

Notes on Cal Lord and his community service

Rev. Dr. Cal Lord grew up in Eastern Connecticut. He earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and both his Master's and Doctorate Degrees from Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Center, Massachusetts. After seminary he returned to the area to serve as the Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Norwich. In March of 2011, Pastor Lord accepted the call to serve as Pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Westerly, Rhode Island.

Pastor Lord has been involved in both denominational and community affairs in his 39 years in Southern New England. He has served as a chaplain for both the Uncas on the Thames Hospital, and for Hospice of Southeastern Connecticut. He has served as a corporator for both the W. W. Backus Hospital and the United Community and Family Services. He is a past President and Paul Harris Fellow of both the Norwich and Westerly Rotary Clubs. He also served on numerous boards and committees of non-profit organizations while in the City of Norwich. Since coming to Westerly he has gotten involved with area First Responders, serving as chaplain for the Westerly & Watch Hill Fire Departments. He also serves as Chaplain for the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs and the Stonington Police Department.

Within the American Baptist Community, he is currently the President of the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island. He previously served in the same role in Connecticut as President of the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut. He was a longstanding Chairman and member of the Board of Trustees of the Pierce Memorial Baptist Home in Brooklyn, Connecticut. He served as a national Senator to the Ministers Council USA and has been a longstanding representative to the Biennial meetings of the ABCUSA.

Since 2003 Pastor Lord has been a featured columnist in the Norwich Bulletin. He writes about the ways that life and faith come together for ordinary people. In 2014 his column began appearing in the Westerly Sun. He is also the author of [The Church Newsletter Handbook](#).

Dr. Lord was named the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year" in 2022. In 2021 he was named an Honorary Member of the Westerly Armory. He was a two-time Member of the Year for the Watch Hill Fire Department and was named a distinguished Paul Harris Fellow through his service in the Rotary Club.

The words of Jeremiah 29:7 are always on his mind. "Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."