

Meet the chaplains . . .



Sharon Bleam

How would you describe your personality and communication style?

Warm, approachable, strong listener, compassionate.

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

I have been married to my husband, Will, for 29 years. My husband is a professor at UW-Madison. We have 2 sons and a niece, whom we raised as a daughter, and we have 4 grandsons. Currently I am helping my elderly mom as she transitions into a time of needing more assistance.

How would others describe you?

People view me as a positive and proactive person. I am willing and quick to help where I see a need or when someone asks. For example, I have helped move friends' children, and taken senior and handicapped people shopping. I am quick to offer and follow through with prayer support.

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

I am a good listener. I will pray for your situation and help where I can. I am good at coming alongside people and providing encouragement. I am dependable and you can confide in me knowing I won't share your situation with others. I am not judgmental and am comfortable around people of all ethnicities.

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

I grew up on the East coast and moved to Madison after marriage. I enjoy my daily time with God in addition to hosting a ministry in my home. I love to travel, doing outdoor activities like bicycling with my husband, and gardening. I love mocha coffee, which my husband makes for me each morning.

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

I am a member of the International Fellowship of Chaplains, a trained and certified member of Stephen Ministry, and a trained and experienced ombudsman.

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

I have participated in personal prayer ministry, ministering to people with a myriad of physical, mental, emotional, end of life, spiritual, and workplace problems. I am called to come alongside individuals in listening and prayer.

What do you like most about being a workplace chaplain?

Being a support to people when they need it!

