

F. Dean Lueking

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, on June 21, 1928, Pastor Lueking received his early schooling there, and prepared for the pastoral ministry at St. John's College, Winfield, Kansas, and received his Masters of Divinity degree at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1954. A two year vicarage in Japan, prior to his seminary graduation, gave him a lifelong interest in the world Christian mission, an interest which he furthered through graduate study at the University of Chicago where he earned his Ph.D. in 1960.

His pastoral ministry began with his ordination on August 16, 1954, at Grace Lutheran Church where he served first as an assistant pastor and then as senior pastor from 1963 until his retirement in 1998. Throughout his 44 years of ordained ministry at Grace his focus remained on serving people in the power of the Gospel, and he has shared his experiences through numerous articles and twelve published books, the most recent of which is *Through Their Eyes, A People's View of the Global Church* (2010).

His ministry has been expanded through church and community service on various boards and commissions, including the Academy of Parish Clergy, the Christian Century Foundation, the Association of Theological Schools, the Wheatridge Ministries, the Lutheran Deaconess Association, and the Family Service of Oak Park and River Forest. He has been honored as the Alumnus of the Year (University of Chicago), the B'nai B'rith Award (Anti-Defamation League of Chicago), the Carl Winters Community Service Award of Oak Park, the Academy of Parish Clergy Parish Pastor of the Year, the Golden Rose of Charity Award (Dominican University, River Forest), the Rita Johnson Service Award by the Family Service of Oak Park and River Forest, the Ulysses Award by the Senior Center of Oak Park, Illinois. The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America.

Since becoming pastor emeritus of Grace Church in 1998, he has taught in the Lutheran seminaries in Bratislava, Slovakia, and St. Petersburg, Russia, and has been an adjunct faculty member of Eastern University, teaching courses toward an M.A. degree for the African, Asian, and Eastern European staff of World Vision and Habitat For Humanity.

He married Beverly Ann Frano on August 16, 1954; they have four children and six grandchildren.