

Pastor Debra has been ordained twenty-four years as an Episcopal priest. She went to seminary in Evanston, Illinois at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary (part of the same consortium as the Lutheran School of Theology).

As a Pastor she has served in campus ministry (at UW-Madison), and on the staff of the former Episcopal Bishop of Milwaukee as his Assistant for Pastoral Care, working with troubled clergy and parishes. As a Pastor, she served a church in Wisconsin Dells that shared the church building with a United Methodist congregation. She then served a church in the central city of Milwaukee that provided food and care to 300 homeless individuals a day. And she has also served a church as Pastor in River Hills. Most recently, she has been the Bridge Pastor at Church of the Resurrection (ELCA) in Pewaukee, Interim Pastor at Advent Lutheran in Cedarburg, and Bridge Pastor at St. Luke's in Waukesha.

The ELCA and the Episcopal Church have a covenant, "Called to Common Mission" which allows their clergy to be Pastors in one another's churches.

Beyond serving as Pastor, Pastor Debra is certified as a mediator in Wisconsin, and licensed in Wisconsin and Illinois to practice psychotherapy. She is also certified as an Interim Specialist and, in addition, has completed two years of training with the Congregational Development Institute.

Before ordination Pastor Debra went to Mount Mary College for her undergraduate degree in social work, and then to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for her M.S.W. She then worked as a clinical social worker and an organizational development specialist in: medical/geriatric social work, correctional social work, and industrial social work (eg. Employee Assistance Programs). In state government she worked for the Departments of Corrections, Natural Resources, and Transportation. She did specialized training to become a quality improvement specialist and, in that capacity, worked at the Wisconsin Lottery right up to two days before she went to seminary.

Pastor Debra is married. She lives in Menomonee Falls. Her wife, Carlynn, is a pediatric occupational therapist currently working in the West Bend School District. They are both movie buffs and extensive readers. They have two wonderful sons and daughters-in-law, and three amazing grandchildren. And they live with a horribly spoiled rescue dog named Kirk.