

The Rev Dr. Allen Fluent, Acting Conference Minister, is a native of Chicago, Illinois. After completing his undergraduate work at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, he attended Eden Theological Seminary, and, upon graduation and ordination to the Christian ministry in the Chicago Metropolitan Association, he began his pastoral work at Emmaus Church in midtown St. Louis.

In 1971, Allen and Nora were married and moved to Berger, Missouri, where he was the pastor of St. John's and Bethany Churches. During those years, he completed a Master of Arts degree in sociology at the University of Missouri, St. Louis, and a Doctor of Ministry degree at Eden. The Fluent's moved from Missouri in 1974, and Allen served churches in Cincinnati, Ohio, Troy, Ohio, and Mt Sinai, Long Island, New York. While in Cincinnati, Allen also served for eight years as Associate Director of Memorial Community Center, an inner city neighborhood house. In 2000, he was called to be an Area Conference Minister in Penn Central Conference, a position he served until his retirement in 2010.

While they lived in Ohio and in Pennsylvania, Nora worked as a public school art educator. On Long Island, she served as program coordinator for Protestant Campus Ministry at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, and as a consultant with the Parish Resource Center of Long Island.

Allen and Nora have always viewed Missouri as their home, and returned here to live in 2010. Since moving to Kirkwood, Allen has served two interim ministries, at Ebenezer (Stone) Church, Gerald, and Zion Church, Florissant. Their home church is Kirkwood United Church of Christ. The Fluent's have two daughters, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and one very friendly Welsh Pomeranian Corgi. Among their interests and pastimes are the St Louis Winter Opera, the Art Museum, the Botanical Garden, and a little house in the woods of Crawford County.