

Lee Saha's Interview
with
Gary Saha

Me: This is Lee Saha ready to interview my dad, Gary Saha.

Me: When and where were you born?

Gary: My name is Gary Saha, I was born in Kenosha Wisconsin on November 13, 1946.

Me: What were the names of your parents?

Gary: My father's name was Fred and ^{my} mother who is still living, is Lorraine.

Me: What were the names of your brothers and sisters?

Gary: Two sisters, my older sisters name is Lynn and my younger sister is Wendy.

Me: Are you married?

Gary: Yes.

Me: When and where were you married?

Gary: I was married on August 15, 1970 in Jackson Wisconsin at Saint Peter's Church.

Me: What is the name of your wife?

Dary : Edna.

Me : What did your parents do for a living?

Dary : My dad was an electrician, my mother was a housewife.

Me : Where did you go to school?

Dary : I spent my entire time at my under schooling at Kenosha Wisconsin, I graduated from Mary D. Bradford high school in 1964, went to Kenosha Technical ~~school~~ institute, after that I went to the University of Wisconsin Whitewater, earned a degree in bachelor, business administration, majored in marketing economics, and then I went on to graduate school and spent four years and earned a masters ~~degree~~ ~~in~~ divinity at the Southern School of Theology in 1973.

Me : What did you do for entertainment when you were a teenager?

Dary : Scoop the loop, watch tv, and bug my parents.

Me : How old were you when you found your first job ~~and~~ and where did you work?

Dary : I was fifteen years old and I worked for Herber's Jewelers in a downtown jewelry store in Kenosha.

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Me: What types of duties did you perform on your first job?

Dary: I was basically a stock boy, I took care of ^{cleaning} the china and the crystal and the silver ware and I did a little watch cleaning and I also sold with a counter when they got busy.

Me: What stands out most in your mind about your first job?

Dary: My first job was probably ^{was} just the whole idea of having to go to work and keeping specific hours and being responsible instead of goofing off.

Me: How many total years did you have to work in your lifetime?

Dary: My total lifetime well I worked since I was fifteen and I'm now forty six so I have worked thirty one years.

Me: During your lifetime where were you employed the longest?

Dary: I have been employed right here at Laspeming at Bethany Lutheran Church for almost now eleven years.

Me: How old were you to choose this career?

Dary: How old?

Me: How old were you?

Dary: When I chose this career I was a junior in college I was approximately twenty four years of age.

Me: In as much detail as possible please describe the main duties of this job?

Dary: Well I'm a pastor of a Lutheran Church which means I have the responsibility of preaching, I have the responsibility of teaching, administrating the church business for our finances and basically what a parish pastor does in terms of taking care of the sick, the elderly, bringing communion to the shut ins and those who need counseling to counsel those people who need help and call on people who don't have a church to bring them to church, to join the church.

Me: Does this job require any special training, if so please describe the training?

Dary: Well as I said I had the basic requirements to have a bachelors degree, particularly in the field and you have to go to school, graduate school for four years part of which is a chapelcy residency of a hospital for three months and then you spend a year out on the field as an intern serving internships under a pastor for a year and then you are reviewed by the call committee of your church if they think you are ready and

able to do it, the job and ^{my} approve you and then the congregation will extend a call and you will be called to a specific church to serve.

Me: Did you have to wear any special clothing?

Dary: Well pastors wear special clothing on Sunday or when they worship they wear vestments and a stole which is a symbol of ordination but other than that I do wear a collar, a clerical collar when I'm working particularly in the hospital so it identifies ^{me} as a pastor of the church so that the people in the hospital know who I am.

Me: Do you have any special rules or regulations to follow?

Dary: Yes, I have the rules or the vows of my ordination which is to faithfully proclaim the gospel and to minister the sacraments and to keep confidentiality as ~~the~~ a pastoral counselor.

Me: What was the most rewarding part of your career so far?

Dary: I don't know if I can really pin point one particularly rewarding thing but I think ^{that} overall it is very significant that you have an opportunity to walk with people through their times of joy as well as sorrows to be there with them and when they get married or also stand by them when they bury their loved ones and to be able to

be privileged to be apart of people's lives.

Me: What has been the difficult part of your job?

Dary: The difficult part of my job is trying to meet everybody's expectations there is alot of people in the church and everybody has different needs and has different ideas of what should be done to the church and the life of the parish and is sometime's hard to please everybody and I guess I know that that's not always possible so I find that to be very challenging, very difficult part of my job.

Me: Has your duties of your job changed over the years?

Dary: Not basically, basically a parish pastor has the same functions that he has to do wether he serves one church or another church.

Me: Have you had some interesting or humorist events that happened during your career?

Dary: Well I suppose there is alot of funny things sometimes making mistakes on announcements or something like that, church announcements has turned out to be kind of funny but other than that my job is pretty serious.

Me: If you had to change, would you want to change careers if you could change your careers, would you?

Dary: Well I would have to feel a real need to do that

I don't really feel the need to do that right now I think what I'm doing is a very rewarding job, there is a lot of challenge to it and it's helping people, it's a job that takes you to do different things and meet different people so it's a people job and I guess I like people jobs.

Me: What is the biggest responsibility of your job?

Gary: Well, basically as I said before trying to help people reach their needs and so forth, and basically the biggest challenge of my job is to lead the church people where they need to go, challenging them to grow spiritually and to become active in the church so they can make a difference in their community.

Me: Have you ever been awarded special awards for your job?

Gary: No, I haven't received any honors per say it's sort of a job that kind of goes on behind the scenes many times and not really a lot of opportunities to win any outstanding recognition of any kind you're kind of just there in the life of people.

Me: Are you in any clubs or organizations?

Gary: Well outside the church I belong to the Kiwanis club of Ashpeming which is a service organization which does things for the community and I find that to be very helpful.

to be apart of another organization to understand what's going on and be helpful in terms of the community & don't really belong to any other organizations of such.

Me: Do you have any fond fond memories of your job so far?

Gary: Well I guess what I said before and it goes back to the fond memories of being able to be with people when they need someone their to support them and lift them up.

Me: Thank you and that's all I have to say and to ask.