



HLC Spotlight: News and views for members and friends

November 2015

we are poised to receive candidate profiles early in the New Year and be back on schedule.

Interim ministry can be a time of great challenge. I hope that you join me in seeing this Interim time at HLC as a moment of great opportunity – a time to try new ideas, then evaluate them and determine if they worked well for us. It is a time for all to be involved and active.

Thank you for the privilege of serving alongside you! I'll see you in worship!

-Pastor Jim

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members and friends,

As we approach the six-month mark of my Interim service at Hollywood Lutheran, I'd like to review some understandings with you. There are four things we should remember.

First of all, Interim ministry is intentional. When a pastoral vacancy occurs, many feelings surface, and congregational chaos can result. I'm glad that has not happened at HLC. We are moving forward in our planning for a meaningful future.

Secondly, Interim ministry is transitional. We have dealt honestly with feelings and decisions. Where necessary, changes have been made. We want to settle as many issues as possible as we prepare to call another pastor.

Thirdly, Interim ministry is temporary. Although we are looking at ourselves honestly and making plans deliberately, we also recognize that changes can be made. What we are doing now will not necessarily continue forever. We are trying out some things to see if they fit with our mission and goals.

Finally, Interim ministry is surprising. As we review our history, chart our story, and write our profile, we have discovered some things that are important to us as individuals and as a congregation. We have identified some things as vital in our experience, things we want to maintain and strengthen. We've also realized there are some things we must let go.

This interim period is therefore a time of change. That is easy for some and more challenging for others. It is rarely simple for anybody! All of this means that we must take the time to speak honestly and listen carefully. Only in that way will we reach consensus and move forward in a united way. I think we are doing that. As we shared our insights and hopes in the congregational workshop, large amounts of detail were learned. Those reflections were categorized and entered into our congregational profile. Our goal will be to complete the profile and forward it to the Synod office at the end of November. Although progress will be slowed through the Christmas season,

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Hey Vicar... What's a Vicar?

Many have asked what the title of vicar means and how it came to be a title we use in the Lutheran tradition. You asked, and here is an answer!

The title of vicar comes from the Latin word *vicarius*; this is also where we get the word vicarious. The title is that of a representative, or someone acting in the role of. Many Christian traditions use the title Vicar for many different reasons. The Roman Catholic tradition uses it to describe the Pope as *Vicarius Christi*, meaning the *Vicar of Christ*. Our brothers and sisters in the Anglican and Episcopal tradition use the title to describe one type of [parish priest](#); other types being Priest in Charge, and Rector. We in the Lutheran tradition use the title for someone who is in the formation process of becoming an ordained pastor while they are serving in a vicariate or internship.

In the candidacy for ordination process of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, candidates are required to complete a year-long internship in an ELCA congregation. For many this occurs during the third year of seminary formation. Typically, after serving for a year, candidates will then return to the seminary for a final academic year.

During my year as your vicar I will be learning and serving. I will be standing in the role of a pastor; learning hands-on what it means to be a pastor and lead in a community of faith. You will see me lead worship, teach, preach, make pastoral care calls and visits, attend and participate in meetings, and engage in the community around us just as a pastor would do in her role.

The learning happens in the serving, in the opportunity to apply what my professors have taught me, and to learn my own voice and style of leadership.

It is an incredible gift of the Church to raise up leaders from within, equipping and nurturing them along the way. You are part of the ever growing community who

continues to equip and nurture me in my candidacy for ordination. You have welcomed me graciously and with open arms. It never ceases to amaze me how I am filled with energy and joy as I work and learn as part of this gathered community of faith. It is my hope that my vicarage will bring just as much joy and energy to you over the course of this year.

In Christ's Peace,

Vicar Mandy

Declaration on the Way



ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton (right) and Bishop Denis J. Madden, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, hold copies of "Declaration on the Way: Church, Ministry and Eucharist" – a unique ecumenical document that makes visible a pathway to Christian unity between Catholics and Lutherans.

What is this Declaration on the Way?

This is a unique ecumenical text that draws on 50 years of Lutheran-Catholic dialogue in preparation for the 500th Reformation anniversary coming in 2017. Major sources are dialogues at the global level. But, as happened in the formation of the 1999 *Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*, there's mutual reinforcement between global and more local conversations, including those in the U.S.

What does the Declaration say?

The heart of the *Declaration* is the **Statement of Agreements**. On church, ministry and Eucharist, the *Declaration* draws together a litany of 32 consensus statements, where Catholics and Lutherans already have said there are not church-dividing differences between them. An elaboration of these agreements grounds them in the dialogues' work. Finally, a more tentative section identifies some "remaining differences" – not intending to be comprehensive but suggesting some ways forward.

What does the Declaration hope to do?

By demonstrating how far Lutherans and Catholics have come together on three crucial topics, the *Declaration* indicates much ground that need not be retraced again, and it offers these Agreements to the churches to be received into their common life. In this way it helps inspire continuing work toward the visible Christian unity, which is Christ's prayer.

Where does the Declaration stand now for our churches?

In October 2015 the Statement of Agreements was unanimously affirmed by the ELCA Conference of Bishops, which requested the Church Council also accept them and forward the *Declaration* to the 2016 ELCA Church wide Assembly for reception. The text has been shared with The Lutheran World Federation. Also in October, the 32 Agreements were unanimously affirmed by the Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which commended the Declaration on the Way to Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, for further reflection and action.

Celebrating birthdays in November and December are:

11/8 Phyllis Lundine
11/19 Joan Riedell
11/20 Mary Hohmann
11/22 David Conrad

12/1 Evan Richards
12/3 Karla Richards
12/7 Bill Richards
12/16 Charles Brockaway
November Assistant Ministers

1st Ted Goulet and David Conrad
8th Mike Mohr and Andrew Johnston
15th Andrew Johnston and Karla Richards
22th Ted Goulet and Kat Nelson
29th Andrew Johnston and Karla Richards
November Lectors

1st Mike Mohr
8th David Collett
15th Karen Levitan
22nd Mike Mohr
29th Tom Scott

November

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saint's Day 10am Worship 11am Pot Luck fellowship in Durkee Hall	2	3	4 11:00 AM Food Pantry	5 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	6	7
8 23 rd Sunday of Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship in Durkee Asst. Min. M. Mohr & A. Johnston Lector: D. Collett 1 KINGS 17:8-16 HEBREWS 9:24-28	9	10 2:30PM Worship/Music 7:00PM Church Council Meetings	11 11:00 AM Food Pantry	12 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	13	14
15 24 th Sunday of Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship in Durkee Asst. Min: A. Johnston, K. Richards Lector K. Levitan Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25	16	17	18 11:00 AM Food Pantry 7:00 PM Vicar's Book Study	19 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	20	21
22 25 th Sunday of Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Pot Luck Fellowship in Durkee A.M.: T. Goulet & K. Nelson Lector: M. Mohr Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8	23	24	25 11:00 AM Food Pantry	26 Happy Thanksgiving	27	28
29 First Sunday of Advent 10am Worship 11am Fellowship in Durkee A.M.: A. Johnston & K. Richards Lector: T. Scott Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	30	1	2 11:00 AM Food Pantry	3 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12



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