DIPLOMA of VOCATION



In the name of God the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit. Amen.

To _____

Of _____

Having called on the Lord our God for guidance, we, the members of _____ Lutheran Church of _____, __, in lawful meeting on _____, have elected you to the office of PASTOR, and herewith extend to you this formal notification of your solemn call.

In the name of the Triune God and by His authority we ask you to assume the responsibilities of the office to which we have called you, and to faithfully perform all the duties of your office according to the Word of God and the confessional standards of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as drawn from the Sacred Scriptures and found in the Book of Concord. We ask you to do this according to the needs as specified in this document, or as may be resolved and mutually agreed upon from time to time. To the end that you may be enabled to do this, we pledge you our wholehearted and continuing cooperation and support in word and deed, and in our prayers to God in your behalf.

In extending this call to you we solemnly charge you:

1. To discharge toward all the members of our congregation the functions of a pastor, that is, to watch over their souls in an evangelical manner (Acts 20:28), in particular, to visit the sick and the dying; to admonish indifferent and erring members (2 Timothy 4:2); and to be ever zealous for the winning of souls for Christ's kingdom;

2. To be faithful in the spiritual care of the young in particular, to instruct our catechumens in the Word of God, as it is taught in the Small Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther, and, in general, to be diligent in fostering and furthering the educational agencies of our congregation;

3. To walk and conduct yourself at all times as it becomes a minister of Christ (1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:7-9), so that by your Christian life you may be an example to all men (Matthew 5:16), and

4. To devote your time, strength, and ability to the general advancement of the Kingdom of Christ and to the gathering in of His harvest.

We solemnly promise, should the Lord bring you to us:

1.To receive, honor, and love you as our pastor;

2.To support your work among us with our prayers and personal assistance;

3.To provide for your proper maintenance according to our ability, being mindful of our Lord's injunction that they who preach the Gospel should live from the Gospel (1 Corinthians 9:14, Galatians 6:6), and for the present to pay you promptly and regularly a salary of:

$ _____ per month

$ _____ per month per dependent child

$ _____ per month per year experience increment

$ _____ per month toward health insurance coverage

$ _____ per mile, church travel reimbursement

Suitable Housing

Utilities

CLC monthly retirement contribution

____ weeks annual paid vacation

May the Lord lead you to recognize this call as coming from Him, and should He lead you to accept this call, conduct you safely into our midst; and bless your ministrations to the glory of His holy name, the building of His Church, the temporal and eternal welfare of many people, and your own great joy and blessing.

Signed in behalf and by authority of

_____ Lutheran Church

of

_____, ____

_____

Chairman

_____

Secretary

Given and signed on this _____ day of _____,

in the year of our Lord _____.