



REV. KARL S. KLAUS

Karl S. Klaus was born and raised in Baton Rouge. With his father being a professor of music at L.S.U., Karl grew up on the L.S.U. campus going to football games and visiting his dad at his studio in the School of Music. University United Methodist Church raised Karl in the faith from birth and baptism through Confirmation and formative youth years. Like Fred Craddock, Karl was "Raised on the lap of God."

In 1975, at a spring youth retreat, Karl received his call to ministry, and began his ministry that fall as a youth director at Greensburg United Methodist Church, where he also preached his first sermon. Karl has been blessed to serve in churches ever since. He received his License to Preach in 1976. Karl is a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School in Baton Rouge. He then graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Music from L.S.U in Vocal Performance before going on to seminary at Perkins School of Theology at S.M.U. in Dallas. During his time at L.S.U., he served as youth director at Jefferson UMC and Ingleside UMC, Baton Rouge. While at Perkins, Karl transferred into the North Texas Conference and was ordained Deacon in 1982 and Elder in 1987. He was blessed to serve such churches at First United Methodist Church, Dallas (student pastor, 2 years); Ridgewood Park UMC (assoc., 2 years), and was appointed full time associate at First United Methodist Church, Richardson, serving there for 5 and one half years. He then was offered his "own" church in Iowa Park, Tx., a suburb of Wichita Falls. After three years there, Karl returned to the Louisiana Conference, serving at Broadmoor UMC, Baton Rouge, (assoc., 6 years), FUMC West Monroe (senior pastor, 3 years), St. Luke-Simpson UMC, Lake Charles (senior pastor, 11 years), FUMC Slidell (senior pastor, 3 years). Currently, Karl is serving at FUMC Bossier City, and is in his fifth year.

Over the years Karl has served on many District and Conference Boards and Committees, including the Board of Ordained Ministry, and chaired the Board of Global Ministry and the Board of Higher Education Campus ministry. He also served on the District Superintendency Committee. He has also served on various Boards of Directors of nonprofit agencies in the local community, ranging from counseling centers to mission centers to disaster relief. Karl has been on many VIM trips to places such as Cuba, Bolivia and El Salvador, as well as many mission trips to various places stateside.

Karl loves people, is relational, and is a "visionary programmer," gifted teacher and preacher. He was blessed to take part in the Leadership Excellence Advancement Program, versions I and II. He is also a trained Stephen Minister and Leader. He loves to journey with others, together fulfilling God's call and mission in the world, sharing the Love of Jesus and bringing people to Christ.

Karl has been married to his wife, Kym for over 30 years. They have three children, all married, all graduated from college, and all furthering their long term goals for careers. No grandchildren - yet! Karl and his family love water sports, raising their kids water skiing, wakeboarding, kneeboarding and tubing. Being a Ford Mustang enthusiast, and having had Ford Mustangs in his family since 1966, Karl owns two, with his younger son driving one of them. Karl also loves anything to do with airplanes and flying.

The Lord has worked through Karl in so many ways, and he is anxious to see what the Lord has in store for him in the years to come.