



St Luke's Pastoral Candidate

The Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Hamilton is assistant to the secretary of the ELCA and executive for Office of the Secretary administration, serving as chief of staff to Secretary David D. Swartling. Among her responsibilities are constitutions, policies, procedures and protocol, budget, and personnel. She joined the staff of the ELCA churchwide organization in 1999 as director for administration of the archives.

She received her B.A. degree from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, in philosophy and English, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in English from Northwestern University. Her field of specialization was the Middle Ages. She has taught at Northwestern University, Northern Illinois University, Loyola University, and Wartburg College. In 1988, she joined the staff of the Newberry Library of Chicago, an independent research library in the humanities, where she first served as associate for research and education and later as exhibits officer. An exhibit that she curated, *The Many Realms of King Arthur*, was supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and toured public and university libraries across the country. She also has curated exhibits at the New York Public Library, the Huntington Library, and Ohio State University.

In 1997, while at the Newberry Library, she entered seminary at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, from which she received the M. Div. in 2003. While in seminary, she served St. John's Lutheran Church in Lincolnwood, Illinois, and was a resident intern at First Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois. Currently she is pastoral associate at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saint Luke in Chicago, where she regularly leads worship, preaches, and teaches an adult forum.

Pastor Ruth has two grown sons: Geoff, who is married to Maria (a writer and graduate student), lives in New York City, and works in the area of finance, and Greg, who is married to Meredith (a post-doc in biology), lives just outside of San Francisco, and is doing a post-doc in bio-chemistry. In her spare time she loves to read and to throw dinner parties.

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