte, serving two tours as Conference Dean in Northeast Philadelphia as well as two terms as president of an international network of German-speaking congregations. Before coming to Grace and WELCM he spent three months on a mission trip in Germany. In a previous chapter of his ministry, Pastor Hahn was trained and served as a church growth consultant.

For a while, he kept one foot in academia through teaching, publishing, and translations of academic works both from German into English and from English into German. His field of studies in graduate school was Faith Development where he worked with the pioneer of that field, the late Prof. James Fowler.

Although trained as an amateur church musician on the French horn, he eventually learned to play electric guitar and bass which led to his founding of Christian worship bands, mostly with other Lutheran pastors. After he has rebuilt the calluses on his fingers, he is willing to play guitar for the campus ministry, if necessary.

Pastor Hahn is married to Lyn who grew up in Rock Hill and his happy to return to the South. Together they enjoy gardening, taking walks, cooking, and repairing and updating the house of Lyn's late mother where they now reside. They serve as staff to two cats, Lulu and Inky Poe. Pastor Hahn can be reached at CM@WELCM.org and 704.425-2614.