VICKI PETERSON JENKS

Vicki Peterson Jenks received her musical training at Minot State University, UW-Stevens Point, and Baylor University. In 1976, she founded the percussion program at UT-El Paso.

For 25 years, she nurtured Jenks Music Studio (Madison), the largest percussion studio in Wisconsin. In 2008, Vicki received the Lifetime Achievement in Education Award and was inducted into the Percussive Arts Society's Hall of Fame. As a dedicated American Red Cross Emerita Board Member and Disaster Action Team volunteer, she and her husband, John, created the 'unique-in-the-USA' Heroes Musicales. Supported by countless compassionate donors, robust funds were raised for local disaster relief and Service to the Armed Forces. In 2011, Vicki received the Clara Barton Honor Award. Beginning yet this year, Vicki will begin deploying as a Red Cross Disaster Spiritual Care Associate on national disasters. In 2022-2023 she was deeply honored by the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras--where she has been Director of Percussion since 1981-- the Rabin Youth Arts Award, named after WYSO'S founder, Dr. Marvin Rabin. The Association of Wisconsin Symphony Orchestras presented her their Service to Music Award as well.

Vicki's greatest musical inspiration? The **International Music Camp**, her childhood musical 'home', where the words by guest band director, Art Jenson, spoken after her very first IMC concert (1965) changed her life forever. *"Your daughter has talent",* spoken to Vicki and her parents, determined her life's vocation.

Having graduated in 2025 with a Masters in Diaconal Ministry from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Chaplain Vicki serves at Bethany Home (Waupaca, WI) specializing in memory care and hospice. Vicki is **deeply blessed**—in this chapter of her life--*"connecting the bookends of life"*—youth and elders.