

April 7, 2022

The Lutheran Center Community:

Near the beginning of Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth, he writes, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus."

Paul's words resonate deeply with me today. I give thanks to God for you: especially for the ways in which God has been at work in and through this community in the past eleven years. Through you, God has been at work renewing this ministry, moving it toward financial health and sustainability and making it more inclusive. Through this ministry faith has been discovered and nurtured. It has been a fruitful season to serve among you as Campus Pastor. I am grateful.

**It is in the spirit of this gratitude that I am write to share that this will be my last semester at The Lutheran Center.**

The leadership of NeLCM, Inc. and The Lutheran Center are already working to establish a transition plan of the ministry. I fully believe that this ministry will continue to thrive in the next year.

Christian vocation has been at the heart of my teaching and preaching. One facet of Christian vocation is living with openness to call—to the possibility of God calling us in surprising ways to unexpected places. This has always been, and will always be, a ministry that equips and *sends*. I have received such a call to serve as Senior Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Waconia, Minnesota. When I began this discernment process, I was not anticipating returning to parish ministry. Yet, I believe wholeheartedly that this is the community to which I'm being called.

This has been difficult discernment because of you. I leave the call at The Lutheran Center recognizing that this is an extraordinary community with whom to serve. Over eleven years ago when I took this call, you entrusted this office to me. You made me a steward of this place. The student leadership at the time graciously opened up space for my leadership. This has been an enduring gift to me and my family. My daughters often quip that they have been, "raised by college students." The truth is I've been raised by college students, too. You have shaped and formed me as a Christian leader in ways that would not have occurred without you.

**There are two upcoming opportunities for us to connect that I wanted to let you know about.**

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| Sunday, May 8   | Join us for <b>Sending Sunday Worship @ 11 am</b> - Light lunch options available and time to chat with me following worship.   |
| Tuesday, May 10 | <b>Internship Banquet @ 6 pm</b> - You can join us for this annual fundraiser that supports our internship program. Enjoy a catered meal at the city Union on campus. You can get your ticket here: <a href="https://givebutter.com/internbanquet">https://givebutter.com/internbanquet</a> |

Today, I entrust The Lutheran Center to your care, knowing that you, the leaders, students, alumni, partners, and friends of this ministry are up to the task of bearing this ministry forward. I give thanks to God for you.

Peace in Christ,



Adam White, Campus Pastor