

Bishop's Road Show – The Season of Easter

April 14, 2009

Dear Friends:

'Tis the season for shouting the ancient Eastern Orthodox Easter greeting of “Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed! I pray that Easter's celebrations were joyful and filled with shouting Lutherans!”

This coming weekend is also a celebration for the Moundsville – New Martinsville Lutheran Parish. Over the dates of April 17-19, Seminarian Sean Smith, his wife Jane and their daughters Erin and Sarah, will visit this parish and her people. This visitation weekend will present lots of time with call committees and councils and the people of both congregations. Both Messiah and Good Shepherd Lutheran Churches will vote upon this call on Sunday, April 26. Should a call result from this visit, then a service of ordination may take place in Charlotte, NC on May 24.

Over the dates of April 17 and 18 the shared synod Professional Candidacy Committee will meet at St. Mark's, Wheeling. This year, we have several candidates coming before the committee: Senior Seminarian Terry McCarthy will be seeking our approval for ordination when he completes his internship in June. Kara Propst, Faith, Franklin; Dennis Propst, St. Peter's, Shepherdstown and Grace Lauver, St. John's, Red House, MD will all be seeking approval for entrance to a seminary. Should the Candidacy Committee approve, Kara will be attending the Lutheran Theological School in Chicago with Dennis and Grace seeking to attend Gettysburg Seminary.

On Sunday, April 19, The Rev. Ted Bessey will be installed as the Intentional Interim Pastor of Grace Lutheran, Fairmont, WV. I invite your prayers for all of the above people who are or to whom God may use in ministry.

Yours in our Lord's service,

+Ralph