



Diploma of Vocation

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

*Having called upon the Lord our God for guidance, and exercising the authority
which he vested in his church on earth, we,*

The members of _____

of _____

Call you, _____,

with confidence in your faithfulness, to serve as our Staff Minister

in the capacity of _____.

We trust that you will recognize in this Call the voice of your Lord Jesus Christ and we pray that he, the Head of the Church, may give you willingness and strength to joyfully follow it. As you seek God's direction for your ministry, we will pray for you and your family. May he lead you to joyful service to the glory of his name for the salvation of souls.

In extending this Call to you we solemnly charge you:

- To proclaim among us the inspired Word of God and the Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as incorporated in the Book of Concord of 1580, and to maintain sound Lutheran practice at all times;
- To endeavor earnestly to live in unity with your fellow called worker(s) and to serve under the supervision of the congregation's leadership as they work with you through the efforts of the congregation's pastor;
- To support our congregation with the gifts God has given you, using those gifts to help proclaim the gospel of Christ to our members, community and world.
- To 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 people (Matthew 5:16); and to devote your time, strength and ability to the general advancement of the kingdom of Christ and to the gathering in of his harvest;

- To assist the pastor(s) when called upon with proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord in its truth and purity and administering the Sacraments;
- As your call provides the opportunity, to instruct and train the students in your charge diligently and faithfully in harmony and in accord with the Word of God as revealed in the canonical books of the Old and the New Testament and professed in the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church as contained in the Book of Concord of 1580;
- To promote spiritual growth by assisting us in a vibrant ministry to and by all generations of our church family, noting especially the primary role of parents in faith nurture (Deut. 6:4-9); and
- To perform other duties as mutually agreed upon, including those more specifically detailed in a job description for this position.

Should the Lord in his grace and mercy lead you to accept this Call, we obligate ourselves:

- To receive, honor and love you as a servant of the Word;
- To support your work among us with our prayers and personal assistance;
- To cooperate and participate with you in the gospel ministry (Matthew 28:18-21) using our spiritual gifts to edify and build up the body of the Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27-28); and
- To provide for your proper maintenance according to our ability, being mindful of our Lord's injunction that those in vocational Christian service should be paid for their labors (1 Corinthians 9:10), and to pay you promptly and regularly a salary of \$ _____ per year.
- To provide you in addition:

May our gracious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you as you hear his voice in this Call.

Signed in behalf and by the authority of:

_____, Chairman

_____, Secretary

Given and signed this _____ day of _____