

Long Island Council of Churches Names New Executive Director



Bio: 4.10.2017

Reverend Dyanne Pina

Reverend Pina is the Executive Director for the Long Island Council of Churches, Inc. and a Provisional Elder for the United Methodist Church.

Reverend Pina brings extensive experience to the Long Island Council of Churches position. She has clinical ministry and non-profit experience, including executive and management positions with the American Cancer Society (Boston), Methodist Hospital of Southern California, and North Shore LIJ Health System (now "Northwell") on Long Island.

Born and reared in Roxbury, Massachusetts, Reverend Pina received her B.S. in Broadcasting & Film from Boston University. After several years working as producer for the City of Austin Municipal Access Channel, she left the cable television industry in 1987 and entered the social service industry as Outreach Advocate and Educator for the prevention of infant mortality in Boston's inner city where she was a member of the Coalition for Addiction, Pregnancy and Parenting, The Alliance for Young Families and the Boston Healthy Start Initiative (BHSI) Consortium. Her professional and

community work was instrumental in the development of the BHSI Infant Mortality Project, a landmark initiative, and a community institution of the Boston Public Health Commission.

Her love for people inspired her to accept roles with the American Cancer Society, the Medical Foundation, and the Boston Team Harmony Foundation (co-founded by Lenny Zakim of the Anti-Defamation League and Jon Jennings, former Boston Celtic coach) which brought together at its annual event, 10,000 diverse high school students to peaceably take a stand against racism and bigotry. Keynote speakers like former United States Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, Reverend Bernice King and Congressman John Lewis, passed on courage and inspiration to these youths at the Boston Team Harmony Event.

Reverend Pina began her lay ministry in 1983 at David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Austin, Texas, as Youth Leader, Retreat Facilitator, and Prison Evangelist and continued throughout the years in various ministry roles at different churches across the USA.

In 2005, as a member of People's Baptist Church of Boston, she founded the O.A.S.I.S 139 Ministry, (Offering Affirmation Spiritually in Self-expression), a ministry of creative self-expression offering healing to women of abuse and abandonment. In 2011, she completed her Clinical Pastoral Education, reflecting her work as Resident Chaplain at three hospital trauma centers, and one regional hospice center. Since that time, she has worked as a Spiritual Counselor for Hospice and as Chaplain for Northwell Health.

She earned her Master of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA in 2010 with coursework concentration in homiletics, pastoral care family counseling, addiction and recovery. She was ordained in 2012 at the First Baptist Church of Los Angeles (FBCOLA), by the American Baptist Churches of Los Angeles.

A pastoral care Counselor, motivator and preacher, she is also an Author. Her book, "Stuck in the Past Can Get You Burned" published by PWN Books was released in 2015. This raw testimony of childhood trauma, rejection and neglect amidst racial tensions, shows how, through the Grace of God, to recover from one's past...and to fully thrive in the present. She is wonderfully married to Jeffrey Pina for 34 years, and they are proud parents of three adult children.

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