

June 28, 2020

Dear Roseville Lutheran Church,

I am sending this letter to let you know that the Congregation of Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church in Minneapolis voted today to call me as their next pastor. For me personally, this news is the very definition of bittersweet. I am excited for this new chapter in my calling as a pastor and leader, but it comes with deep sadness in saying goodbye to the people of Roseville Lutheran. Over the last six years I have been so honored and grateful for the ways that we have been in ministry together. I will miss this community of faith tremendously.

As a pastor it is the great honor of my life that you have welcomed me into your lives, that you have trusted me with your stories and life transitions, and that you have invited me to share the gospel with you. You have entrusted me with this responsibility, and I am grateful. You have shaped me as a pastor, and I will not forget it. You have affirmed and encouraged me as a leader, and I am humbled. I will give thanks for many years to come, that God called me to Roseville Lutheran Church for this time. At Lake Nokomis Lutheran I will lead their church and staff and I want you to know that you have prepared me for this.

It is disappointing to me that this goodbye comes during the time of the Covid-19 pandemic. All of the ways that I usually am able to talk to people, share in conversation, and say goodbye are difficult now. I would have loved to have had the opportunity to share this news with you in person, please forgive me for not being able to reach out to you personally. I have learned over these last few months the power of a community of faith in the midst of crisis. Thank you for all of the ways that you support and encourage my work and the work of the church in this time of physical distance.

I am grateful for you and for this ministry. I will be with you until July 29, and as we are safely able to, I will be eager to share in conversation and goodbyes.

In Good Faith,

Pastor Sara Spohr

## ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dear Members and Friends of Roseville Lutheran Church,

As you have read, Pastor Sara Spohr has accepted a call to serve as pastor at Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN. While we are saddened by this news, we are grateful for Pastor Sara's time at Roseville Lutheran Church and pray for her as she begins this new journey with the people of Lake Nokomis Lutheran. Pastor Sara is a gifted leader, preacher and trusted pastor. Many of you have been impacted by her ministry among us and we thank her for sharing her gifts with us.

We recognize that saying goodbye to a pastor under any circumstance is difficult, this is made even more difficult during this time of Covid-19 and physical distancing. We invite you to join us as we celebrate Pastor Sara's ministry with us.

## Service of Celebration and Sending Sunday, July 12 at both 9:00 and 11:00 am

Drive-in Worship with Communion (find more information at www.rosevillelutheran.org/drive-in-worship)
Pastor Sara's last day with us will be Wednesday, July 29, 2020

During this time of transition, we want to reassure you that the ministries of Roseville Lutheran Church will continue as they have over the past few months during the pandemic. In the meantime, we will work with the St. Paul Area Synod to look for a gifted intentional Interim Associate Pastor.

In the months ahead, the Church Council will recommend that a Call Committee be placed to find our next Associate Pastor. This committee will consist of a diverse group of church members who will lead us in conversation to discern the ministry needs of Roseville Lutheran Church and the role of the Associate Pastor.

In this time of change, we invite you to remember that God is with us and the Holy Spirit is active among us.

Your's in Christ,

Lauren J. Wrightsman, Senior Pastor

Michael Dolan, Church Council President

Jessica Henry, Church Council President-elect

Joe Zeigler, Church Council Vice President