



South Carolina Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Reverend Virginia “Ginny” S. Aebischer

The Rev. Virginia S. Aebischer serves as Bishop, South Carolina Synod. She was elected July 25, 2020. Previously she served as Assistant to the Bishop (2008 – 2020). Her primary responsibilities were related to Leadership and Outreach Ministries. She also served on the Synod Finance Committee, assisted the Bishop with Call Process and served as Assembly Manager.

Ordained on September 17, 1989 (just four days before Hurricane Hugo hit the Charleston area) Ginny has served as pastor of two congregations. Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Charleston, SC (September 1989 - August 2001) and Pastor, Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, (August 2001 – October 2008).

During her Seminary years she was involved in several different congregations and arms of the church as part of her seminary training and as employee.

She worked at Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church, West Columbia, as Youth Director (1984-1986). She did Clinical Pastoral Education, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas (1986). Served her Internship at The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (1986-1987). Served as a Pastoral Assistant, First Lutheran Church, Gladstone, MI (1987-1988). Served as a Pastoral Assistant, Incarnation Lutheran Church, Columbia, SC (1988-89)

Ginny received a Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (1989). Prior to entering Seminary she served the Southeastern Synod, LCA as a youth staffer (1983-1984). Ginny graduated with a BA from Upsala College (1983)

Ginny is married to The Rev. Paul Aebischer, Pastor at Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Columbia, SC and is the proud mother of two grown sons, Joshua, who lives and works in Columbia and Micah, who is a student at Clemson University.

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About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with nearly 3.6 million members in more than 9,200 worshipping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. The ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

About the South Carolina Synod:

The South Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has nearly 52,000 members worshipping in 150 congregations across the state of South Carolina. We Lutherans in South Carolina are part of a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace – and there's room for all here. We seek to respond to God's love by loving him and serving the people he has created not only in the state of South Carolina, but in many parts of the globe.