

**CURRICULUM VITAE
EMLYN A. OTT**

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ORDINATION August 10, 1986 in Chicago, Illinois (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

EDUCATION

Doctor of Ministry, cum laude, May, 1999. Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Project: "The Search for Shalom in the Parish: Conflict Processes in Theory and Practice" Advisor: Gary Peluso-Verdend

Clinical Residency in Family Systems, Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, Washington, DC 2007-08; Leadership Scholarship, 2008-2012; Research Group Participant, 2012-2017

Advanced Executive Leadership Group, Leadership Coaching, Inc., Participant, 2017-2018

Center for Family Process (Friedman Center) Clergy Consultation Groups on Emotional Process, Bethesda, Maryland, Participant 2003-2007

Internship in Pastoral Psychotherapy,.
Southwest Institute for Religion and Psychotherapy,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1991-1994

Master of Divinity, Lutheran School of Theology at
Chicago, 1986

Clinical Pastoral Education, London, England:
St. George's and The Maudsley Hospitals, 1984

Chaplain to Neurology Clinic, The University of Chicago Medical Center, Specialty in collaborative work with ALS patients, 1982-86

Graduate Studies, University of Chicago,
Theology, Religion and Psychological Studies, Advisor: Franklin Gamwell, 1979-1981

Bachelor of Arts, Religion and Sociology, The College
of Wooster (Wooster, Ohio) Senior Independent Study Thesis (with honors):
Ministry to the Elderly (incorporating internship in Morningside Heights, NY around work
with housing advocacy and SRO hotels) Advisor: Glenn Bucher, 1978

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, Healthy Congregations, Inc., 2006- present

Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Leadership; Director of the Doctor of
Ministry program, Bexley Seabury Seminary, 2018 – present

Fully Affiliated Faculty, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 2018 - present

Dean of Leadership Formation; Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2012- 2017

Associate Professor of Ministry and Pastoral Leadership, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2014-
2017

Assistant Professor of Ministry and Pastoral Leadership, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2005-
2014

Director of Supervised Clinical Ministries, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2011- 2017

Acting Director of Contextual Education, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2006-2007

Interim Sabbatical Pastor, Broad Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio, April –
June, 2016

Sabbatical Supply Pastor, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Dublin, Ohio, September-
November, 2015

Interim Sabbatical Pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Upper Arlington, Ohio, April –
August, 2013

Interim Pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Newark, Ohio, January – August, 2012

Interim Sabbatical Pastor, First Lutheran Church, Strongsville, Ohio, May-August, 2011

Pastor, Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
and Campus Pastor, Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1986-2005

Supervisor, Parish Clergy Supervisory Group, Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod, ELCA, August
2003-August 2005

Supervisor, Internship Students from Luther Seminary (Timm and Groseclose), 2002-2005

Supervisor, Phillips Seminary fieldwork student (Armstrong-Kaukis), 2003-2005

Supervisor, Ordination candidate from The Lutheran Church in Great Britain for experience in theology and practice (Hardy), 2003-04

Co-Executive Director and Staff Counselor; Stillwater Interfaith Counseling Center, Stillwater, Oklahoma, August 2003-August 2005

Staff Counselor, Stillwater Interfaith Counseling Center, Stillwater, Oklahoma, September 2001-August 2005

Licensed Professional Counselor, Oklahoma State Department of Health, 2001- present

Pastor-in-Residence, The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, January, 2001

Contract Counselor, Southwest Institute for Religion and Psychotherapy, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, September 1994-August, 2001

“Bridgebuilder,” and “Healthy Congregations” consultant, 1996- present

Training Program, Pastoral Psychotherapy Institute (currently the Pastoral Counseling Center), Park Ridge, Illinois. Certificate in individual psychotherapy, 1980-1982

Assistant Resident Head, Woodward Court, University of Chicago, 1980-1981

Administrative Intern -- Dean of Students Office, and Director of Compton Hall, The College of Wooster, 1978-1979

COMMITTEES

Bowen Center for the Study of the Family Spring Conference 2019 Coordination, May, 2018 - present

