

MODEL RESOLUTION OF CONGREGATION

IN APPROVING OF LEADERSHIP ADVANCEMENT PROCESS

Whereas, the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has established a Leadership Advancement Process (LAP) in response to an increasing number of lay persons who desire to serve our Lord's kingdom with greater effectiveness;

Whereas, a lay assistant is a man or a woman, dedicated to the Lord, who is ready to become a staff member of the church's ministry, and who is willing to contribute 10-15 hours per week to his/her congregation, or to some church agency, and who, upon completion of the program, has received certification;

Whereas, certification means completion of ten courses, namely the standard five courses Old Testament Bible, New Testament Bible, Christian Doctrine Summary, Interpretation of Scripture, and Mission Outreach in Context and five additional courses. The Word and Sacrament lay assistant completes the five courses, Basic Preaching, Fundamental Pastoral Care, Lutheran Worship I, Teaching the Faith, Church History I. The Word and Service lay assistant may substitute up to three equivalency courses of the latter five courses in the area of his/her specialization.

Whereas, such areas of specialization are evangelism, nurturing (teaching), visitation, campus, music, handicapped, refugee, community action, and other;

Whereas, the lay assistant is a member of the church's staff, thereby necessitating congregation approval for enrollment;

Whereas such approval includes three congregational commitments, namely 1) acceptance of the applicant as a dedicated and competent individual, 2) spiritual and financial support of the applicant, 3) acceptance of the lay assistant into the official ministry of the parish upon certification for 2-year renewable period;

Whereas, the cost per person is estimated at a maximum of \$125.00 per person per course (plus texts). In some cases credit is given for previous course and seminar experience;

Whereas, _____ has indicated a desire to participate in this Process;

Whereas, _____ (called pastor of congregation) has reviewed available information and endorses the process and the applicant;

Therefore, be it resolved, the _____ Congregation approve and accept the commitment to provide spiritual and financial support to _____ in his/her enrollment in the Leadership Advancement Process with a concentration in _____;

Be it finally resolved, that upon certification we welcome and accept _____ as a lay assistant in _____ Congregation with a limited tenure of two years.

_____ date _____
President of the Congregation

Pastor

