



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Letter of Call

Date _____, 20_____

To _____

*In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Mindful of the apostolic admonition that all things be done decently and in order, and in accordance with the practice of the Lutheran Church to provide qualified persons of good report and in whom the fruits of the Spirit are manifest, The American Association of Lutheran Churches recognizes the office of the ministry established by our Lord and seeks through it to give the spiritual leadership and pastoral care necessary for the establishment, growth, development, and welfare of Christ's holy church.

Accordingly, we hereby call you to become the pastor of

(Name of Congregation)

(City, State)

on the following conditions and mutual covenants:

That You...

1) Accept all the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as a whole and in all their parts as the divinely inspired, revealed and inerrant Word of God, and joyfully submit to this as the only infallible authority in all matters of faith and life;

- 2) Preach and teach this Word of God as witnessed by the confessions of the Lutheran Church and by the Statement of Faith of The American Association of Lutheran Churches;
- 3) Administer the Sacraments, i.e. Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper, according to the practice of the Lutheran Church and the recommended liturgies of The American Association of Lutheran Churches;
- 4) Assist us by training and equipping us for our ministries so that together we may be strengthened in faith, love and service to our Savior, Jesus Christ;
- 5) Minister to all members of the parish according to our needs and visit us as necessary;
- 6) Lead, inspire, and train us in enlisting in active membership in His church all in the community who are not actively affiliated with a Christian congregation;
- 7) Lead, inspire, and equip us in fulfilling our responsibility to witness for Christ in our ministry to the world: (Ephesians 4:11-13);
- 8) Give pastoral leadership for the meetings and activities of the congregation, Church Council, Boards and organizations;
- 9) Keep your practice in harmony with the Word of God and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church;
- 10) Conduct regular services as agreed upon by the congregation and pastor;
- 11) Record promptly and properly all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funerals, and attendance at the Lord's Supper, and report the statistics of the parish promptly and fully, as required by The American Association of Lutheran Churches;
- 12) Strive in word and action to be a worthy example in Christian living, avoiding conduct which might endanger the faith of others;
- 13) Participate in the Pension Plan of The American Association of Lutheran Churches;
- 14) Subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Association of Lutheran Churches, and to the Constitution(s) and By-Laws of the congregation(s).

That We ...

- 1) Receive you as our pastor and accord you the love, the respect, the good will, and the cooperation due your office; look to you for ministerial acts; and uphold you in prayer;
- 2) Promise you our faithful assistance in the work to which you are called;
- 3) Join with you in a periodic, possibly triennial, in-depth review of our mission and ministry as a congregation in this community, as well as the leadership strength and skill needed to meet our challenges and opportunities;
- 4) Support the work of The American Association of Lutheran Churches;

5) Pay you an annual salary, to be reviewed annually, of \$ _____ the payments to be made in equal installments as follows: _____.

6) Provide you a residence free of rental charges, keep it in good repair, and pay utilities as follows:

7) Contribute to the Pension Plan according to the regulations of The American Association of Lutheran Churches;

8) Provide compensation for pastor's medical insurance _____.

9) Grant you an annual vacation of _____, and provide for pulpit supply for _____ Sundays during your absence;

10) Provide your car reimbursement as follows: _____;

11) Reimburse you for expenses not otherwise provided for incurred in attending regional and national conventions and other official meetings at which your attendance is required;

12) Urge you to participate in continuing education opportunities and we will support you as follows:

13) Pay your moving expenses as follows: _____

14) _____

This call may be terminated only by the procedures outlined in the Constitution(s) of the congregation(s) and in the Constitution and By-Laws of The American Association of Lutheran Churches. When a pastor serves a parish of two or more congregations, a resignation submitted to any one of the congregations shall be regarded as a resignation from the parish.

May the Lord our God grant you His Holy Spirit, to guide you according to His will in the consideration of this call.

We earnestly request you to acknowledge receipt of this Letter of Call immediately. It is our hope that your decision will not be unduly delayed.

Correspondence should be sent to: _____
(Name)

(Address)

Telephone number (_____) _____

Witness our hands (authorized signatures)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ATTESTED BY:

_____, Presiding Pastor
The American Association of Lutheran Churches

Date _____, 20_____