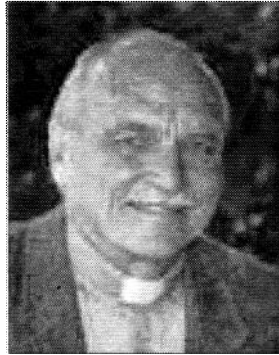


REVEREND PAUL V. HOLT

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Oakland, California

Rev. Paul Holt was born in 1947 in Rensieh, Hupeh, China to Wilbert and Geraldine Holt who were missionaries to China. He grew up in Hong Kong until the age of 16 when the family returned to the U.S.



Rev. Holt attended Concordia Jr. College in Oakland and Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne, Ind. It was here that he met his wife, Linda. They were married in 1969 and will celebrate 40 years of marriage in June. Paul and Linda were blessed with six children, Michael, Amy, Anne, Jonathan, Matthew and Amanda. They became foster parents in 1991, and have adopted six children of various ethnic backgrounds, Brian, Leland, Benjamin, Joshua, Noah and Ashley. Additionally they have fostered more than 35 children and currently are fostering 3 sisters. In 2004, Pastor Holt and Linda received the National Angels of Adoption Award. He is also a proud grandfather to Sequoia and William.

Rev. Holt graduated from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley and Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Springfield, Illinois with dual Masters of Divinity Degrees. In 1975, he was called to his first church, St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Gardena, California, a church started by the Nisei during World War II. There

he also had a ministry to Spastic Children's Foundation serving people with cerebral palsy. He became the pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Oakland in 1980. He attended Holy Names College's Marriage and Family Counseling Program.

At Pilgrim he has overseen a Chinese Ministry outreach and started a Preschool and Daycare program in 1989, with his wife serving as Director. He serves in an active capacity leading devotions, teaching and driving the church bus for weekly field trips in the summer. He has lead disadvantaged and culturally diverse youth group retreats through out Northern California. He served as chaplain in California State Park Chaplain Program for more than ten years.

He has served on the boards of Lutheran Social Services and Mount Cross Lutheran Camp. He served for 10 years as chaplain to Highland Hospital, John George Psychiatric Hospital and Villa Fairmount. Most recently, Pastor Holt has become active with the 100 Black Men Association through the Tommy Smith Track Teams. He serves as an assistant coach while his 3 youngest children and foster children participate in the track events. He also has a kayak ministry overseeing daytrips in the beautiful waters of our bay.