



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Congregations in Transition **Updated July 30, 2024**

FULL-TIME CALLS

In the Northern Illinois Synod, we currently have 19 full-time call vacancies and several congregations seeking part-time ministers.

RM= Rostered Minister (Pastor or Deacon)

MSP= Ministry Site Profile (Congregation's "resume")

RMP= Roster Minister Profile (Pastor or Deacon's "resume")

Congregations in a full-time call process or a traditional part-time call process journey through the following phases between settled calls of Roster Ministers:

PHASE ONE: RM announces departure/Placing Transition Leader in Congregation

PHASE TWO: Congregation/Council identifies Call Committee and congregation enters discernment

PHASE THREE: MSP is submitted and Call Committee Interviews Candidates

PHASE FOUR: Call Committee forwards name to Council for recommendation/Congregational vote

PHASE FIVE: Settled Minister is welcomed. Synod follows up in six months.

The Office of Bishop works with Congregations, Councils, and Call Committees during each phase of their transition. The congregation receives support to deepen their collective faith and specific activities to complete during their time of transition. We hope congregations experience times of transition as spiritual discernment and focus on what God is calling them to be and do as a community of faith.

Under Bishop's direction and in consultation with our synod partners in Region 5, congregations will be invited to explore how the gift of diversity can deepen their reflection as the Body of Christ. These conversations and learnings around diversity, equity, and belonging will be an invitational gift for congregations in transition.

Questions can be forwarded to Pr. Jen Beamsley at jbeamsley@nisynod.org, who directs Congregations in Transitions and Rostered Minister Mobility.

PHASE ONE: Rostered Minister Announces Departure/Transition Leader Placement

1. **Cross of Glory, Homer Glen (mid-August 2024)**
2. **St. Paul, Sterling (mid-August 2024)**

PHASE TWO: Discernment/Self-Study by Transition Team and/or Call Committee

3. **First, DeKalb (vacant June 2024) – Interim placement complete**
4. **Peace, Morris (vacant June 2024) – Interim placement complete**
5. **All Saints, Byron (vacant July 2024) – Interim placement complete**
6. **First, Freeport (vacant February 2024)**
Call Committee formed and working on MSP.
7. **Cross and Crown, Roscoe (vacant February 2024)**
Call Committee formed, working on MSP.
8. **Alpine, Rockford (vacant July 2023)**
Transition Team Formed, completing MSP. Call Committee formed.

PHASE THREE: MSP Activated/Interviewing Candidates for Call

9. **Shepherd of the Valley, Rockford (vacant July 2023)**
Call Committee formed, submitting MSP early August.
10. **Trinity, Harvard (vacant July 2023)**
Transition Team Formed, MSP submitted.
11. **Christ, Belvidere- Senior Pastor, full-time (vacant March 2023)**
Christ Lutheran Church is seeking a senior pastor. We strive to make Christ known in all we do and be good stewards of the many gifts given to us. PATHWAYS: A Center for Spiritual Renewal is an important part of our life together. We are seeking a head of staff who enjoys trying new things while remaining rooted in traditional worship and spiritual practices.
12. **St. John's, Pearl City (vacant August 2023)**
St. John's Lutheran Church is located in northwest Illinois. We were established in 1888. Our mission statement "Ever Loving, Caring Always" reflects our active congregation. St. John's is blessed with beautiful worship and educational facilities. We have dedicated lay leaders, strong and active committees, and wonderful rapport with the community. We seek a pastor with a love of Christ and a heart for God's people to help us continue this good work with an emphasis on youth and family ministry, member care, and outreach/evangelism.
13. **Trinity, Moline (vacant July 2023)**
Trinity is a beloved community where our active, welcoming, and caring presence affirms that the Kingdom of God is alive and growing right here and now. We seek a new pastor who will join us in fulfilling our mission to "Grow in God, Care in Christ, Serve in Spirit."
14. **Bethany, Crystal Lake – Associate (vacant June 2023).**
A vibrant congregation with a traditional worship platform seeks an energetic Associate Pastor to expand our ability to demonstrate Christ's love in our world. Doing God's work in many ways, we continually challenge our congregation to evolve. Located in an historic downtown district of a thriving lakeside suburb, our busy church

awaits your helpful hands and heart. Join a staff of creative, dedicated workers, as well as a caring congregation dedicated to God's word.

