

Rev. Dr. Marcus J. Carlson

Curriculum Vitae

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Professional Accomplishments

- Revitalization of church congregations and organizations in decline.
- Built, rebuilt and strengthened several children's, youth, young adult, and family ministry programs.
- Supervision, training and support of several volunteers, staff, and interns over my career.
- Oversight of ministries for large, multi-site church setting.
- Creative, effective pastoral leadership, ministry, and care.
- Leadership over vision and several new ministry initiatives.
- Formed several partnerships and networking connections with other leaders and organizations.
- Successful implementation of new ministry and organization models, processes, and procedures.
- Increased involvement and health in various ministries, programs, and volunteer organizations.
- Great success in receiving grants from a variety of funders for various organizations.
- Travelled the country and world to teach and train pastors, leaders, educators and others.

Publications

- Author, *Habits of Healthy Churches: 7 Practices to Transform Your Church Culture* 2021
- Author, *The False Gospel of Guilt and Shame* 2018
- Author, *Re-Thinking Confirmation: A Practical Guide* 2016
- Author, Holy Families Small Group Video Curriculum 2016
- Contributor, Inside Job Doing the Work Within the Work Companion Workbook 2015
- Contributor, Holy Families Project 2015-2016
- The Church's call to address the development of adolescents in it's community (Dmin) 2014
- Columnist, Connections Magazine 2010-2019
- Contributor, Youthworker Journal & Youth Worker Journal Online 2011-2013
- Writer/Contributor, Fuller Seminary Burner Blog for Leaders 2013-2015
- Various Book reviews & blogs 2009-present

Education & Certifications

- Doctor of Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary March 2014
- Masters of Counseling, Liberty University, 24 hours completed 2010-2012
- Masters of Divinity Equivalent Coursework, Iliff School of Theology May 2010
- Master of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary June 2007
- Bachelor of Arts, Youth Ministries, Eastern University May 2001
Minors in Psychology, Leadership & Theology
- Ordained Pastor, Certified with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission For Christ (LCMC)
- Trained Intentional Interim Pastor
- QPR (Suicide Prevention) Certified Trainer

Strengths & Specialties

- Passionate, Kingdom focused follower of Jesus.
- Dynamic, strategic visionary leader with expertise in organizational health and development.
- Superb time manager with a breadth of experience in a wide range of settings.
- Excellent crisis and conflict management skills.
- Gifted communicator, networker, collaborator, and connector.
- Experienced mentor and developer of leaders, pastors, and staff.
- Creative, outside the box thinker focused on team work.
- Highly motivated and flexible man of integrity with high self knowledge.
- Excellent organizational skills and work ethic, successful grant writer.
- Primary Spiritual Gifts: Discernment, Administration, Leadership, Teaching, and Apostle.
- Extensive education and experience in post-betrayal/misconduct ministry settings.

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Career History

- Executive Director, Preparing for Amazement Ministries, Garrett, IN 1/20-present
- Interim (Intentional) Senior Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bulverde, TX 9/20-12/21
- Affiliate Faculty & Faculty Trainer, Kairos University (Masters & Doctorate programs) 2018-present
- Guest Lecturer, Purdue Fort Wayne 2016-present
- Adjunct Faculty, Toccoa Falls College 5/14-5/22
- Various seminars, classes & speaking engagements across the globe 2003-present
- Senior Pastor, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Auburn, IN 7/13-12/19
- Affiliate Faculty, Southwestern College 2013-2018
- Associate Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, CO 12/09-5/13
- Adjunct Faculty, Pikes Peak Community College (teaching & course design) 2012-2013
- Children's Minister, St. Luke's UMC, Highlands Ranch, CO 7/08-9/09
- Director of Student Ministries, Sunrise UMC, Colorado Springs, CO 10/05-5/08
- Youth Minister, Christ UMC, Lafayette, IN 2/03-10/05
- Pastor to Youth & Young Adults, Emmanuel UMC, Blissfield, MI 06/01-01/03
- Teaching Assistant, Fuller Theological Seminary 2007-2009
- Intern: Church of the Good Samaritan, Paoli, PA 1999-2001
- Intern: Young Life Syracuse West, Marcellus, NY 1996-1998

Other Experience

- Leadership of Spiritual Travel (2014-present)
- Faculty, Harvest Workers (2020-present)
- Marching Band Parent Volunteer GKB schools (2018-present)
- Church Consulting (2009-present)
- Speaking & teaching for non-profit, business, government & community groups worldwide (2003-present)
- Provided training to pastors and youth leaders in Kenya, Nepal, Bangladesh and India (2014-present)
- Pastoral Certification Interviewer, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (2019-present)
- LCMC Intentional Interim Leadership Team (2022-present)
- Tech volunteer, Grabill Missionary Church (2020-present)
- Board Member, United Way of DeKalb County (2018-2020)
- Community Mental Health Collaboration Team Leader (2018-2020)
- Sources of Strength Suicide Prevention Program adult leader, Garrett High School (2017-2020)
- Junior Achievement Volunteer, (2015-2020)
- Spiritual Director, various settings (2008-present)
- Crisis Response Team, GKB Schools (2017-2021)
- Strategic Planning Team & Mental Health Advisory Team, GKB School District (2016-2018)
- Heartland District NALC Council, Renewal Team, Conflict Resolution Team and Transition Team (2016-2018)
- Board member, JAM recreation center, (2014-2016)
- Small Wonders Committee, Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community Schools (2014-2016)
- Learning Link, Parent Education and School-Business Partnerships Committees (2014-2018)
- Classroom Volunteer, various schools (2010-2017)
- Leadership team, Colorado Springs youth worker network (2011-2013)
- Funeral & Memorial Chaplain, Shrine of Remembrance, Colorado Springs, CO (2011-2013)
- Volunteer Chaplain/Pastor for Cedar Springs Hospital (2011-2013)
- Founder, Preparing for Amazement Ministries (2009-present)
- Leadership Mentoring & Training, various settings (2006-present)
- Chairperson, District Accountability Committee, Colorado Springs District II (2011-2013)
- Leader of regional Lutheran youth ministry collaboration (2011-2013)
- Board Member, One Nation Non-Profit, Colorado Springs, CO (2010-2012)
- Book Reviewer, Thomas Nelson Publishing (2011-2014)
- Member, various school and District committees, Colorado Springs (2010-2013)
- Teaching Assistant/Co-instructor, Eastern University (1999-2001)
- Student Chaplain, Student Chaplain Advisor & Resident Assistant, Eastern University (1998-2001)