

Meet the chaplains . . .



Dave Brynelson

How would you describe your personality and communication style?
Energetic, outgoing, caring, personable. I most enjoy face-to-face contact but I'm happy to adapt my style to the other person's needs and preferences.

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

I've been married nearly 25 years (since '89) to Becky, whom I met through a blind date. She is an educator. We have one son, Jonathan (born in '98), who is a junior in high school, and has career interests in culinary arts and woodworking. Our beautiful Golden Retriever is named Holly.

How would others describe you?

People describe me as enthusiastic, ambitious, adventurous, self-disciplined, and a ham with a great sense of humor.

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

My focus is to listen to the person with compassion, understanding and an encouraging attitude. What is shared with me stays with me; building and maintaining trust is paramount.

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

I sang the lead role in an opera at age eleven, I have a brown belt in Tae Kwon Do, I have traveled in 12 countries on 3 continents, and on my 50th birthday I went sky-diving! My lifelong passion is experiencing new places, people and things.

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

I have an undergraduate degree in Radio/TV Broadcasting from UW-Platteville and a Masters of Divinity from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lombard, IL. My work experience includes 7 years in radio and print advertising sales and public relations, 12 years pastoral experience in three churches, and 8 years as a chaplain for a retirement community, a hospital and 2 hospice agencies. I am an encouraging team player and I love to see whole organizations grow and thrive together. My compassion for all kinds of people and their various stresses and strivings in life makes workplace chaplaincy a perfect fit for me.

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

Having been in ministry for over 20 years now, I have helped many couples at celebratory times like weddings and new child births, various times of crisis and trauma, and times of loss and grief. If there is an issue or concern that requires more specialized counsel, I have a network of helping professionals to whom I can refer people.

What do you like most about being a workplace chaplain?

Being a caring, encouraging presence to people every day!

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Capital Chaplains

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