Distinguished Women Of United Lutheran Seminary

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We are living out our purpose"

Rev. Dr. Karyn L Wiseman

March 8, 2021
The Rev. Dr. Karyn L. Wiseman is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ, who grew up and was first ordained in The United Methodist Church. She has 19 years of experience pastoring churches in Kansas, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Wiseman’s studies for her doctorate took place at Drew University where she worked with Dr. Leonard Sweet for four years as his teaching and research assistant. Her degree is in Liturgical Studies/Preaching and Worship, with major study in the Emerging Church Movement and new types of ministry for new generations.

She has led numerous workshops and taught classes in several seminaries across the country regarding preaching, worship, the emerging/missional church, social media for ministry, pastoral administration, clergy self-care, and other important pastoral topics, especially preaching for a new day. She is interested in engaging the church for vital ministry ideas, equipping communities to take on new models for church, and employing postmodern ideas in communities of faith to reengage younger generations in preaching and worship. She has immense passion for using social media to engage new generations for preaching, worship, mission, and ministry.

Dr. Wiseman is married to Cindy Clawson, a social worker in Philadelphia, and has a son, Shelby, who is a student at Temple University. She loves action movies, social media, Broadway musicals and plays, New York Yankees baseball, and the Dallas Cowboys. Her love of the church means she is often dreaming of new ways for the church to be all it can be in a new and changing world.

Dr. Wiseman pastors part-time at the Gloria Dei Church in Huntingdon Valley, PA, which is a progressive church of the ELCA.