



## **Our Guest Speaker**

### **The Rev. Dr. Samuel Zumwalt**

Pastor Sam Zumwalt was baptized (small city parish), confirmed (rural parish), and vicared (town/gown parish) in LCMS congregations and was ordained in the AELC in May 1981. He grew up religiously weird in a small town in northeast Texas with a German Lutheran mom from a historic (ULCA) Muehlenberg congregation in Philadelphia and a German/Sicilian/Cherokee dad from one of the key Baptist congregations of the fundamentalist movement in Ft. Worth TX. His maternal grandmother was an indentured servant from the Black Forest of Germany. His paternal step-grandfather was an immigrant from Sicily. His paternal grandmother was a first generation American born to Roman Catholic parents from Sicily.

After ordination, he served a clinical residency at Parkland Hospital in Dallas TX and was a part-time pastoral assistant at a suburban AELC congregation. He began serving an LCA mission congregation in 1982 and remained six years until they were self-supporting. He served a mid-sized former LCA congregation in Waco TX for seven years and a large downtown former ALC congregation in Austin TX for nine years. He has been pastor of St. Matthew's (former LCA) in Wilmington NC since summer 2004.

He received the DMin in preaching from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in 2001 with the late Morris Niedenthal as his advisor. Pastor Zumwalt is a preacher, not an academic theologian.

He is married to Laura, a non-practicing attorney licensed in Texas. Their daughter Clare is a 17-year-old junior at an early college high school. At graduation, she will also have earned an Associate degree from the local community college.

Pastor Zumwalt doesn't believe in retirement, which is a good thing when you have a seventeen-year-old daughter.