

On July 13, 2016 Pastor Lynn Fonfara announced her retirement from the pastorate at Hope Lutheran with the following letter:

Dear members of Hope,

I speak often of being called. We are all called to use our gifts and time and interests for God's purposes. From the day I arrived eight years ago, I have felt called to serve God by being your pastor. We have done a lot together. It has not always been easy, but we have been guided by God all the way.

But now I feel called to spend my energies away from parish ministry, at least for a while. Lately, I find I am tired. My January episode of blood clots and Mike's recent heart surgery has made me recognize that I need to slow down and heal. I need to cuddle our cats and work on my health. I need to do some sewing and cleaning and reading (do you know how many books I have in my unread pile?!)

I am hereby announcing my retirement. My last Sunday at Hope will be September 25. I look forward to the next two months with you celebrating the past and looking forward to the future of Hope. Until that time, I will remain the called and installed pastor of Hope.

An interim pastor will be appointed by the Bishop and the Synod staff to assist you in discerning the values of the congregation and the qualities you will seek in your next called pastor. In the meantime, God is preparing your next pastor for service at Hope.

Mike and I will remain in the community, and so we will see each other from time to time, and greet one another as friends, but I will not be available for pastoral services.

In HOPE

Pastor Lynn +