

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to you today as part of my promise to continue to keep the congregation informed. As I write this Pastor Rajek has begun his new position and is no longer serving Faith's congregation; leaving Pastor Sam as the sole shepherd of Faith Lutheran.

Pastor Sam has prayerfully considered this challenge and has let both me and the Board of Elders know that he is up to the challenges and will be able to carry on the spiritual responsibilities of our congregation until an additional pastor can be found. Pastor Sam will rely on the Board of Elders and will let us know when there are areas we can assist him.

It is important that we all realize that we cannot assume our pastors know what is going on in our personal lives. They are deeply passionate about serving but have to be informed if you are in need. It is especially important now that if you or your family is in need of spiritual care that you specifically reach out to Pastor Sam or any of our Elders and we will make sure to get you the help you need.

Last Monday, Pastor Sam, myself, and a large number of the Board of Elders met with Pastor Sailer, our district president, about filling the position of senior pastor of our congregation. After much prayer and thoughtfulness, Pastor Sam has informed us that he would like to be considered for this position. We would like to have input from the congregation about Pastor Sam moving into this roll. We would ask that each of you take time to consider this, to pray about it, and to approach any member of the Board of Elders or myself with any questions or comments that you have. For those of you that are more at ease writing your thoughts please feel free to email us.

After a reasonable period of time has passed and we feel that everyone has had a chance to have a conversation with an Elder or myself we will decide if a formal call to Pastor Sam is what our congregation desires. If not, we will begin the formal process with Synod to call a senior pastor.

If it is the congregations will that Pastor Sam is chosen, we will begin the process of calling an associate pastor from seminary or perhaps from another congregation.

Our goal in this process is to have the opportunity for constructive conversations. We want to make sure that the information that everyone has is correct.

If any of you have any questions at all please feel to reach out to me or any of the Elders. Our contact information is on the following page.

Sincerely  
Michael Shoup - Congregational President

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