Bowen Center for the Study of the Family Clergy Advisory Committee, September 2016 – present

Provost Search Committee, Capital University, December, 2016 – February, 2017

Presidential Search Committee, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, January – May, 2013

Pastoral Care Advisory Committee, The Ohio State University Department of Chaplaincy and CPE, September 2011– present; Chair, 2018 – present

Chair, Leadership Development Committee, Midwest Region, American Association of Pastoral Counselors, August 2009 – September, 2013

Advisory Board, “The Vocation of First Call Congregations Project,” Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Vocation and Education Unit, January 2007 – 2010

Faculty Concerns Committee, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, September 2006 – 2017

Contextual Education Committee; Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2008 – 2017; Chair, 2008-11

Board Member, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 1994-2005,
Chair, Community Life Committee, 1999-2004

Board Member, Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center, Inc., Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1997-2001

Member, Advisory Board, “Healthy Congregations” project, Lutheran Brotherhood and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, 1997-2005

Conference Clergy representative to Synod Council,
Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod, ELCA, 1988-1992

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

Clinical Fellow, American Association of Pastoral Counselors, 1994- present.

Certified Pastoral Counselor, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1994-present

College of Chaplains, United Ministry to Oklahoma State University, 1989- 2005

SEMINARY COURSE LEADERSHIP

“Organizational Systems” Bexley Seabury Seminary, D.Min. course - January, 2018,
(January, 2019)

“Congregational Systems” Bexley Seabury Seminary, D.Min. course - January, 2014
through 2017

“Spirituality and Change” Methodist Theological School in Ohio, D.Min. course - July 2016,
July, 2018

“Individual and Systems Change” Methodist Theological School in Ohio, D.Min. course –
July 2015, July 2017, (July 2019)

“Theological Leadership” Trinity Lutheran Seminary, M.Div. course - Fall, 2017

“Pastor as Leader” Trinity Lutheran Seminary, M.Div. course - Fall 2006 through Fall, 2016

“The Care of Souls” Trinity Lutheran Seminary, M.Div. course - Spring, 2015 through Spring, 2017

“A Family Systems Approach to Congregational Life” Trinity Lutheran Seminary M.Div. and continuing education course, Summer 2006; 2008 – 2015

“Deep Change and the Church in Mission” Trinity Lutheran Seminary M.Div. and continuing education course, Summer 2012, 2015

“Flourishing in the Parish: The Pastoral Life,” Trinity Lutheran Seminary, J-Term, 2013, 2014, 2016

M.T.S. Thesis Advisor – Elaine Mahl Zahn, 2016; Emma Helms-Steinmetz, 2017

S.T. M. Thesis Advisor – Candidates David Hively, Halldor Gudmundson, Alexander Sumo and John Scheusner - 2008-09; 2009-10; 2011-12; 2012-14

Transition into Ministry seminars, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Spring 2009- 2013

Directed Independent Studies with students at Trinity Lutheran Seminary:

“Family of Origin and Congregational Leadership,” Spring, 2017, “An Adventure in Bowen Theory,” Spring, 2014, 2015, “Family of Origin” Spring, 2014, “Family of Origin and Its Implications for Pastoral Leadership,” Spring, 2010; “Family Systems and Congregational Life,” Spring, 2010, “Practicum in Congregational Leadership” Spring, 2009; Spring, 2008; “Resilient Congregational Life” Interim, 2006; “Conflict Processes in Congregational Life” Spring, 2006

“Pastoral Leadership in Ministry and Mission” MN 3002, Winter 2006 (Co-taught with Professor Brad Binau)

Doctor of Ministry Project Advisor “The View from the Ditch: Bar None and None Barred in Christian-Muslim Relations” Candidate Deborah Lindsay, New York Theological Seminary, 2012- 2014

Doctor of Ministry Independent Study, “Triangles and Self-Differentiation,” Candidate Amy Little, Philadelphia Lutheran Theological Seminary, Spring 2010

