

Fast Track to Full-Service Chaplaincy

Rev. Dr. Tom Tucker

Following my career in aerospace with NASA contractors, I taught undergraduate and graduate courses as I worked toward my Ph.D. which I followed quickly with a Diploma in Chemical Abuse Counseling. Shortly after retiring, I earned a Diploma in Christian Leadership and served as Treasurer for the Presbytery of South Louisiana for seven years during which time I was active in Pulpit Supply.

Soon after moving back to the Houston area, I was invited by the Rev. Dr. Casey Jones to come to his office during the family luncheon after a church service. He recommended I attend POP Chaplain Training to be held at his church.

POP paired me with what is now HCA Houston Healthcare – Clear Lake, a 550-bed regional hospital. I was assigned immediately to the Level II Emergency Department, and shortly thereafter I was asked to serve as Spiritual Advisor to the Quality-of-Care Committee for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. I was soon placed on call 24/7 throughout the hospital.

I chose to be commissioned to ministry in a church that encourages non-discriminatory ecumenical ministry so I can continue to serve all patients, their families, and the staff.