

Meet the chaplains . . .



Lisa Read

How would you describe your personality and communication style?

I would describe my personality as fun-loving, adventurous, dependable, loyal, honest, and approachable. My communication style: my goal is to always listen first (sometimes challenging with a teenager at home!) and talk second.

Tell us about your family, friends, kids, pets.

My husband, Pete, and I have two beautiful daughters: Gabrielle and Sophia. We all enjoy Riley, the Golden Retriever, and Kiki the cat. I am forever chauffeuring my active daughters to various activities . . . crazy, but fun. Due to our busy schedules, the most valuable times are those spent together.

How would others describe you?

Easy to be with, often silly, likes to laugh, helpful, trustworthy, and nonjudgmental.

If someone was looking to work with you as their chaplain, what would you like them to know?

I am looking forward to building a relationship built on trust, dependability, respect, and confidentiality. I believe everyone deserves to be heard. My goal is to be an empathetic and trustworthy person for you to count on.

What is, in your opinion, the most interesting or strangest thing about you?

One of the most interesting things I have done was in 1996 when I travelled for 5 months around the world. The strangest thing also happened during this trip; I strapped bungee cords around my ankles and jumped off Victoria Falls bridge: 364 feet!

Tell us about your career, education, and experience that led you to workplace chaplaincy.

I am currently working in early education, though my background and training are rather diverse, including a B.A. in Literature, Master of Arts, Stephen Minister training, and Early Education certifications. I value my education; however, I am more than a diploma or certification. Through my life experiences, I have acquired compassion, depth, and knowledge that help me to help others. This desire to help others has led me to workplace chaplaincy.

What types of life issues do you have experience helping others with?

Life is the best teacher, and I have walked with others through many of life's teachable moments, both good times and bad. So far my journey has taught me lessons in: marriage, children, divorce, death, job loss and changes, illness, addictions, stress, fear, family connection and disconnections, friendship, disappointment, victories, and the courage to start over.

What do you like most about being a workplace chaplain?

In a society that often undermines individuals as mere numbers or parts of an organization, I am proud to be part of a group that not only values individuals, but that dedicates time and effort to the well-being of people.

