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Council Message Regarding Recent Changes at RLCA

Sunday, June 2, 2019

The Congregational Council of Resurrection Lutheran Church of Alpena has written this message to inform the congregation about recent personnel changes.

The personnel changes are as follows:

- On May 30 John Diamond submitted a letter of resignation from the ministry coordinator position and from Council.
- Also on May 30, Pastor Phil Phifer submitted a letter of resignation.

These resignations are the result of differences of opinion related to RLCA's organizational structure and due to personal challenges. Both John and Pastor Phil believe this will allow the congregation to move forward in healthy ways and continue to flourish in ministry.

The Congregational Council has met to discuss the situation, evaluate our church's current needs, and make plans for the uninterrupted operation of the church.

Council has engaged the services of Pastor Perry Fruhling, Coordinator for Pastoral Ministries for LCMC, for advice on how to move forward as a congregation after these personnel changes. Pastor Fruhling plans to visit Alpena June 6-8 to talk to Council and congregation members. **We plan for an open session on Saturday, June 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. for congregation members to talk to Pastor Fruhling in an open setting.**

We ask congregation members to support each other and work together as part of the body of Christ. We trust in God's provision during this time of transition. It's often at times like this that God brings us to deeper levels of trust and hope.

We will release more information about moving forward as it becomes available. If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me. We are thankful for John's and Phil's service to the kingdom of Christ and RLCA and we invite you to keep them and their families in your prayers.

Sincerely,

Jay Walterreit
2018-19 Congregational Council Chair