

Rev. Dr. Marcus J. Carlson

Objective

Passionate, dynamic, leader with a track record of success, seeking to leverage over two decades of diverse experience and extensive expertise in empowering individuals to make a meaningful impact on them personally and professionally.

About Me

Enneagram: 8w7. The Challenger
Working Genius: Discernment & Ideation.

Strengths Finder: Learner, Input, Achiever, Arranger, Connectedness

Spiritual Gifts: Discernment, Apostle, Leadership, Administration

Myers-Briggs: ENxJ

Smart Strengths: Spirituality, Judgement, Honesty, Zest, Creativity

Strengths & Expertise

- Strategic visionary leader with expertise in organizational health
- Excellent crisis and conflict management skills
- Superb time manager
- Breadth of experience in a wide range of cultures and settings
- Gifted communicator, networker and collaborator
- Experienced mentor and developer of leaders
- Creative, outside the box thinker focused on team work

CONTACT



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Education

- Doctor of Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA (GPA: 3.93)
- Masters of Arts in Counseling, Kairos University (currently enrolled)
- Masters of Arts in Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary, Colorado Springs, CO (GPA: 3.60)
- Masters of Divinity Equivalency Coursework, Iliff School of Theology, Denver, CO (GPA: 3.60)
- BA Youth Ministries, Eastern University, St. David's, PA (GPA: 3.60-Cum Laude), Minors in Psychology, Theology & Leadership

Certifications

- Working Genius Certified Facilitator, The Table Group
- Ordained Pastor, Certified with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission For Christ (LCMC)
- Certificate in Youth Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary, Colorado Springs, CO
- Trained Intentional Interim Pastor, LCMC Intentional interim Fellowship
- QPR (Suicide Prevent) Certified Trainer
- CORE Certified in Youth Ministry by Youth Specialties, 2004

Published Works

- Author, Habits of Healthy Churches: 7 Practices to Transform Your Church Culture (2022)
- Author, The False Gospel of Guilt and Shame (2018)
- Author, Re-Thinking Confirmation: A Practical Guide (2016)
- Author, Holy Families Small Group Curriculum (2015-2016)
- Contributor, Inside Job Doing the Work Within the Work Companion Workbook (2015)
- The Church's call to address the development of adolescents in it's community (Dmin Project) (2014)
- Contributor, Holy Families Project (2015-2017)
- Writer, Connections Magazine (2010-2019)
- Various Blogs and online articles (2010-present)

Work Experience

- Executive Director, Preparing for Amazement Ministries (01/20-present)
- Intentional Interim Lead Pastor, St. Michael Lutheran Church (10/23-present)
- Affiliate Faculty, Mentor & Trainer, Kairos University, Graduate and Doctoral Level (06/18-present)
- Intentional Interim Senior Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bulverde, TX (09/20-12/21)
- Guest Lecturer, Purdue Fort Wayne (01/16-present)
- Adjunct Faculty, Toccoa Falls College, Undergraduate Level (05/14-05/22)
- Senior Pastor, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Auburn, IN (07/13-12/19)

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Core Values

- Transformation
- Authenticity
- Relationship

Mission Statement

To help others experience transformation through Jesus Christ.

Other Professional Experience

- Business Owner, Colorado Carlson LLC (2005-present)
- Professional Leadership Coaching (2014-present)
- Leadership of Spiritual Travel (2014-present)
- Faculty, Harvest Workers (2020-2024)
- Church Consulting (2009-present)
- Speaking & teaching for non-profit, business, government & community groups worldwide (2003-present)
- Spiritual Director, various settings (2008-present)
- Book Reviewer, Thomas Nelson Publishing (2011-2014)
- Founder, Preparing for Amazement Ministries (2009-present)
- Funeral Chaplain, Shrine of Remembrance, Colorado Springs, CO (2011-2013)
- Teaching Assistant/Co-instructor, Eastern University (1999-2001)
- Student Chaplain, Student Chaplain Advisor & Resident Assistant, Eastern University (1998-2001)
- Intern, Church of the Good Samaritan (1999-2001)

Work Experience, Continued

- Adjunct Faculty, Pikes Peak Community College, Undergraduate Level (08/12-05/13)
- Associate Pastor: Bethel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, CO (12/09-05/13)
- Children's Minister: St Luke's UM Church, Highlands Ranch, CO (7/08-9/09)
- Director of Student Ministries: Sunrise UM Church, Colorado Springs, CO (10/05-5/08)
- Youth Minister: Christ UM Church, Lafayette, IN (02/03-10/05)
- Pastor to Youth & Young Adults: Emmanuel UM Church, Blissfield, MI (06/01-01/03)
- Intern, Young Life Syracuse West, Syracuse, NY (1996-1998)

Volunteer Experience

- Provided training to leaders in Africa and Asia (2014-present)
- Pastoral Certification Interviewer, LCMC (2019-present)
- LCMC Intentional Interim Leadership Team (2022-present)
- Tech volunteer, Grabill Missionary Church (2020-2023)
- Marching Band Parent Volunteer GKB schools (2018-2023)
- Board Member, United Way of DeKalb County (2018-2020)
- Community Mental Health Collaboration Team Leader (2018-2020)
- Sources of Strength Adult Leader, Garrett High School (2017-2020)
- Junior Achievement Volunteer, (2015-2020)
- 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)
- Volunteer Chaplain/Pastor for Cedar Springs Hospital (2011-2013)
- Leadership Mentoring & Training, various settings (2006-present)
- Chairperson, District Accountability Committee, Colorado Springs District 11 (2011-2013)
- Leader of regional Lutheran youth ministry collaboration (2011-2013)
- Board Member, One Nation Non-Profit, Colorado Springs, CO (2010-2012)
- Member, various school and District committees (2010-2013)