

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord. Last week, I received a call from St. John's Lutheran Church in Stewartville, Minnesota, to be the Associate Pastor for their church and from Trinity Lutheran Church in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, to be their Senior Pastor. These calls have been presented to me and my family to consider and pray for God's direction.

As of this moment, the churches in Minnesota have extended a call to me and this letter is one of the ways I am informing you all of what has occurred. Over the next 3-4 weeks Katrina and I will be praying and seeking God's wisdom and guidance over whether or not to accept either of these calls.

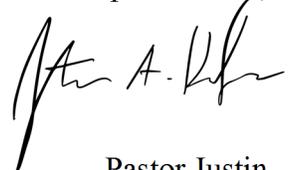
Many of you may not be familiar with how the call process works within the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Below is the basic outline of what happens when a church calls a pastor.

THE CALL PROCESS IN THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1. The calling congregation gathers names of possible pastors.
2. The calling congregation votes and then extends a "call" to one of the pastors.
3. The pastor is informed of the call, notifies his current congregation, and asks for their prayers.
4. After 3-4 weeks of prayerful discernment, the pastor either accepts or declines the call to the new congregation.

My family and I feel blessed to be at Our Savior's Way and we know that God has all of us in His hands. Therefore, I am asking you to pray for the people of St. John's Lutheran Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, our family, and our congregation, so together, as His people, we might give Him glory and ask that His will be done, as we share the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With hope in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin A. Kifer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "A".

Pastor Justin