



# LIVING WORD

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dear Friends:

I am writing to detail for you the next steps for Living Word following Pastor Jeremy's resignation. The Council, after open and detailed conversations with the Bishop's office, has agreed to the following steps, all of which are in alignment with both our Constitution and Synod guidelines:

1. **Form a Call Committee:** The Call Committee, (a team of 5-7 people selected by the Council) will be empowered to work with the Bishop's office to find a pastoral candidate suitable for Living Word and its ministries.
2. **Develop a Ministry Site Profile (MSP):** The MSP or congregational profile is intended for use by congregations and church-related organizations that are seeking to call an ordained or lay rostered minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or First Call candidates for rostered ministry. The MSP is a summary description of the make-up the congregation, the community demographic, strengths, opportunities, and specific ministries for which the congregation seeks to call a pastor or rostered minister. The MSP for Living Word Lutheran will be jointly developed by the Lead Pastor and Call Committee with congregational and Council consultation.
3. **Interview candidate or candidates:** This process involves prayer and discernment to find the best candidate for Living Word. The Synod will support us in the call process by curating a slate of viable candidates that meet our MSP requirements. The Call Committee will interview the candidates provided by the Synod.
4. **Congregational vote:** The ultimate authority to call a pastor rests with you, the congregation. When the Call Committee, after prayerful consideration, agrees upon a candidate to recommend to the congregation, only then will a congregation meeting be convened. The sole objective of this congregational meeting is to vote for, or against, issuing a call to the recommended candidate.

Please keep in mind that there is no definitive timeline for the call of pastor. We will be deliberate, but expeditious in this process, trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We solicit prayers as Living Word enters this new and exciting chapter of its ministry. Please email all Pastoral Call questions or comments to: [council@livingwordkaty.org](mailto:council@livingwordkaty.org)

God bless you. Pastor Emmanuel