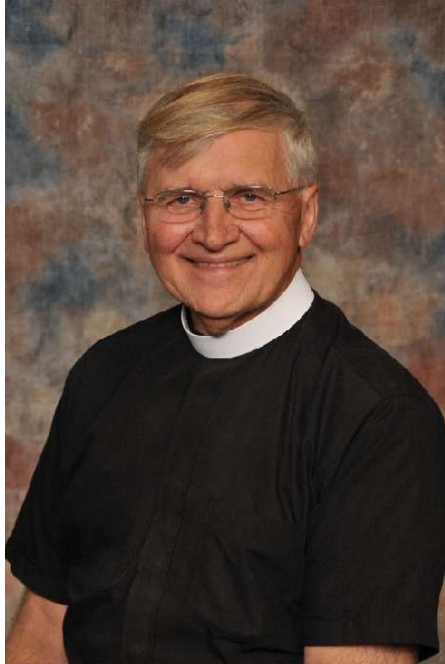


## **Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination**

### **The Rev. Dr. Philip D. W. Krey**



I was the fourteenth of sixteen children in an immigrant German family. My father was a pastor, and the expectation was that his sons would follow in his footsteps. Four of us did. Though my interests at UMass-Boston were geology and oceanography, the pastor at the Lutheran Ministry on the Fenway campus ministry urged me to go to seminary, and, along with my older brother, I went to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg on full scholarship in 1972. After the first year, I joined a group of students moving to Washington, DC, where participation in the seminary's Lutheran House of Studies enabled me to pick courses from any of the seminaries in the Washington Theological Consortium. I benefitted from learning from some of the nation's finest professors. I also fell in love with urban ministry.

I was hired as student assistant at Reformation Lutheran Church on Capitol Hill, working primarily with the congregation's young professionals. Among them was René Diemer, legislative assistant to a Kansas congressman. We married during my internship at Faith Lutheran Church in suburban DC. After graduation, I was called to the Friedens-Trinity Lutheran Parish (now Amazing Grace) in a tough section of Southeast Baltimore, where I honed my interests and skills in neighborhood ministry. The Lutheran Church in America and the federal government in the Carter years were heavily invested in the cities and urban development, and the congregations of the Southeast Baltimore Lutheran Cluster became a model of collaboration in urban ministry, especially youth ministry and urban renewal.

During this time I received an MA in Medieval Studies from Catholic University. In 1984 President Herman Stuempfle of LTSG encouraged me to work toward a PhD. I was accepted at the University of Chicago Divinity School, and scholarships and stipends from both the Div School and LTSG made it possible for me to study medieval history and theology with Dr. Bernard McGinn, while living on the campus of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. My dissertation on the 14th-century Franciscan biblical commentator, Nicholas of Lyra, an influence on Martin Luther, turned into a lifelong scholastic pursuit. Our family has fond memories of our years at LSTC and Hyde Park.

In 1988 I received a Fulbright Fellowship to study and write my dissertation at the University of Munich. The next year I was invited to serve as lecturer in Early/Medieval Church History at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and that became a full-time position in 1990. Following a sabbatical teaching in Bangalore, India, in 1996, I became Dean, succeeding James Kenneth Echols, and then succeeded Robert Hughes as president in 2000. I retired from the presidency in 2015, after which I was called as pastor to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Perkasio, the wonderful and exciting congregation I am still privileged to serve.

René and I had three children during our nine years in Baltimore, Jessicah, Lindsay, and Jordan. Noah was born within weeks of our arrival in Chicago, and our youngest, Micah, was born in Philadelphia. Jessicah and Micah are pastors, Lindsay is a public school administrator, and Jordan and Noah are IT specialists. They have blessed us with eleven amazing grandchildren. It has been a life and ministry of grace upon grace.

### **Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination**

**The Rev. James E. Munz**

*(no bio or picture submitted)*

### **Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination**

**The Rev. Paul M. Sorcek**



“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.” Psalm 103:2

I give thanks to the Lord for my life which He has blessed abundantly, even as I give thanks for 50 years of ordained ministry.

Born in Queens, NY and growing up in Flushing I was blessed by the ministry of Pastor Detlef Kraft at St. John’s Lutheran Church there and then later at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in Huntington Station, Long Island.

At Valparaiso University while participating in an urban studies program in Chicago and volunteering at Christ the King in the Loop I began to feel the call to ministry.

I was blessed to study at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (now United Lutheran Seminary) where I earned my M.Div. and S.T.M.(Church History) and then later at Eastern Baptist

Theol. Seminary (now Palmer Theol. Sem.) where I earned my D.Min.in Pastoral Ministry. My internship with the Wilmington (Delaware) Lutheran Urban Cluster was also formative for me.

Ordained on May 23, 1976 I served 6 years at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yeadon, PA and was involved in the SE Delaware District Lutheran Parish and the Committee on American Missions, among other activities. In 1982 I was called as Pastor of Advent Lutheran Church in Richboro, PA where I would spend 36 years in ministry and help lead the congregation through two building programs. During that time I was blessed to serve several terms as Dean of the Lower Bucks Conference and also to serve on Synod Council. Community involvement included serving as Chaplain and Fire Police for Warwick Township Fire Company, Chaplain for Pennsylvania State Police at Dublin, and on several crisis response teams.

Retiring on September 1, 2018 my wife Ruby and I moved to Emmaus in the Lehigh Valley where I am now working part-time as Interim Pastor at St. Peter’s Union Church in Macungie, PA, a Federated Congregation with ties to both the Lutheran and Reformed Churches. In our

retirement we also enjoy spending time with our children and grandchildren, traveling, and attending musical events.

I give thanks to God for my 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination and for all His blessings in ministry and life.

**Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination**  
**The Rev. James H. Wilford**  
*(no bio or picture submitted)*