

About Our Pastor

Pastor Greg Laska was born on February 15, 1951 in Wausau, Wisconsin. He is the second oldest of the seven children of Raymond and Agnes Laska. His father passed away in 2008 but his mother still lives near Rhinelander. He was baptized at Holy Name Catholic Church in February of 1951 and graduated from Holy Name Catholic School in 1965.

He graduated from Newman High School in Wausau, Wisconsin in 1969. During high school he was active in sports, drama, forensics and student government and also worked part time in his father's construction business. He was the first President of the Wisconsin Youth Council in 1968-69 and was appointed by Governor Warren Knowles to the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth. Governor Knowles honored him as the "Outstanding Teenager of Wisconsin" for 1969.

He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Green Bay in 1972 with a Bachelors Degree in Communications. He was elected Student Government President while at that school. On August 27, 1972 he married Roberta Rindt at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan, Wisconsin by Rev. Harvey Krueger. They are happily married and have three daughters, Bethany (2/18/82), Faith (3/24/84), and Cana (3/05/86). He attended Adult Information Class in 1978 and was confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan, Wisconsin in December of 1978.

Pastor Laska has had several careers including being a sales representative for a publishing company, a self employed sales representative in the insurance and investment business, and a self employed building contractor. He holds a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) certification and Chartered Financial Consultant certification (ChFC) from the American College at Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

From 1989-1994 he served in a variety of leadership roles at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan. He was Evangelism Chairman, Congregation Treasurer, Chairman of the Voters Assembly, Adult Bible Study leader, Sunday School Teacher, and he and his wife, Roberta, initiated a ministry of resettling refugees from Bosnia. In 1994, he completed his Lay Ministry training through Concordia University Wisconsin and has served his first Call at St. John Lutheran Church in Random Lake, Wisconsin as a Certified Lay Minister and Licensed Deacon.

Since 1992 he has had an active Prison Ministry and is a certified instructor for Prison Fellowship retreats. While her husband has been serving in full time ministry, Roberta has had a number of key roles both during their membership at Trinity in Sheboygan and now here at St. John. Some of those positions included being an Adult Bible Study leader, church and school Librarian, and she now works as the Development Assistant for the Sheboygan Area Lutheran High School. Pastor Laska enrolled in the Distance Education Leading To Ordination (DELTO) program through the St. Louis Seminary in 1998 which he completed in 2003. He has been serving as Pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Random Lake, Wisconsin since then. His hobbies include fishing, genealogy research, and watching the Packers and Brewers.

Pastor's typical week consists of Worship Services and sermon preparation, three adult Bible studies and preparation, counseling members, visiting shut-ins, communicating through phone

calls and letters, meeting with staff, instruction of children in our school including 30 minutes in each lower grade classroom, 4 hours in 7th-8th Grade Class, and 90 minutes in the Mid-week class. Additional duties in a typical month might also include Chapel service for our School children, Nursing home services, articles for the Sounder, recording for Morning Meditations, preparing for meetings, preparing devotions for meetings, attending Board Meetings, attending Council Meeting, leading the Sunday School Teachers meeting. He always appreciates your words of comment and input regarding our ministry and how you always remember him and his family in your prayers.

It is our hope that once you've become associated with us, God would lead you to make St. John the spiritual home for all members of your family. Becoming a member of this church is done in one of the following ways: by baptism, by letter of transfer, by instruction and confirmation, or by profession of faith. Pastor will be happy to explain which of the methods fits your situation. If you have further questions regarding what we believe or information about joining our church send us an email or call us.