



Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Letter of Authorization for Synodically Authorized Ministry

+ *In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

This is a Letter of Authorization for _____ to serve as a Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament to _____

The length of this authorization is _____ through _____.
The authorization may be renewed based upon the demonstrated need for its continuation, the request and consent of the congregation, the consent of _____ and the approval of the synodical bishop. The synodical bishop may revoke authorization at any time.
_____ will have the title of Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) of Word and Sacrament. She or he has authorization to teach and preach the Gospel, conduct worship services, preside over the Sacraments of the church – Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, and provide ministry to the members of _____.
The appropriate dress for a Synodically Authorized Minister is alb and pectoral cross, not a clerical collar. Synodically Authorized Ministers are not to be addressed as “Pastor” but by their given name. This Appointment is for location only.

Limitations to this authorization include but are not limited to the following:

- _____ is not to offer counseling as part of this ministry;
- _____ will participate in some form of theological education upon consultation with a representative from office of the bishop (i.e., Fall Theological Conference);
- _____ will meet monthly with an ordained minister approved by the synodical bishop, for ongoing support, concerns, mentoring, etc.;
- _____ will participate in an annual review of this ministry with the congregational council;
- _____ will participate in an annual meeting of Synodically Authorized Ministers with the Bishop of this synod.

Authorized by: _____ Date: _____

The Rev. Thomas M. Aitken
+Bishop of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod
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