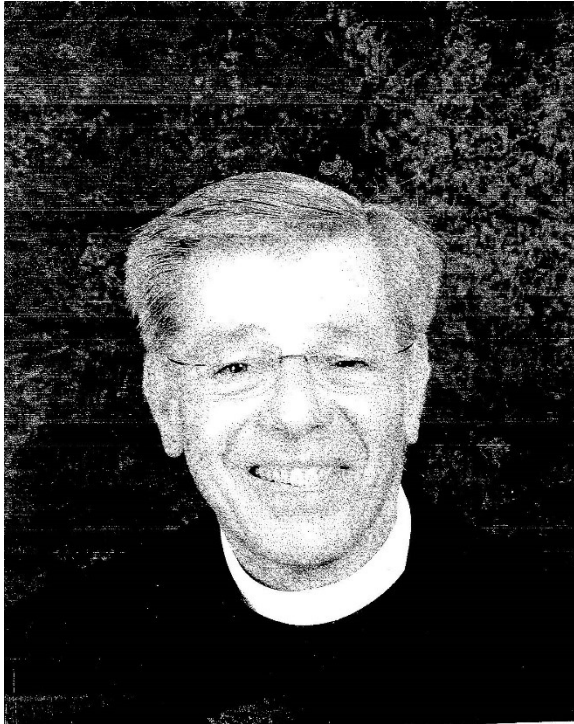


Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination The Rev. Edward R. Oswald



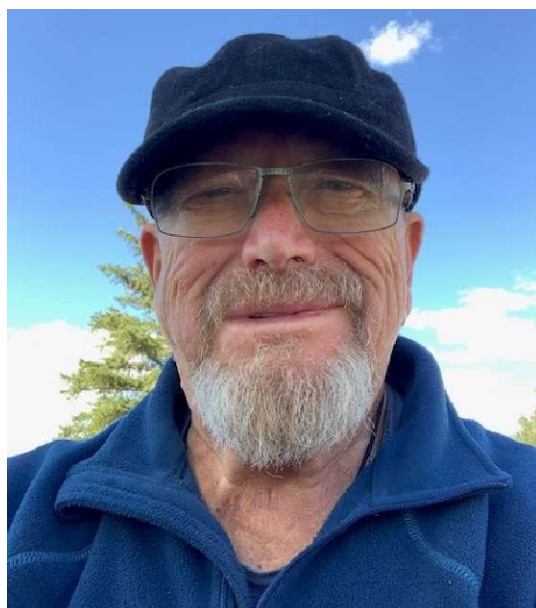
Edward R. Oswald was born on March 16, 1946, the first-born son of Edward and Louise Oswald. After living with grandparents in Brooklyn, N.Y. for over a year, the family moved to Long Island. In 1964 Ed graduated from Garden City High School. He attended Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas where he graduated with a B.A. with split majors in Sociology and American History. He attended the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, graduating in 1973. Having received a call as the assistant pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Norristown, Ed was ordained in his home church –Christ Lutheran in New Hyde Park, N.Y.

In 1975 Ed received a call to serve as Pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Spinnerstown, PA where he served for over 7 years. In 1982 he was called to Grace Lutheran Church in Drexel Hill, PA. He served that congregation for 29 years, during which time he was actively involved in the local Ministerium, the District Executive Committee, and several Synodical committees. He also served as the Lutheran pastor on call for Delaware Co. Memorial Hospital. On January 1, 2011 Ed officially retired, having served the church for 37 years.

Since 'old' pastors never fully retire, Ed went back to work part-time at St. John Tinicum Lutheran Church in Essington. This coming June will mark the 12th year at St. John's. Ed's greatest joy was marrying Jill in December of 1975. This coming December they will celebrate their 48th anniversary. They have been blessed with two children. Elizabeth, who passed away at the age of 17 from an osteo sarcoma, and Joshua Edward who turned 26 on May 2nd.

Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination

The Rev. Robert Holum



June 1973: Ordained by Dr. Paul Orso at St. Lukes, Silver Spring, Maryland.

1973-1976: Youth pastor, St. Marks, Wilmington, Delaware. Organized inter-racial youth retreats, hunger walks and fasts as county CROP chairperson, and board member, Delaware Pacem in Terris.

1976-1977: Graduate study in Old Testament: role of women in Pentateuchal narratives.

1977-1983: Pastor, Grace Evangelical Lutheran, 36th and Haverford, Philadelphia. Expanded youth ministry, increased stewardship, maintained broad community service ministries. Board member Lutheran Social Ministry Society, Mantua Housing Board, and Dean, Central Philadelphia District.

1984-1988: Director, Baltimore Council for Mission, coalition of 54 LCA and ALC congregations in metro area. Organized anti-racism activities, mission festivals, city-wide youth programs, gender and sexual orientation inclusivity. Managed mobility, pastoral care of pastors. Led ELCA Study of Issues Related to Homosexuality in congregations.

1988-1995: Assistant to the Bishop, Delaware-Maryland Synod. Fostered inner-city-suburban-rural dialog and cooperation, advocated for racial and gender inclusiveness in mobility process, assisted congregations through conflict, supported sister parish ministries in Maryland and Nicaragua.

1995-1998: Associate Pastor, Luther Place Memorial Church, Washington, D.C., and Executive Director, Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Directed staff, placement, recruitment, and training for nationwide social justice ministry. Started anti-racism training in six host cities. Expanded to Seattle.

1998-2007: Senior Pastor, Luther Place Memorial Church, Washington, D.C. Initiated and led “Journey to an Inclusive Community,” comprehensive anti-racism and hospitality strategy of Luther Place, N Street Village, and Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Developed multicultural worship. Trained as IAF organizer and led congregation into organizing coalition for affordable housing. Became a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Started re-rooting congregation in diverse neighborhood. Expanded youth and children’s ministries.

2007-present: Summer minister, Church of the Ascension, Saranac Inn, NY, supply preacher Metro DC and SE PA. Re-rooting in process.

Greatest Joys: Witnessing 50 years of Spirit-led progress in Inclusion and Justice, 43 years of shared ministry with Binnie Ritchie Holum (d 2014), walking together on that same road with daughter Solveig, son-in-law Trey and non-binary grandchild Coralie on the territory of our ELCA's preeminent Rainbow Synod.