

### **Brief Biography of Ordinand - Althea Tysk**

I have lived in and around Portland, Oregon, most of my life. My family moved from the mid-west (Wisconsin) to the West Coast in 1975. In 1981 we moved to Western Montana and in 1987 I returned to Portland, Oregon, and lived there until I left for seminary in June of 2007. My parents and one sister live in Western Montana and my youngest sister lives with her husband and children in St. Paul, Minnesota. The majority of my relatives also live in Minnesota.

Prior to seminary I worked in the legal field as an office manager and legal assistant. I began as a file clerk in 1984/85 with a firm in Missoula, Montana. I received my training as a legal secretary at the Missoula Vocational Technical Center. I continued as a legal secretary in Portland, Oregon, and eventually became an office manager and legal assistant when I assisted my employer in opening his own practice. It was a rewarding career and I am grateful for the friends I made during those years.

In 2007 I left the legal field to follow my call into ministry. I moved from Portland, Oregon, to St. Paul, Minnesota, to attend Luther Seminary where I received Luther Seminary's Presidential Scholarship. I served my Pastoral Internship year in Mesa, Arizona, where I was involved in a congregation which was planting a new church site 30 miles from their main campus. I graduated from seminary in 2011 and look forward to my first call in parish ministry.

Since I was a young child I have enjoyed dance and was very active in ballet, tap, and jazz as a child and teen. Later, as an adult I continued with my interests in dance and became a member of an Irish Dance performance group in Portland, Oregon. My love of dance naturally flows into an appreciation for the performing arts.

My other artistic interest is photography. I took my first photography class in junior high and fell in love with it. I learned to develop my own film and photos. I have recently ventured into digital photography but have not had time to pursue this hobby in recent years. As soon as I get my digital SLR fixed I'll be snapping photos again.