

Pat Dittrich

Secretary

My name is Patricia Dittrich (call me Pat) and I am the current recording secretary for the WNALC Women's Council. I was born and lived on the south side of Houston, Texas. I was an only child, and no, I was not spoiled! My mom was raised Lutheran so we attended a Lutheran church where I was baptized and had 1st communion. I was active in the children's choir and was an acolyte. When I was 13 we moved to Richmond, TX, a small town about 30 miles south west of Houston. When looking for a church to join, we decided on Peace Lutheran Church in Rosenberg. This is where I was confirmed and also had the joy of meeting my husband, Michael, when we were in junior high. I was active in Luther League and the music group. During this time I also attended church camp for four summers which had a great impact on my faith life.

After graduation from high school, I attended junior college and went on to get my bachelor of library science degree at Texas Women's University. In the meantime, Michael had joined the army and was stationed in Germany at the time we got married. We got married in our home church at Peace and a week later we flew back to Germany where we had a 2 year honeymoon courtesy of Uncle Sam. (At least that's what we tell people!).

After a posting at Fort Drum, New York (so much snow!!) and Ft Hood, Texas, we decided to try civilian life back home. We found 5 acres and built a house close to the really small town of Orchard, TX. Population is 360 counting people, dogs, cats, chickens & cows! We travel the 10 minutes to Rosenberg for shopping and of course, our home church at Peace. That is when our son Russell was born and as luck would have it, he is an only child too - and not spoiled either! I worked at the county public library for a couple of years and then became manager of a small branch library in Needville, Texas where I spent the next 20 years.

The time came and Michael retired first and then I retired in 2012. We have been on the go ever since! We spend a lot of time volunteering at a Lutheran Church camp outside of La Grange, TX (Yeah Lutherhill!). Both Michael and I remembered how much fun we had and how much stronger our faith became because of church camp. Most of the time I volunteer in the office and Michael helps the maintenance guy. We also help out in the kitchen by washing piles of dishes! The best part is getting to attend the worship services. It fills me with hope for the world to see over 100 kids on their feet, raising the roof with singing praises to God! God is definitely at work here! The volunteer work doesn't end with summer; Camp Lutherhill also has an active retreat season and offers meeting space & activities for all kinds of groups.

Through the years at our church I have been active in the youth programs, church council, special committees and more. After retirement I became active in the Quilting group, choir and the ladies' bible study circle. Currently I am the secretary for our church's women's group. I encourage everyone whether they are a delegate or not to attend an NALC Convocation and of course the Women's Annual Meeting! You get to meet people from all walks of life who live and breathe the same faith in our Lord & Savior! It is going to be an exciting year!!