



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Congregations in Transition

Updated April 6, 2024

FULL-TIME CALLS

In the Northern Illinois Synod, we currently have 17 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 RM 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. **First, Freeport**
2. **Cross and Crown, Roscoe**

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

3. **Trinity, Moline** (vacant July 2023)
Call Committee formed, working on MSP
4. **St. John's, Pearl City** (vacant August 2023)
Call committee formed, working on MSP.
5. **Alpine, Rockford** (vacant July 2023)
Transition Pastor placed.
6. **Trinity, Harvard** (vacant July 2023)
Transition Team Formed, orientation to MSP scheduled.
7. **Shepherd of the Valley, Rockford** (vacant July 2023)
Call Committee formed, working on MSP
8. **Grace, Knoxville** (vacant May 2023)
Call Committee formed, MSP draft completed.
9. **Christ, Belvidere- Senior Pastor, full-time** (vacant March 2023)
Call Committee formed, working on MSP.

PHASE THREE: MSP Activated/Interviewing Candidates for Call

10. **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.
11. **St. Paul's, Orion** (vacant September 2023)
Note: MSP draft complete.
12. **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.
13. **Augustana, Andover- Pastor, full-time** (vacant April 2023)
Augustana Lutheran Church in Andover, IL, is a church built on the love of Christ. Our church is located in a convenient location in a tight-knit, caring community, and we are seeking a Pastor to help us spread the Love and Word of Christ.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. First, Chadwick- Pastor, full-time (vacant September 2022)

First Lutheran is a friendly, caring church located in God's country that has so much to give amidst the charms of small-town Midwest life. We have a strong history of committed members who place value on traditional church services and celebrating our youth and milestones. We are small but mighty, and always the first to step forward with community support. First Lutheran is excited to welcome our new pastor. Come see for yourself!

17. 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 Rostered Minister

Alleluia!, Naperville- (congregational meeting 3/17/24; Pastor Joel Vander Wal begins in mid-June, 2024)

Peace, New Lenox- February 2024

Pastor Amy Michelson (East Conference)

St. John, Mendota- January 2024

Pastor Elise Rothfusz (South Conference)

Salem, Sandwich- January 2024

Pastor John Rothfusz (East Conference)

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.