

**Rev. Cory J. Rajek, Ph.D.**  
Theological Educator and  
Area Facilitator (Northern Europe)

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Faith Ev. Luthlean Church  
714 N. Grand Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Members of Faith Ev. Lutheran Church,

It seems like only yesterday that I accepted the Call to serve as your pastor. I remember that day fondly. Yes, it was cold! But the love you had for me as your vicar warmed my heart and no doubt played a role in the decision to accept the Call to be your senior pastor. You are a gift to me and, more importantly, to Christ's Church!

In some ways, I felt like there was more work for me to do as your pastor since nearly two years of my time in Pierre was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet, through it all, God remained faithful to us just as He had promised.

The evidence of God's promise for me came in the form of your recent generosity. Your gift of financial support, prayers, and kindness (especially through the Fed By Faith program) brought hope and encouragement in a time of chaos and uncertainty. I am thankful to God for you! Your gift of love has encouraged and empowered the mission and ministry that we do together and is a tangible example of Christ's love alive in the world today.

God continues to bless the Riga Luther Academy as we continue to have people from many different countries approach us wanting to hear about our Savior, Jesus. Most recently, we welcomed Krishna from a remote region in Nepal. The closest metropolitan city is Kathmandu (some 14 hours away)! Your support will help students like Krishna, and many others, share the message of Jesus Christ crucified to their local communities. What a blessing it is to know that you are making a real difference in the lives of so many!

Even in difficult times, I celebrate our partnership in making Christ known to the nations. Indeed, God can and does span the distance between us, and He is always here, even when we are feeling down. This ministry continues because of your gift. As we make our way through the challenges of this world, let us remember that we are not alone. We are a community of faith, in ministry together.

Allow me to close with St. Paul's encouragement to the Church of Galatia, "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith." (6:10)

Yours in Christ,



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**Mobile:** +1.608.359.2646

**WhatsApp:** +1.608.359.2646

**Email:** [cory.rajek@lcms.org](mailto:cory.rajek@lcms.org)

**Lutera Akadēmija**

3 Alksnāja Street, Riga LV1050, Latvia

[www.lut.edu.lv](http://www.lut.edu.lv)

