

Greetings from the St. Thomas Council

Susan has graciously offered to send out this letter to correct an error—my error—that ran in the July newsletter that you received yesterday.

In the days before and surrounding Pastor Lyle and Marie's celebration dinner and final Sunday, council learned that Pastor Mark Galbraith had decided to accept a position as interim pastor for another ELCA congregation, located in Iowa. Contract negotiations with interim pastors do not carry with them the exclusivity that will, at one point, become part of our call process as we seek a new permanent pastor, and while we were in the process of finalizing contract details, we had not yet signed a contract with Pastor Mark. We wish him well in his new ministry.

With that, we continue to search for an interim pastor. Pastor Heather Apel, assistant to the bishop at the IK Synod office, is working diligently on our behalf to find interim candidates, and we will share any news we receive from her with the congregation.

While I have this opportunity to update you, you'll be happy to hear that our Pastor of Record is Pastor Ellen Mills, whom most of you know. The Pastor of Record, assigned to a congregation by the synod, is present for council and congregational meetings, and available for emergency pastoral care and funerals. If you or someone in your family has such an emergency need, please contact Susan at the STLC office. She will contact Pastor Ellen.

Our roster of supply pastors for June, July, and August is printed in the July newsletter. I hope many of you were able to hear Pastor Dave Schreiber's wonderful sermon last Sunday and to experience his strong presence as a worship leader. We'll see him again later this summer.

We'll continue to update you in the newsletter and the weekly, on the Transition bulletin board just outside the office, and in Temple Talks.

May the Spirit be among us and continue to guide us,

Dawn Bakken, council president