Doctor of Ministry Project Committee Member, Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary – 2010-11

COMMUNITY/EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Leadership Seminars, affiliated with Healthy Congregations, Inc. Monthly theory sessions with small group family of origin and work system coaching, September through-May each year, 2007- present

Consultations and Family Systems Coaching on Health, Leadership, Mission and Community Development, 2006 – present

FOO (Family of Origin Groups) offered to graduate students in ministry and their family members including presentations and group and individual coaching, 2006 – present

(Presenter, Order of St. Benedict, “Women Touched by Grace” Indianapolis, Indiana: *The Presence of Presence in Leadership*, April, 2020.)

(Keynote Presenter, The Center for Family Process, Bethesda, Maryland: *Lions and Tigers and Transitions, Oh My!*, October and November, 2018)

(Presenter, ELCA Ohio Candidacy Retreat, *Navigating the Waters of Ministry in an Age of Polarization*, August, 2018)

Workshop Presenter, 2nd International Conference on Bowen Family Systems Theory, Hong Kong: *Becoming a Healthier Minister*, May, 2018

Presenter, Advanced Clergy Clinic of the Lombard-Mennonite Peace Center, Lombard, Illinois: *Defining Self and Leading Faith Communities in the Age of Yard Sales*, February, 2018

Keynote Presenter, *Remind and Renew* conference of Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Oklahoma: *This is Your Brain on Ministry!*, January, 2018

Keynote Presenter and Small Group Facilitator, *Lions and Tigers and Mergers! Oh My! “Flocks, Families and Organizations”*: Spring Conference of the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, April, 2017

Keynote Presenter, *A Pastor’s Story*, “Thinking Systems While Leading Faith Communities” Bowen Center for the Study of the Family Clergy Conference, March, 2017

Keynote Presenter, *Learning to Love that Anxiety*, “The Friedman Memorial Conference”, The Center for Family Process, Rockville, MD, October, 2016

Training Leader, Residents in Ministry Retreat for the Provisional Elders and Deacons of the United Methodist Kentucky Annual Conference, Crestwood, KY, August, 2015

Training Leader, School for Diaconal Formation, Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, “Group Dynamics and Leadership”, London, Ohio, November, 2014)

Director and Host, 16th Annual Healthy Congregations National Gathering, Debunking the Myth of the Happy Family, Ohio Dominican University, Columbus, Ohio, October, 2014

The Wisdom of the Ages VI: Subjectivity, Spirituality and Bowen Theory, Presenter: The Importance of Togetherness and Differentiation in Emerging Christian Spirituality, Houston, Texas, July, 2014

54th Summer Institute for Church Leaders, Gettysburg Seminary, Presenter, The Acts of the Apostles: The First and the Twenty-First Century Church, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July, 2014

Wittenberg University, “Mobilizing a Community to Challenge and Thrive in Times of Change”, Springfield, Ohio, April, 2014

Westminster-Thurber, “Why Are People So Afraid of Conflict?”, Columbus, Ohio, March, 2014

Vestry Leadership Development, Procter Center, Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, London, Ohio, February, 2014

Bowen Center Clinical Conference Presenter, “Applying Bowen Theory as a Basis for Systemic Change”, Washington, DC, February, 2014

ELCA Region 7 Leadership Guild for First Call Pastors, “The Practice of Adaptive Leadership”, Malvern, Pennsylvania, January, 2014

Rostered Leader’s Event, Keynote Speaker, “Asking Adaptive Questions in a Missional Age”, Eastern Washington Synod ELCA, October, 2013

Director and Host, 15th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, *The Longing for Togetherness: Lament and Hope in Congregational Life*, Ohio Dominican University, Columbus, Ohio, October, 2013

Rostered Leader’s Event, Keynote Speaker, “Step Back, Let Go: Mobilizing Ministry Leadership”, Indiana-Kentucky Synod ELCA, September, 2013

Training of Trainers Event, presenter and leader for Healthy Congregations, June, 2013

