Minneapolis
Area Synod
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

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January 29, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As Bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod, I am honored and humbled to bring a greeting on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the church Delwayne Hahn so faithfully served.

Delwayne Hahn deeply loved his callings as a pastor and servant in God's church. As a pastor, interim pastor, and stewardship expert, it would be impossible to count all the congregations touched by his wisdom and wit.

Our synod benefited enormously when he and his beloved Marilyn built a new home in Dalbo seventeen years ago. We were able to see firsthand, the passion he had for sharing the Gospel and why being a good steward is the most important mark of a follower of Jesus. His love of the Church, coupled with his sound theology, lively sermons, and sense of humor, made him a favorite interim pastor in our synod and neighboring synods these past years.

We were so pleased–and he was so proud –when he returned from his trip to Germany to hear that he preached from two of Martin Luther's pulpits during the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

As we mourn the loss of Delwayne, pastors in our synod started sharing stories of mentorship, collegiality, and remembrances of his perceptive and quotable insights about congregation life and the larger church. Some are wondering who will be the next to claim his personalized Minnesota license plate: "I Tithe"!

Because of his deep and humble sense of God's calling in his life, clearly, Delwayne had a remarkable impact wherever he served. We are deeply grateful for his incredible ministry in our midst.

I especially want to thank you Heidi, Orlando, Jairo, Arminda, and Kristiena. It's not always easy to be a pastor's kid. Thank you for sharing so lovingly your beloved dad as he lived out his callings.

So, on behalf of the whole church, we give thanks for the life and witness of the Pastor Delwayne Hahn. We praise God for this servant of the church – as we now entrust him to the One upon whom his life was lived – Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sincerely in Christ,



Bishop Ann M. Svennungsen
Minneapolis Area Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America