

# **Anniversary Celebrants**

## **Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination The Reverend Richard Scherer**

I was born, baptized, confirmed, and raised in rural southern Illinois. My undergraduate degree was earned at Wittenberg University, my MDiv and DMin at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. During my ministry, I served three parishes in the Illinois Synod before coming to Southeastern Pennsylvania in 1982 where I served Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Southampton, 23 years, retiring in 2004. Upon retirement, I joined St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Doylestown, where I initiated the Stephen Ministry Series in 2006.

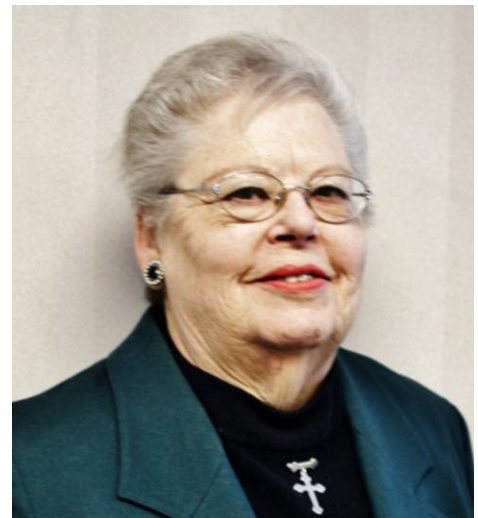


Stephen Ministry has been my passion over twenty-five years as I have sought to make my unique contribution to our ELCA Church. I know of no other ministry in our Church which so adequately prepares our lay people for the volunteer work we ask of them. Fifty hours of training is required. It is a wonderful one-to-one, male-to-male, female-to-female commitment. The ministry of our pastors is multiplied as every person in our congregations is given a gift to serve others with love and care in Christ's name - a perfect example of God's grace among us.

## **Fiftieth Anniversary of Consecration Sister Janice Painter**

"Compelled by the love of Christ and sustained by community, we devote our lives to proclaiming the gospel through ministries of mercy and servant leadership."  
(Deaconess Community of the ELCA)

Set apart as a Deaconess, September 12, 1965, I began my ministry as a Parish Deaconess at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, New Philadelphia, Ohio, followed by St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Bloomsburg, Pa. In 1976 I was called to Calvary Lutheran Church, West Chester, PA. where I served until my retirement. I am especially grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with talented and dedicated pastors: Elwood W. Reitz, Roy Almquist, Stephen Godsall-Myers and William Seamon-McGowan.



Beyond my ministry in the congregation I also had the opportunity to serve in the larger church. In the Synod I was a member of several Task Forces and Committees including Christian Education and Candidacy. I served as a leader for workshops and as a Christian Education resource person, and delegate to Churchwide Assembly. I was also active in Social Ministry as a

member of the Boards of KenCrest Services, The Mary J. Drexel Home, and Liberty Lutheran Services.

As a Deaconess I have provided leadership for the Deaconess Community of the ELCA as chairperson of Education and Candidacy Committee, Property Committee, Long Range Planning, and Relocation Task Force. I also served several terms as Secretary and then Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Deaconess Community.

I rejoice and give thanks to God for all my years of ministry and I am even more grateful for the dedication and commitment of the countless number of people with whom I have served over all these years. I give thanks to each of them and pray that they will continue to proclaim and live out the gospel.