Staff Development for Large Congregations Conference, “Equipping for Resilience in Anxious Times”, New Jersey Synod, ELCA, Long Beach Island, NJ, April, 2013

Presenter, Smart Network of the Endowed Episcopal Parishes, “Observing Faith and Emotional Process in Ministry Life”, San Diego, California, February, 2013

Bible Study Leader, Sawmill Creek Rostered Leader’s Event, Northwestern Ohio Synod-ELCA, “Exploring the Ground at the Foot of the Cross”, Huron, Ohio, January, 2013

Chaplain, Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio Convention, November, 2012

Guest Educator, Lay Pastor’s Training, Scioto Valley Presbytery, PC-USA and Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, October and November, 2012

Director and Host, 14th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Inc. *Body and Soul: The Brain and Life in Community*, St. Paul Passionist Center, Detroit, Michigan, October, 2012

Minister's Luncheon Speaker, American Baptist Conference of Ohio, "Equipping Resilient Disciples", Columbus, Ohio, September, 2012

Pastoral Family Retreat Leader, American Baptist Conference, Mt. Sterling, Ohio, September, 2012

Keynote Presenter, SW Minnesota ELCA Rostered Leaders Event, "Discipleship in the Age of the Superquick Fix", September, 2012

Workshop Presenter, National Meeting of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Leesburg, Virginia, March, 2012

Keynote Speaker, *Clergy Voyagers: An Adventure in Differentiation*, "Developing Healthier Leadership in Congregations", Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, March, 2012

Keynote Speaker, Western Mission Cluster, ELCA, "Differentiation of Self in the Experience of Job", Carefree, Arizona, January, 2012

Keynote Speaker, NW Washington Bishop's Convocation, "Family Systems is Not for the Faint of Heart", Seattle, Washington, October, 2011

Director and Host, "Getting a Fix on the Quick Fix", 13th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Inc., Kansas City, October, 2011

Lilly Excellence in Pastoral Leadership Presentation, DeWitt, Michigan, September, 2011

Director and Host, "A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven" 12th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Inc., Nashville, TN, October, 2010

Keynote Speaker, Luther Academy of the Rockies, Meeker Park, Colorado, July, 2010

"Leadership on the Line" at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, January 2009 and 2010 – Consultation with Professor Ronald Heifetz

Director and Host, "Triune Brain Theory: New Terrain for the Brain" 11th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Inc., Marriottsville, Maryland, October, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Director and Host, "Who is My Family's Keeper?" 10th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Inc., Columbus, Ohio, October, 2008

Keynote Speaker, Virginia Synod ELCA Rostered Leaders Conference, October, 2007

Director and Host, "Healthy Leadership: Living with Nerve", 9th Annual Healthy Congregations Advanced Workshop, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, October, 2007

Facilitator and Trainer, South Dakota Synod (ELCA) Faith Builders Continuing Education, August, 2007

Pastor in Residence, Lakeside Lutheran Chautauqua, July, 2007

Keynote Speaker, East Central Wisconsin ELCA Synod Assembly, Green Bay, Wisconsin, June, 2007

Director and Host, "From Bowlby to Bowen and Beyond: Attachment and Loss from a Systems Perspective", 8th Annual Healthy Congregations Advanced Workshop, Scottsdale, Arizona, October, 2006

Indiana Kentucky Professor Leadership Event, Keynote Speaker, September, 2006

Keynote Presenter, "Peacemaker: Centered Life, Centered Work, Centered Church", Spiritual Center of Maria Stein Retreat House, March, 2006.

~~Leadership Retreats, Leadership Consultations and Family Systems Presentations~~

"Engaging the Chaos, Loving the Mystery," Dayton, Ohio Area Pastor's Gathering presentation, March, 2018

"A Chaplain's Challenge in Systems Thinking," The Ohio State University-Wexner Medical Center Department of Pastoral Care presentation, (March, 2018)

"Holy Disruptions", St. Paul Lutheran Church, Westerville, Ohio, (April, 2013);

"Love, Respect and Intimacy" Conference for Northwest Lower Michigan Synod-ELCA (January, 2009);

"Systems Theory: Why It's Important" Columbus Area Religious Leaders (January, 2009);

Consultation with Bishops of the ELCA on Sexuality and the Church (December, 2008);

Shepherd of the Hills Church, Laguna Niguel, California (January, 2007; June, 2007);

Toledo Lutheran Coalition (June, 2007).

