

# *Hope Lutheran Church of Warren*



*32400 Hoover Road ~ Warren, MI 48093*

*586.979.9055*

[www.hopelutheranwarren.com](http://www.hopelutheranwarren.com)

## *Call Committee*

August 2020

To: All Members of Hope

Greetings in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Messiah!

We, the Call Committee, are again engaging the process to call our next pastor. We met on August 19 to discuss the steps in this procedure. The first measure actually is a continuation of one of the last actions we undertook before the Covid shutdown in March suspended the process. We are allowing you members to fill out a congregational survey. The results, which are tabulated by the District office staff, provide us with a total view of our church's needs and make-up.

Survey forms and a deposit box are available on the Ministry Table in the FLC.

Unfortunately, since the form needs to be void of any wrinkles or folds, we cannot afford to send out the form to those who cannot make it to church. We have forms that were completed pre-pandemic that will be submitted. Forms are due in the drop box by Friday Sept 11. All will be given to the District administration for tabulation.

At the time the forms are given to the District, the committee also will hand over the nomination list of 12 candidates you named during the nomination period last October. These actions take place either before or at our next committee meeting – Tuesday Sept 22 @ 7 pm in Fellowship Hall.

During the pandemic shutdown, Hope has seen many changes to the building, to our ministries, and to our pastor. Pastor Dan finished all his course work of the Specific Ministry Pastor [SMP] program in June and earned a General Pastoral Certificate. This allows him to operate as a fully-invested pastor in the Missouri Synod.

He is one of only 2 such pastors in the Synod that has earned this level of accreditation. However, due to this rare distinction and to the Synod's quandary about how to consider SMP-trained pastors, the committee is heeding the District's advice and proceeding in a methodical manner with the call.

While Pastor Dan has the standing in the Synod to take a call, we the committee believe it is important to Pastor's future placement to follow the Synod-backed call process. That means we need to allow District President David Maier, who has ultimate authority over all pastors in Michigan, the time to scrutinize our nomination list and return it with his alterations and recommendations.

At that point the membership can discuss the remaining candidates and make a decision.

The committee continues to operate under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Please continue to pray with us that almighty God leads us to select the correct man to lead us in this new era of church.

We welcome any feedback about the call process. Talk to one of the committee members or email us at [office@hopewarren.com](mailto:office@hopewarren.com). Those emails will be forwarded to the entire committee.

Serving Him and You,

Your Hope Call Committee

Mark Siladke, Deacon John Wulff, Marty Niedbala, Sally Grulke, Donna Keith,  
Mark Sienkiewicz, and Lisa Tilley