

Bishop's Road Show – July 20, 2010

The Season of Pentecost

Dear Friends:

As I am in the midst of traveling today, I have stopped at the Synod Office to try and clean off my desk before I go on “the road again” this afternoon. Besides tying up some loose ends, I will also post the fifth “Why Stay?” letter.

In my cleaning, I note that I have neglected to inform you that Pastor Richard Mahan has completed his paperwork for retirement. This paperwork is complete and effective July 1, 2010. Pastor Mahan will continue at St. Timothy's.

This past Sunday, July 18, 2010 St. Timothy Lutheran Church cast their second vote to leave the ELCA. The vote was 160 to leave, 14 to stay. This vote takes effect on September 1, 2010. This was a sad event for me and for many at St. Timothy.

About the same time that St. Timothy was voting, St. Mark's, Clarksburg, voted to extend the Call of Pastor Linda Muhly. In effect they voted to end the current Intentional Interim Call and extend to her an “open-ended Call.” Soon I will report to you the date of Pastor Muhly's Service of Installation.

At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, Pastor Ian Reid was Installed at First Lutheran, Parkersburg. Immediately after Pastor Ian was installed there was a loud clap of thunder. Then the lights flickered and went out completely. Pastor Reid's Service of Installation seemed more like a Christmas Communion done in candle light than a very warm day in July. This day was also marked by a pig roast. About half-way through dinner the electric came back on, folks could see what they had put on their plates and we could stop fanning ourselves.

Finally, Pastor Roger and Mrs. Helen Harms are thrilled to announce that their first grandchild was born at 1:00 a.m. this morning. Cole Harms put his mother through 20 hours of labor. From last report, mother and child are doing fine. Grandma is slightly excited!!!!!!