Rochester, NY Lutheran Pastor's Conference (May, 2007);

North Central Ohio Pastor's Conference (April, 2007);

Seminar for Graduate Conducting Students, Ohio State University School of Music (February, 2007);

St. Luke's, Gahanna (January, 2007)

St. Paul's, Columbus (May, 2006; November, 2006; February, 2007);

North Community Lutheran Church, Columbus (October, 2006);

"Storms Rage About Us" Lakeside Theological Convocation Presentations, Lakeside, Ohio
September, 2006

Ohio Multi-Synodical Candidacy Retreat, Ashland, Ohio (August, 2006);

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, Ohio (August, 2006);

Summer Sampler Program, Trinity Lutheran Seminary (June, 2006, 2011, 2015);

Interim Ministry Network Annual National Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri (May, 2006);

Prince of Peace, Dublin, Ohio (April, 2006);

University Lutheran Chapel, Athens, Ohio (January, 2006);

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Family of Origin Groups –Trinity Lutheran Seminary, January-May, 2006, 2007, 2008;  
February-May, 2009- 2017

Guest lecturer, "Ethics and Spirituality" graduate class on counseling, Oklahoma State  
University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, November, 2003

"Sexuality and the Church," Guest lecture in undergraduate class on psychology,  
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, April 2000 and 2001

Keynote Speaker, *Week of Challenge*, "Who Says Women Can't Preach?" ,  
Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana, April 13, 1994.

"The Church and Sexuality," participated as panelist. Sponsored by  
Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Alliance renamed SODA in 2000, Oklahoma State  
University, Stillwater, Oklahoma  
September, 1992; November, 1993; October 2002; September, 2003

Guest Lecturer, "The Church and Mass Media." graduate-level speech and  
communications class, Oklahoma State  
University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, April, 1992; May, 1993; April, 1994

Guest Lecturer, "Women in Ministry." Introduction to Women's  
Studies class, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, .  
February, 1992, 1993, 1994

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Ott, Emlyn A., "Living by the Word" in *The Christian Century*, April, 2016
- Ott, Emlyn A., "A Maturing Faith" in *The Lutheran*, May, 2015, pp.14-15
- Ott, Emlyn A., "The Search for Solidity in an Age of Urgency" in *Sources of Authority in the Church: Lutheran Traditions in North American Contexts*, ed. David Brondos. September, 2012.
- Ott, Emlyn A. in "An Adventure in Differentiation: Bowen, Friedman, Clergy and Congregations" DVD-ROM, Above the Line Studios, 2012, disc 2
- Ott, Emlyn A., "Living by the Word" in *The Christian Century*, August 9, 2011
- Ott, Emlyn A., Review of Cole, Allan Hugh Jr., *Be Not Anxious: Pastoral Care of Disquieted Souls* in *Trinity Seminary Review*, Summer/Fall, 2010
- Ott, Emlyn A., Review of *Pastors in Transition*; *Trinity Seminary Review*, Volume 29, Number 2, Summer/Fall, 2008.
- Ott, Emlyn A., "Leaving As Process: Toward Differentiation of Self in Pastoral Transitions." *Trinity Seminary Review*, Volume 28, Number 1, Winter/Spring 2007.
- Ott, Emlyn A. "Life in the Land of Unlikeness." *Lutheran Women Today*, August, 2003
- Ott, Emlyn A. "Evangelism, Religious Education and Leadership Development: A response to John Keating." *Entree*, April, 1992.
- Ott, Emlyn A. "Healing in Community." *Adult Home Bible Study*, Augsburg Press, April, 1990.

## PERSONAL

Born: Rochester, New York

Spouse: Robert J. Ward