October 2, 2020

Dear Tyler, Council Members, and all St. Paul Lutheran Congregation,

Grace and Peace to you!

We have weathered a lot in the 15 months I have served as your Interim Pastor! Most dramatically, our faithful response to Covid 19 has forced us to find new ways of being the church, of worshipping and doing ministry outside of the building. In preparation for a new chapter in the parish’s life we have prepared a Ministry Site Profile and organized a Call Committee to call a new Pastor. We have also done important work toward healing some hurt and anger in the congregation. We outlined ways we expect to behave toward one another. In prayer we asked for healing, and asked God to take our burdens and barriers. We have discovered new people and new ways of doing ministry in God’s name. Through it all, we have celebrated the ways God is working here at St. Paul’s, and the ways God is reforming you for ministry in Wyoming, Minnesota.

It’s been my privilege to walk with you in this important work; I give thanks to God for the church’s growth, and for your developing sense of direction. The time has come for me also to prepare for my next stage of service. This is my formal notice that Reformation Sunday will be my last Sunday with you as Interim Pastor, with my resignation effective November 1.

My prayers are with you as you call a new pastor and transition into a new season of ministry. I know that the Holy Spirit is preparing the way for you!

In Christ’s peace,

Pastor Sarah Friesen-Carper

CC: St. Paul Area Synod Bishop’s staff