

Rebecca (Becky) Bosarge – Biographical Statement

I grew up in Preble County, Ohio and graduated from Miami University with a degree in Sociology/Social Work. I subsequently working as a Case Manager for Goodwill's vocational rehabilitation programs, guiding clients through the evaluation and training process, helping them find the resources they needed, and serving as a liaison among the client, referring counselor, vocational instructor, and placement counselors. My husband, John and I had a brief sojourn in the San Francisco Bay area, and a much longer sojourn (16 years) in the Chicago area, interspersed with returns to our hometown of Cincinnati. Our son, Drew, and his wife, Liz, (along with their dog, Diana Prince) live in Chicago, as does our son, Adam. Throughout these years, whether I was working with clients at Goodwill, chairing a school committee, raising children, or serving in various ministries in my church, my focus has been on taking time, listening deeply, and asking what was needed for each person to be free to live a life of fullness and meaning. In my congregation, I wondered what was needed to help people experience their lives together – their worship, learning, and service - as a source of spiritual formation, a resource for life-giving faith, and most of all, a means through which God is loving and creating them. This interest led me to earn a Master of Arts in Spirituality from Bellarmine University in Louisville (2014) and a Master of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary (graduated, May 2017).

As I think about this moment in the ordination process, it occurs to me that after 5 years, a degree in spirituality, a seminary education, and experiences in the field, I find myself right where I have always been – focused on the spiritual health and vitality of the people in the church. In my last year of seminary, my studies in Spirituality and my seminary studies came together in a focus on congregational spirituality. I am a spiritual director and a resource for spiritual formation at heart; my calling is to be a spiritual companion and guide, a deep listener and thoughtful questioner. One of my seminary professors said that in this day and age, ordination makes the statement that we are throwing our lot in with the church and with that, implicated along with the church. Ordination represents my commitment to bring what I am called to be and do into the service of the church, a collaborator with all of you as we listen for God and become the body of Christ together.