

Charles J. Alkula

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

July 2019-present: Pastor, St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Boulder, Colorado / 60 hrs. pw

I provide dynamic leadership through my pastoral ministry of an urban congregation. During the Covid-19 pandemic, I developed and promoted effective use of social media platforms by the congregation to include a blog, website, Facebook page, YouTube channel, and Zoom which expanded the reach and scope of the programs and other offerings of the church. My pastoral care includes care of persons in health care settings, a wide range of counseling subjects, and engagement with volunteers for the development of learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities. I supervise six paid staff members, and I work with the church's leadership team throughout the year.

July 2013 - June 2019: Pastor, Stevensville United Methodist Church – Stevensville, Montana / 60 hrs. pw

I provided productive leadership through my pastoral ministry of a suburban congregation, guiding it in achieving growth in membership, personal participation, and community engagement. During this time, I developed and promoted effective use of social media platforms by the congregation to include a blog, website, Facebook page, and a YouTube channel which expanded the reach and scope of the programs of the church. My pastoral care included care of persons in health care settings, a range of counseling subjects, and engagement with volunteers for the development of learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities.

January 2010 - June 2012: Pastor, First United Methodist Church – McCamey, Texas / 30 hrs pw
2010-2012: Pastor, First United Methodist Church – Iraan, Texas / 30 hrs. pw

I provided energetic pastoral care in an interim capacity for two small communities by auditing church records, active leadership in community activities, and creative approaches to worship services. During this time, I upgraded the congregations' use of social media platforms to include a blog, website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel which expanded the reach and scope of the programs of the church. My pastoral care included care of persons in health care settings and engagement with volunteers for the development of learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities. Through proactive analysis and strengthening of ministries, I led the congregation from a half-time to full-time appointment in two years.

July 2007 - June 2009: Pastor, First United Methodist Church – Sidney, Nebraska / 60 hrs. pw

I provide effective and original pastoral care to a 500-member congregation during a season of community turmoil and transition. During this time, I revitalized the organization's use of social media platforms by including a blog, website, Facebook page, YouTube channel. which expanded the reach and scope of the programs and other offerings of the church. My pastoral care included care of persons in health care settings, providing radio programing, offering a wide range of counseling subjects, and engagement with volunteers in learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities.

June 1999 - February 2007: Chaplain, United States Navy / Hours not available

Serving as a chaplain with duty stations at Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Iwakuni, Japan) where I provided extensive counseling and support for deployed Marines and family members; Naval Hospital – Camp Lejeune (North Carolina) where I developed a visitation schedule for outlying medical clinics. On 9/11, I was the on-call chaplain and provided spiritual care and comfort for a sailor killed at the Pentagon. I was also tasked with conducting the sailor's funeral with more than 900 in attendance; and Joint Maritime

Facility – RAF St. Mawgan (Newquay, Cornwall, UK) where I was the command chaplain and provided effective and meaningful pastoral care including workplace visitation, counseling weekly chapel services, and representing the command in community functions and worship services. I also was the command's Test Control Officer where I provided guidance and support with sailors and family members who sought educational information and enrichment.

July 1997 - June 1999: Pastor, Osmond/Winside (Nebraska) United Methodist Parish / 60 hrs. pw

July 1996 - June 1997: Pastor, Osmond/Stark Valley (Neb.) United Methodist Parish / 60 hrs. pw

I oversaw the ministries of three rural communities including administration of congregational resources, effective teaching in study groups, and participation in community groups. My pastoral care included care of persons in health care settings across seven counties, a wide range of counseling subjects, and engagement with volunteers for the development of learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities.

July 1992- August 1993: Pastor, Christ United Methodist Church – Landover Hills, Maryland / 20 hrs. pw

I administered the ministries of a local church to include assigning and allocating resources, leading small groups, and engaging in effective communication between the local church and denominational entities. My pastoral care included care of persons in health care settings and engagement with volunteers for the development of learning programs, lay leadership, and community outreach opportunities. Additionally, I completed courses from Wesley Theological Seminary during this year.

