

## Rev. Charles D. Lentner



Charles David Lentner was born on May 3, 1941 in Detroit, Michigan to Arthur and Marie (Volz) Lentner. His father was a tool and die maker and his mother was a PK – “preacher’s kid”.

While petitioning God for guidance as to his career direction, his pastor, Rev. Richard Schlecht, encouraged him to consider becoming a pastor. He took it as a personal divine revelation and a direct answer to his prayers. He still believes God called him to be a pastor.

During his first year at the seminary, he met his wife, Eleanor Emma Fruchtenicht, who was training to be a nurse at Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing. They were married a year later. Nearing the end of seminary, he was asked by the board of placement if they would consider a divine call to foreign service. They accepted and went to South Korea to work within the Korean Lutheran Church. They spent five years in Korea and it helped to shape his appreciation for the whole Christian Church. They returned to the United States in 1972.

They were first called to Trinity, Warren, Ohio. After 3½ years, he was called to serve Faith Lutheran Church in New Port Richey, Florida. In 1982, he accepted a call to Fairlawn Lutheran Church in Akron, Ohio where he served for 24 years.

After retirement, he took six different vacancies in the area, among them as campus chaplain at a Concordia Lutheran Ministries retirement facility in Copley, Ohio. He enjoys gardening with his wife, she the flowers and he the vegetables.

They have three children, Maria Faith, Nathan Arthur, and Matthew Charles.

“Every day, I get up with a deep and abiding sense of gratitude for God’s grace and mercy in my life. I didn’t deserve it one bit. Thank You God, thank You, thank You, thank You ... Te Deum Laudamus forever.”