15. St. Paul's, Orion (vacant September 2023)

Our position is for a full-time Pastor to lead us in making Christ known. This person should be caring, compassionate, grounded in scripture, and a gifted preacher, teacher, and leader with a deep, personal and prayerful relationship with God. St. Paul members are active in worship and the community. We have active youth, an independent parish nurse program, and After School and community VBS programs. Orion is a rural community of 1,800 people eleven miles from the Quad-Cities. We enjoy the benefits of small-town America, but have easy access to the metro area.

16. Calvary, New Windsor- Pastor, full-time/part-time (vacant August 2022)

Christ be the light! Set in a small rural community, Calvary has been a light for 154 years. Even with a decline in numbers, our faith and service remain steady as the steeple light that shines a welcome to all. We hope to call a pastor who will work with us to revitalize our numbers and involve our youth in new and creative ways. Our mission at Calvary Lutheran Church is to make a positive difference in the world around us.

17. Immanuel, Dixon- Pastor, shared, full-time (vacant May 2023)

Note: Immanuel and St. Paul's, Dixon voted in September 2023 to share a pastoral team. Contact Pr. Jen Beamsley for more details.

Our congregation is looking for a full-time pastor. As a church family, we are committed to finding an outgoing, friendly, and welcoming pastor with strong administrative skills who can help us to be more inviting to existing and new members. We are open to new ideas and welcome change. Our church fully believes that youth are the future and are very supportive of initiatives to grow our youth programs and attract new families to the church. We are risk takers and faith-nurturers.

18. St. Paul's, Dixon- Pastor, shared, full-time (vacant September 2022)

Note: Immanuel and St. Paul's, Dixon voted in September 2023 to share a pastoral team. Contact Pr. Jen Beamsley for more details.

We are a smaller congregation seeking a pastor that will continue our involvement in the community, serve the spiritual needs of our congregation, including the youth, home bound and families. Our hope is to find a person that will communicate the love and values of Jesus and in doing so will foster energy, enthusiasm, joy and fellowship.

19. Shepherd of the Hills, McHenry- Senior Pastor (vacant August 2022)

The members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, McHenry, Illinois are pursuing a Permanently Called Pastor who will help us achieve our mission of meeting people wherever they are and helping us to grow in faith and service. The pastor will help the congregation grow its membership focusing on worship, fellowship, Christian Education, music, and encouraging members to apply Biblical Truths to daily living.

PHASE FOUR: Recommending candidate to Council and Congregation

PHASE FIVE: Welcoming a settled Minister

20. Alleluia!, Naperville- Pastor Joel Vander Wal, June 2024

21. Grace, Knoxville Vicar Nathaniel Knutson, Collaborative Learning Student, August 2024

Considering Warburg Seminary Collaborative Learning Student

22. First, Chadwick- Vicar Elisha Moffett, Wartburg Collaborative Learning Student, June 2024

Placing Warburg Seminary Collaborative Learning Student

23. Augustana, Andover- Pastor-Elect Liz Kuster, August 2024

PART-TIME CALLS

If you are interested in being part of innovative ways we embrace being the body of Christ through part-time ministry opportunities in the Northern Illinois Synod please contact Rev. Jen Beamsley, Assistant to the Bishop at jbeamsley@nisynod.org. Other part-time opportunities not listed here may be available in our synod, please inquire if you are interested in a particular geographic region.

Joyful Harvest, Johnsburg (vacant October 2023)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.

Messiah, Port Byron (vacant July 2023)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.

Messiah, Henderson Grove/Galesburg Area (vacant May 2023)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process; THIS CONGREGATION IS SEEKING A PASTOR OR LAY PREACHER TWO TIMES/MONTH.

Capron, Capron (vacant mid-2022)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.

St. John, Rural Princeton (vacant 2022)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.

Grace, Wilmington (vacant 2022)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.

Bethel, Stronghurst (vacant 2022)

Pr. Jen Beamsley relates this call process.