

**Bio: Rev. Sylvia R. Schmidt**



Sylvia Schmidt has lived and worked in the United States and Canada.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Sylvia grew up in Kansas City, Kansas. She completed the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology, Valparaiso, Indiana, with a practical certification as Lay Minister of Youth. Sylvia was employed as a Lutheran Minister of Youth in New York State and in Kirkwood, Missouri (Metro St. Louis). She volunteered in inner city youth ministry in New York City.

Sylvia is married to Rev. H. Paul Schmidt, and their family includes three children, now grown. Sylvia and Paul are also Canadian citizens and have lived in Canada for more than 50 years. Sylvia has completed the Master of Divinity Degree -- Vancouver School of Theology and Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon. She was ordained and served in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, British Columbia Synod. Sylvia and H. Paul are both retired and now reside in Lions Bay, British Columbia. They are grandparents to seven grandchildren.

Throughout her life, Sylvia has been and remains committed to effective intercultural communication and anti-racism. She has studied, taught, lived, travelled and worked in a variety of culturally diverse settings – with Black, Indigenous, Hispanic/Latinx, White, South Asian, African, Asian, European, and Middle Eastern friends and colleagues. In Canada, Sylvia was sole proprietor of Culture Link Consulting, and a co-founder with M. Morning Star Doherty of Turtle Island Indigenous Education Corporation. Sylvia designed and launched a four week Zoom teaching/learning resource in 2020 focussing on Robin Diangelo's book, [White Fragility: Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism](#). She looks forward to more small-group Zoom conversations on this subject during 2021.