



Pastoral Care

IN PLURALISTIC CONTEXTS

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPM EDUCATIONAL EVENT PRESENTERS



Rev. Philip Rudolph Kuehnert

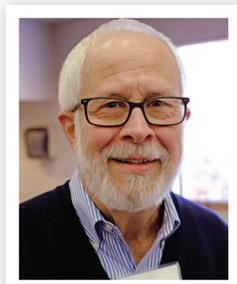
The Rev. Philip Kuehnert graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1969 with a Master of Divinity. He earned a master's in Christian education from Presbyterian School of Christian Education in 1970 and was awarded a Doctorate of Theology in pastoral counseling from Emory University in

1987. His doctoral dissertation, "In Defense of the Indefensible: Theodicy in Pastoral Counseling," Kuehnert presented a cry and response motif for pastoral care. Kuehnert has four units of clinical pastoral education (CPE), is a fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and, until retirement, was a licensed professional counselor in Alaska.

Kuehnert served at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Orleans from 1970-75, the Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Atlanta for 17 years and Zion Lutheran Church in Fairbanks, Ala., from 1994-2010. Since retirement from full-time ministry in 2010, Kuehnert has been serving part-time as connections pastor at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Williamsburg, Va.

Kuehnert also was instrumental in establishing the Samaritan Counseling Center in Fairbanks, served on the Board of Mission Services for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and, with his congregation at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, he helped to design, build and open the first two Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Centers in 1989 and 1990. Currently, there are more than 60 Lutheran child development centers of the LCMS that have their origin in the Open Arms model.

Kuehnert and his wife, Judy, have five children and five grandchildren.



Rev. Leroy "Lee" Joesten

The Rev. Lee Joesten's ministry has included parish ministry, clinical pastoral education supervision, institutional chaplaincy and administration.

Joesten attended Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne, Ind., and

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Ordained in 1967, he served a Lutheran congregation in rural Iowa for three years before entering a one-year clinical pastoral education (CPE) residency at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee, Wis. One year of CPE grew into two years after he was accepted into CPE supervisory training. After completing his CPE, Joesten joined the pastoral care staff at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill., in 1972 and became certified as a CPE supervisor in 1974. He was

board certified as a chaplain in the Association of Professional Chaplains (College of Chaplains) in 1975.

During his 40 years at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Joesten served in chaplaincy, CPE supervision and various administrative roles, including as the director of Pastoral Care and vice-president of Mission and Spiritual Care. He also developed ministries for the terminally ill and bereaved, including a hospice and parish nurse program. He played a significant role in the development of the Advocate Lutheran General's innovative music therapy and clinical ethics programs, both of which are part of the hospital's spiritual care services. In February 2009, Joesten stepped down from full-time ministry to work part-time, helping in the hospital's pastoral care coverage to their medical dialysis unit.

Joesten and his wife, Carolyn Hardt, have been married for 50 years. They have three adult children and five grandchildren.



Chaplain Russell Helbig

Chaplain Russell Helbig's service in the church has been in both parish and institutional ministry. Ordained in 1994, he graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and later completed four units of clinical pastoral education (CPE) units. He served Grace and Immanuel Lutheran churches in Kansas from

1994-2000, and Trinity and Zion Lutheran churches in Southern Illinois from 2000-03. Helbig's introduction to

prison ministry was as a volunteer chaplain at Pinckneyville Correctional Center. From 2003-2009, Helbig served as staff chaplain at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, N.C. Since 2009, he has served as supervisory chaplain at FCI Williamsburg, a medium security federal correctional institution in Salters, S.C.

Helbig is the director of elders at his congregation, Grace Lutheran Church, Summerville, S.C. He has led reading groups in the Lutheran Confessions at both Grace and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches in Charleston, S.C.

Helbig and his wife, Dianne, have two children.