



SAINT MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
142 MARKET STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 17701

January 27, 1981

Dear Friends,

Last night at our Council meeting, I submitted my resignation as Senior Pastor of St. Mark's, effective April 30, 1981.

I do this with considerably mixed emotions, after serving you for over 26 years.

It is submitted in order that Mrs. Hasskarl and I may be free to enjoy what years we have left in as much good health as possible; and to allow the Church Council and you to call a younger, more energetic and qualified Pastor for an increasingly difficult ministry.

I thank you for the privilege of serving you. We have shared many experiences of joy and sorrow, success and failure, accomplishment and frustration. I am indebted to so many of you for letting me share so much of your lives and for enriching mine.

For your support in so many ways, I am also most grateful. Your prayers and words of encouragement have seen me through many difficult times and sustained me in my work among you.

Because pastoral ethics require a Pastor not to participate in his former congregation's baptisms, weddings and funerals, I request that you not invite me to take part. It would be very painful for me to have to say "No."

Some of you have already asked, "What happens now?" Arrangements have been made for Dr. Theodore Lindquist, Assistant to the Bishop of our Synod, to speak to the congregation on Sunday, February 8, at both Services. He will outline the process by which a congregation seeks and secures a new Pastor. I hope you will make every effort to be present so you can learn what the process will be.

God be with you and continue to lead you on in ministry to him and his people.

Affectionately,

Pastor Hasskarl

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