July 1989 – July 1992: Executive Correspondent, Chevy Chase Federal Savings Bank – Bethesda, Maryland / 45 hrs. pw

In my capacity as a credit card dispute coordinator, I developed a rapport with customers and assisted them with appropriate resolution of concerns and desired outcomes. Being recognized for my tact and skill set, I was made executive correspondent for the bank's president and CEO. In this capacity, I was able to represent the bank's interests and the customers' in reaching a satisfactory and appropriate result.

August 1988 – June 1989: Teacher, Silver Bluff High School – Aiken, South Carolina / 60 hrs. pw

As a teacher of social studies (psychology, sociology, history, and geography) and basic math, I customized learning goals and used instructional methods suitable for the subjects and the students at their grade level and or abilities.

August 1986 – June 1987: Teacher, Spartanburg High School – Spartanburg, South Carolina / 60 hrs. pw

As a remedial reading aide, I assisted the primary teacher in delivering instructional material to students. In this capacity, I guided and supported learning objectives by personal interaction and understanding.

September 1985 – May 1986: Teacher, Brookland Plantation Home for Boys – Orangeburg, South Carolina / 40 hrs. pw

As one of two teachers at a private facility for at-risk youth, ages 8-16, I was responsible for the creation and execution of individualized lesson plans for sixteen boys. During the instructional periods, I assessed the effectiveness of the instruction and the responses of the students, tailoring additional applications as needed for each student.

July 1982 – September 1985: Officer, United States Army / Hours not available

Served as Assistant Headquarters Adjutant of the Army Material Command (AMC). Responsible as Chief, Top-Secret Repository for organization, storage, and distribution of all classified materials for an

Army major command. Served as a team member on the Automation Committee where I provided administrative oversight for all items used in command briefings and for arrangement of travel orders for participants in the briefings. Served as commander of Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 13th Battalion at Fort Jackson, South Carolina with command functions for civilian staff and military training personnel.

EDUCATION

2018	University of Montana, Missoula, Montana	Bachelor of Fine Arts
2005	Drew University, Madison, New Jersey	Doctor of Ministry
1997	Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC	Master of Divinity
1988	Converse College, Spartanburg, South Carolina	Master of Education
1982	Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas	Bachelor of General Studies
1977-80	Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama	General courses

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

2012-2013	Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas	4 Units
1998	Avera/Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, South Dakota	1 Unit
1995-1996	Sibley Memorial Hospital, Washington, DC	1 Unit

Other Training -

- 2024 Victim Advocacy Training (virtual, 64 modules), Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center, U.S. Department of Justice
Scandinavian Folk Narratives, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
Praying with Brother Lawrence of the Resurrection (virtual), St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, Nebraska
Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age (virtual), Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Washington, DC
- 2023 Caring for Survivors of Domestic Violence (virtual), Association of Professional Chaplains, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
Certificate in the Foundations of Hospice Chaplaincy (virtual), Spiritual Care Association, New York City, New York
Tolkien's Nordic Sources in the Lord of the Rings, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
Wisdom Traditions in Storytelling and Sacred Narrative (virtual), Graduate Theological Union, Berkley, California
Ecospirituality (virtual), Graduate Theological Union, Berkley, California
Spiritual Care, Contemplative Practice, and Ritual (virtual), Graduate Theological Union, Berkley, California
Psychedelics and Religion Parts 1 & 2 (virtual), Graduate Theological Union, Berkley, California
- 2022 Board Certification (BCC) Preparation Course (virtual), Chaplain Distance Learning
Certificate in Mental Health and Spirituality (virtual), Redlands University School of Continuing Education, Redlands, California
- 2021-23 Certificate in the Art of Spiritual Direction (virtual), San Francisco Theological Seminary / Redlands University, Redlands, California
- 2020 Healing Through Art (virtual), Shiley Institute for Pastoral Care / California State University, San Marcos, California

Essentials of Palliative Care Chaplaincy (virtual), Shiley Institute for Pastoral Care / California State University, San Marcos, California

Understanding Clergy Sexual Ethics (virtual), Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Washington, DC

