

**Candidate for Lead Pastor  
of Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
The Reverend Doctor Jeffrey P. Whillock**

**Education:**

**Bachelor of Arts from Augustana College – Sioux Falls, SD** **1988**

- Majors in Religion and Spanish, with a minor in Classics (Greek & Latin).
- International experiences included:
  - January Term Mission-Learning trip in Mexico.
  - South American Urban Semester in Colombia, Ecuador & Panama.
  - Program in Global Community in Mexico, Guatemala & Nicaragua.

**Master of Divinity from Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary – St. Paul, MN** **1993**

- Clinical Pastoral Education – Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, MN.
- Internship at Highland Lutheran Church, rural La Center, Washington.

**Doctor of Ministry from Luther Seminary – St. Paul, MN** **2003**

- Doctoral Thesis – *Grow Groups: Nurturing Discipleship through Short-Term Small Groups Centered on the Sunday Scripture and Sermon.*

**Pastoral Experience:**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Rural Aitkin, MN** **1993-1996**

- Solo Pastor of small church in north-central Minnesota.

**St. John Lutheran Church – Cedar Falls, IA** **1997-2004**

- Associate Pastor of large church with varied programming, worship opportunities, etc.
- Served along-side Senior Pastor and staff for 5 ½ years. During this time the congregation underwent major expansion of physical structure and recreation of organizational structure.
- Served as Acting Head of Staff during much of interim period, which also included 12 months with intentional Interim Senior Pastor.
- Served along-side newly called Senior Pastor for 12 months following interim period.

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Aberdeen, SD** **2005 - present**

- Pastor of Teaching and Discipleship Training serving with Senior Pastor and staff for first 17 months of call. Began implementing *Grow Group* ministry as well as cultivating other small group ministries.
- In absence of Senior Pastor was designated Acting Head of Staff until arrival of intentional Interim Senior Pastor for next 6 months of call. This season included the supervision of intern pastor, and new “first-call” pastor, as well as numerous lay staff transitions.
- Served with Interim Senior Pastor and staff for next 17 months of call. Worked with *Transition Task Force* to assess congregational structures leading to creation and implementation of new organizational structures.