



Northeastern Iowa Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Rev. Jennifer Thomas

**Assistant to the Bishop
for
Shared Ministry and Development
Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA**

Pastor Jennifer (Jen) Thomas was ordained in 1998. She is an alumna of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and earned her bachelor's degree in mathematics and religion from Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her internship from 1996 to 1997 was at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

She began her ministry as Outreach Pastor at Lake Park Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 2007, she was called as Senior Pastor to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kansas City, Missouri. Jen has since served in a variety of roles, including Alumni Engagement Manager and Gift Officer at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, as well as Interim Pastor at both St. Paul's and St. Matthew's in Nevada and Butler, Missouri. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she worked as a financial associate at Thrivent and later served as a mid-level gift officer for the Churchwide Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Jen currently serves as Treasurer for the Association of White Lutherans for Racial Justice. She and her family are members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Dubuque, Iowa. She is married to Vance, the Library Director at the University of Dubuque, and they have two young adult children who attend the University of Kansas. Rock chalk!

Jen is passionate about organizing, fundraising, education, and advocacy. This summer, she's exploring cooking with fresh produce from their CSA box and local farmers market, while learning about native plants and birds of Eastern Iowa.