



Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Rev. Philip C. Hirsch

DIRECTOR FOR EVANGELICAL MISSION
& ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

2009 - present



The Rev. Philip C. Hirsch has been a Director for Evangelical Mission and an Assistant to the Bishop in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod since 2009. The Director of Evangelical Mission position was created to strengthen, revitalize and establish local congregations. Pr. Hirsch's focus is on evangelism and stewardship. He's guided by his belief that "the good news of Jesus Christ can and will change the world."

Pr. Hirsch completed his undergraduate education in Sociology at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. In 1990, he received a Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. In 1997, he earned a Doctor of Ministry in Homiletics from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. His doctoral work focused on alleviating violence among youth in the inner city. He worked and studied abroad in South Africa, in 1998, on a Leadership Grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Pr. Hirsch served in his first call in Camden, New Jersey for ten years before transferring to the Metro D.C. Synod. He was pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fairfax, Virginia previous to his current position. Pr. Hirsch has been involved as a member of the Synod Council, Conference Dean, Chair of the Division for Ministry and Colleague Group Leader for First Call Theological Education. Nationally, he has worked with Burned Churches Project of the National Council Churches.

Pr. Hirsch's interests are in leadership, evangelism and discipleship. He is on the synod's New and Renewing Mission Table, the Stewardship and Mission Support Table and the Candidacy Committee. He seeks to cultivate fellowship among people as he shares the love of Christ through starting new ministries, and to find ways for these ministries to be sustainable and viable. He published an article in the book *Sunday and Season: Preaching Book, Year B 2015*.

Pr. Hirsch is married to Dana M. T. Hirsch, and they have three children. He is a fervent skier.

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