2019-21 Center for Pastoral Effectiveness Track II (Family systems theory), Colorado Springs, Colorado

2019 Safe Sanctuary/United Methodist Church (webinar), Safe Gatherings, Olathe, Kansas
Implicit Bias: What we don't think we think (webinar), Convergence, Decatur, Georgia

2019 The Interior Castle (webinar), Center for Action and Contemplation, Albuquerque, New Mexico
A Multicultural, Multi-Religious View of Forgiveness (webinar), Association of Professional Chaplains, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
Ambiguous Loss and its Impact on Spiritual Healing (webinar), Association of Professional Chaplains, Hoffman Estates, Illinois

2018 The Value of Existential Pain (webinar), Association of Professional Chaplains, Hoffman Estates, Illinois

2017-18 Center for Pastoral Effectiveness Track 1 (Family systems theory), Missoula, Montana

2013 Dignity Therapy and Opportunities in Palliative End-of-Life Care, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Moral Injury and Chaplaincy, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Outcome Oriented Chaplaincy, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Shattered Assumptions: Toward an understanding of Trauma, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Spirituality at Work: A Christian Perspective (webinar), Loyola Institute for Ministry, New Orleans, Louisiana
The 'Intrusion of Grace' in the Stories of Flannery O'Connor (webinar), Loyola Institute for Ministry, New Orleans, Louisiana
Improving Care for Veterans Facing Illness and Death, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas

2012 An intercultural approach to research and spiritual care of morally injured veterans, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Best Practices in Organ/Tissue Donations, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Beyond Kübler Ross: New Perspectives on Death, Dying, and Grief, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Ethics Symposium: Ethics at the end of life, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
Ethically Managing the Challenging Vet, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas
War and the Soul, Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas

2010-12 Two-year Academy for Spiritual Formation #31, San Antonio, Texas

2009 Family Systems and Church Leadership, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
Conflict Transformation, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
The Sacraments, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
Congregational Mission Plan Training, Brainerd, Minnesota

2001 Pregnancy/Infant Loss Support, Naval Hospital - Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
Spirituality & Healing, Harvard University Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

1999 Naval Chaplains Basic Course, Newport, Rhode Island

RESEARCH AND/OR PUBLICATIONS

2019-present St. Paul's United Methodist Church (Boulder, Colorado) website:
www.stpaulsboulder.com

2019-present Bolder St. Paul's (St. Paul's United Methodist Church (Boulder, Colorado) blog:
www.bolderstpauls.blogspot.com

2018-present RevArtColorado (art portfolio) website: www.revartcolorado.com

2013-2019 View from the Valley (Stevensville (Montana) United Methodist Church) blog:
www.steviumc.blogspot.com
Stevensville (Montana) United Methodist Church website: www.steviumc.org

2010-2013

First United Methodist Church (McCamey, Texas) website: www.firstumcmccamey.weebly.com

First United Methodist Church (McCamey, Texas) blog: www.fumc-mccamey.blogspot.com

First United Methodist Church (Iraan, Texas) website: www.firstumciraan.weebly.com

First United Methodist Church (Iraan, Texas) blog: www.fumc-iraan.blogspot.com

2007-2009 First United Methodist Church (Sidney, Nebraska) website: www.sidneyfirstumc.org

First United Methodist Church (Sidney, Nebraska) blog: www.sidneyfirstumc.blogspot.com

2005-2017 [The Wired Word](#), editorial board (An online adult Sunday school curriculum)

2005-present Doctor of Ministry dissertation: www.revdralkula.weebly.com

2002-2003 *Aha!* editorial board (a preaching resource magazine, no longer in publication)

1999-2007 Contributor, The Mystery Worshipper (project of ShipofFools.com)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Elder in Full Connection / Mountain Sky Conference of The United Methodist Church

Note: I have applied for and will be interviewed for chaplaincy certification in June 2024.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Duncan Prize for Creative Use of Technology in an Academic Project, awarded by The Theological School of Drew University, May 2005

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Professional Chaplains, Spiritual Care Association, Spiritual Directors International