## **Daniel J. Seehafer**

Dan was born and raised in Merrill, Wisconsin. In high school, he was the class treasurer and was a member of the Marching Jays and Jazz Band. Dan also was involved in sports, lettering in Cross-Country already as a Sophomore. However, Dan's real prize was crossing the finish line of his 7<sup>th</sup> grade dream of being a pastor.

After high school, Dan attended Concordia University in Mequon, WI, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree. As part of Concordia's global education program, he had the opportunity to travel and visit the Holy Land. Dan continued with a Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. He also studied in Tallinn, Estonia. His two years of field work were at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Decatur, IN and he served his vicarage year at St. John Lutheran Church in Plymouth, WI.

In August of 1997, he came to Horicon, WI, and was installed as the Assistant Pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church. October 2000, he accepted the position of Administrative Pastor at St. Stephen, where he is currently serving.

Dan earned his eligibility for membership in The American Legion with service in the United States Navy during the Bosnia/Herzegovina War era as a Commissioned Officer; enrolling in the Navy Chaplaincy program. His service time in the Navy enabled him to spend time not only with Navy personnel (San Diego, CA, Newport, RI, Everett, WA, USS Paul F. Foster), but also with the Marine Corps (Camp Pendleton, CA).

As God has a way of opening and closing doors, so it was with "Lieutenant" Dan's military uniform. However, his service to God and Country would never be placed in storage. Dan continued to serve our American veterans and their families through his numerous positions within the American Legion over his 24 continuous years of membership—which he currently chairs the Veterans Employment and Education Commission.