

**And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” Rom. 10:15**

The good news St. Paul's received yesterday that Pr. Adrian Krebs has accepted the call to serve here as Pastor of Youth and Family Life naturally caused a lot of joyful excitement. We have to plan for his arrival, which means figuring out our office situation for this transitional time of having three pastors, planning for the installation service itself and a reception afterward, and adjusting all the schedules going forward for things like school chapel and preaching. That's a lot of work, but it is happy work filled with anticipation.

Of course we want to continue to keep the Krebs family in prayer. They're excited, too, of course, but are naturally nervous to find out how God will provide housing for them and how their children will adapt to new schools. Moving is always a major hassle, and no doubt the next weeks will feature many frustrations along with the joys of a new opportunity to serve God and His people.

We also want to keep Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon in our prayers. Our blessing is their loss, and as they look for a new pastor they will need confidence in God's care for their community as well. I spoke with Pr. Krebs today and he said yesterday was a gut-wrenching, emotional day as he announced he was leaving, so we want to do everything in our power to emphasize that we are all one church, God's church, and we pray that Lord of Life will receive a new pastor soon. Pr. Krebs's last service there will be Reformation Day, October 31.

We also have plans to make. The Installation service will be November 14 during the 9:30 service. There will be a reception afterward for the whole congregation, which will affect the Bible studies and Sunday school activities for that day. We want everyone in the congregation involved; an Installation of a pastor provides a great teaching moment as well as a historical highlight in the life of the congregation for everyone to share and celebrate.

The biggest thing we need from the congregation is a willing, can-do attitude. Pr. Krebs is coming into this position with zeal and some big ideas. We don't want to hamper him with, "We tried that ten years ago and it didn't work," or "We'll never find the volunteers to do that," or "No, we always do this, that, and the other thing so that's what we want to keep doing." We called him here to lead some facets of our congregational life, and his ministry will thrive among us, and we will thrive, if we give him the freedom and support to lead the things he is in charge of.

God has been good to us. We rejoice in His blessings. We anticipate nothing but good from God's hand, and we trust Him enough not to hold the future hostage to our expectations. We work to do our part in the knowledge that God's plans for us are always good.

In Christ, Pastor Speckhard