

John W. Oberdeck, M.S., M. Div., Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Theology and the Assistant Director for Lay Ministry at Concordia University Wisconsin. He attended Concordia High School in Milwaukee, and graduated from Concordia College, Milwaukee, in 1972, and from Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, in 1974. He received a Masters of Science in Education degree from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in 1976. In 1979 he graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis with the Master of Divinity Degree. His vicarage was served at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Perryville, MO. In 1999 Oberdeck received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Missouri - Columbia in the field of educational psychology.

From 1979 to 1982, Oberdeck served the dual parish of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Stewardson, IL, and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sigel, IL. From 1982 to 1989, he was pastor of Zion Lutheran Church and School in Litchfield, IL. From 1989 to 2002 Oberdeck served on the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, first as Director of Resident Field Education (1989-1995), and later as Director of the Doctor of Ministry Degree (1995-1997) and Director of Continuing Education (1995-2002). In July of 2002 Oberdeck accepted the call to Concordia University Wisconsin. Besides his administrative duties, Oberdeck teaches courses in youth ministry and theology. He has particular interests in confirmation, family ministry, and adult education.

In December 1974 Rev. Oberdeck and Virginia Ann Riemer of Milwaukee were married at Trinity - Freistadt, Mequon, Wisconsin. Virginia is a graduate of Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois, and teaches special education classes for Lutheran Special Education and School Services of Milwaukee. They have three children; Andrew (married to Angela), an attorney in Milwaukee, Debbie Stamm (married to Owen) a nurse at Lutheran General in Park Ridge, IL, and Christy, a senior at Concordia University Wisconsin.