



Chaplaincy

Providing Christ-centered care is at the heart of what we do. Opportunities abound for sharing the love of Jesus with people who use our services. At each of our locations, we provide chaplaincy services that include Bible studies, worship services, devotions and personal visits.



Rev. Joel Gaertner serves as Vice President of Ministry and National Director of Jesus Cares Ministry. He joined TLHA in October 2013. He continues to serve as chairman of the WELS Intellectual and Developmental Disability Ministry Committee. Upon graduation in 1990, Pastor Gaertner was assigned as an Outreach Explorer in Boone County, Kentucky, where he served for 6 years establishing Amazing Grace Lutheran Church. From there until 2011, he served at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Algoma, Wisconsin, followed by 12 years at Faith Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin before joining TLHA.



Rev. Mark Bartsch serves as Chaplain at Heritage Homes in Watertown, Wisconsin. Bartsch completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Minnesota, graduated from Bethany Lutheran College in 1977 and the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1981. Bartsch has served at churches in Minnesota and Nebraska and most recently served at St. John's Lutheran Church in Jefferson, Wis. for 16 years. Bartsch's wife, Rita, is a native of Hustisford, Wis. and the couple has four children and four grandchildren. Bartsch enjoys anything automotive, sports, walking and bicycling.



Rev. Edwin Fredrich serves as Chaplain at The Lutheran Home Campus in Belle Plaine, Minnesota. He received his B.A. from Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin, his Master of Divinity from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. He also received his Master's in Professional Counseling from Concordia University in Wisconsin. As a pastor, he enjoys that, by the Lord's blessing, people get to see Jesus. He also enjoys presenting on a variety of topics, including grief, marriage, caregiving and working with volunteers. Pastor Fredrich served several churches in Kansas and Wisconsin before coming to the Belle Plaine Campus.



Rev. Kenley Mann serves as Chaplain at The Lutheran Home Campus in River Falls, Wisconsin and St. Michael's Assisted Living in Fountain City, Wisconsin. Mann attended Northwestern College in Watertown, Wis., graduating in 1984, and attended Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS) in Mequon, Wis. graduating in 1988. Since 2001, Pastor Mann served at Grace-Zillah in Washington. Over the years Pastor Mann has served in leading Lutheran Pioneer trains at his various congregations, as Pastoral Advisor for Martin Luther Memorial Home-South Haven, Michigan, and as Special Ministries Coordinator for the Pacific Northwest District.



Rev. Roger Woller serves at The Lutheran Home: Cedar Haven in Mankato, Minnesota. He enjoys visiting with the different people and teaching Bible classes—he thanks God he has been called to serve as chaplain here and shares, “It’s a blessing to use my gifts to serve my Lord.” Pastor Woller served in the ministry for 40 years in communities in Wisconsin and Minnesota before moving to Mankato. He especially enjoys using his computer skills to make visual aids for teaching and utilizing PowerPoint to help others follow services and Bible classes. His interests include gardening, working outside and spending time with his family.