



Salem English Lutheran Church

May 17, 2015

Dear Salem Members and Friends:

For nearly twelve years, Salem English Lutheran Church has been immensely blessed to have Jen Nagel as its Pastor. Her leadership and the guidance of the Holy Spirit have transformed Salem in countless ways. At the time Pastor Jen began her service at Salem in 2003, our church was struggling to survive. Now, Salem is a church that is thriving in our new Springhouse Ministry home in partnership with Lyndale UCC and First Christian.

The Holy Spirit has now called Pastor Jen to a new chapter in her ministry to serve as Lead Pastor of University Lutheran Church of Hope in Dinkytown. While we are all deeply saddened by her departure, we are joyous that she will be using her gifts and talents to continue the work of the gospel. Words cannot fully describe just how grateful we are for Pastor Jen's gifted ministry and service to Salem.

So what happens now? Salem's Council has been in contact with the Minneapolis Area Synod who will assist us with selecting an interim pastor. Our expectation is that the interim pastor will serve for a limited period of time. After the interim pastor is selected, the Council will initiate the formal search process for a new pastor. We will keep you informed as these next steps unfold.

Salem's future remains bright and in God's loving hands. We are excited to see where the Holy Spirit will lead us next. But for now, let us all shower Pastor Jen, Jane, Eliza, and Alice with thanksgiving and Godspeed for a wondrous and spirit-filled new journey. We plan for June 28 as Pastor Jen's last Sunday. Watch for details about this day and plan to be present if you are able.

Grace and peace,

Linda Hanson, Antone Melton-Meaux, Josh Jorstad, and Kate Rime
Salem Executive Committee