

## 6.2 MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISHES

### 6.2.1 DEFINITION OF A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH

The 1963 LCMS *Handbook*, Bylaw 3.09 states, "If a pastor serves two or more congregations, these shall be regarded as one parish..."

In a May 3-4, 1985 ruling (Ag. 1748), the Commission on Constitutional Matters ratified an opinion that had been offered by the Secretary of the Synod regarding the voting rights of congregations at District conventions when several congregations form a dual or multiple parish, namely, "that a multiple parish has only two votes, that of the pastor who serves the parish and a lay delegate chosen by the parish." This opinion took into consideration earlier versions of the *Handbook* that had provided a definition of the term "parish," e.g., "If a pastor serves two or more congregations, these shall be regarded as one parish and shall be entitled to only one lay vote" (1963 *Handbook*, Bylaw 3.09). The term therefore refers to a dual or multiple congregation arrangement served by the same pastor and is not synonymous with "congregation."

### 6.2.2 CALLS TO A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH

From time-to-time the Commission on Constitutional Matters has opined on questions regarding the call of a pastor to a multi-congregation parish and multi-congregation parish agreements. The following Q & A document summarizes the opinions rendered by the CCM regarding calls issued by a multi-congregation parish and the dissolution of the multi-congregation parish agreement.

**Can the relationship with a pastor, who is serving a multi-congregation parish, be terminated by dissolving the multi-congregation parish agreement?**

No.

**CCM Opinion Ag. 2104 - Questions Regarding Dual Parish Issues:** Regardless of whether the call was issued by both congregations under a parish arrangement or whether each congregation issued a call individually, the Commission would maintain that each congregation has issued a call to the pastor. If this is granted, the Commission does not believe that the relationship with the pastor can be terminated by simply dissolving the dual parish agreement.

**Does the dissolution of a multi-congregation agreement terminate the pastor's call to the congregations being served?**

No.

**CCM Opinion Ag. 2104 - Questions Regarding Dual Parish Issues:** Regardless of whether the call was issued by both congregations under a parish arrangement or whether each congregation issued a call individually, the Commission would maintain that each congregation has issued a call to the pastor. If this is granted, the Commission does not believe that the relationship with the pastor can be terminated by simply dissolving the dual parish agreement.

**If a multi-congregation parish agreement is dissolved, does the congregation which continues to be served by the pastor need to issue a new call to him?**

**No.**

**CCM Opinion Ag. 2104 - Questions Regarding Dual Parish Issues:** If the above is granted, namely, that each congregation has in reality issued a call, the Commission does not believe the congregation which continues to be served by the pastor needs to issue a new call. The call was to the congregation and other arrangements such as salary, housing, time of service, etc. determined by the dual parish arrangement are not part of the call but are, in a sense, incidental to it.

**If one of the congregations in a multi-congregation parish dismisses its pastor, does that dissolve the parish arrangement?**

**Yes,** since the definition of a “parish” is two or more congregations which are served by one pastor.

**CCM Opinion Ag. 1959, October 16, 1993:** “The term ‘dual parish’ does not appear in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod. It is merely a term coined to describe the situation in which two congregations are served by one pastor....”

**CCM Opinion 03-2327:** The term [parish] therefore refers to a dual or multiple congregation arrangement served by the same pastor and is not synonymous with “congregation.”

**Is a pastor's call to a multi-congregation parish terminated if one of the congregations decides to withdraw from the dual arrangement?**

**No.**

**CCM Opinion Ag. 2104 - Questions Regarding Dual Parish Issues:** Regardless of whether the call was issued by both congregations under a parish arrangement or whether each congregation issued a call individually, the Commission would maintain that each congregation has issued a call to the pastor. If this is granted, the Commission does not believe that the relationship with the pastor can be terminated by simply dissolving the dual parish agreement.

### 6.2.3 CHECKLIST FOR THE FORMATION OF A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH

1. Interested congregations, in consultation with the District President, agree to pursue the possibility of forming a multi-congregation parish. The formation of a multi-congregation parish should not be initiated by the pastor.
2. Under normal circumstances, the formation of a multi-congregation parish would be between two or more congregations within the same circuit or contiguous circuits. Where a multi-congregation parish will cross circuit lines, the District President should be consulted to determine if he has concerns which need to be addressed and if such an arrangement would impact the electoral circuits or regions of the district. Where a potential multi-congregation parish agreement will cross district lines, all district presidents involved should be consulted. The appropriate circuit visitors should also be consulted.
3. A joint committee discusses the concerns/needs/expectations of each congregation.
4. A joint committee negotiates the particulars of the multi-congregation parish agreement (see Document 6.2.6. - Items Which Need to be Addressed in a Multi-congregation Parish Agreement).
5. A draft of the multi-congregation parish agreement is developed by the joint committee.
6. The draft of the multi-congregation parish agreement is shared with the District President to determine if there are issues which need to be addressed before presenting the document to each congregation.
7. The multi-congregation parish agreement is presented to the voters' assembly of each congregation for consideration.
8. The multi-congregation parish agreement is formally accepted by the voters' assembly of each congregation.
9. The multi-congregation parish agreement is ratified by the voters' assembly of each congregation. Appropriate signatures are affixed to the document (see Document 6.2.9 - Sample Multi-congregation Parish Agreement).
10. The multi-congregation parish agreement is submitted to the District President for his signature.
11. The beginning of the multi-congregation parish arrangement is marked by a special worship service which includes the installation of the pastor as the pastor of the congregation he has not previously served.
12. The formation of the multi-congregation parish is communicated to the Dept. of Rosters and Statistics using LCMS Roster Form IV. The installation of the pastor is communicated to the Dept. of Rosters and Statistics using LCMS Roster Form III.

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Revised April 2017

**Supporting Documents**

LCMS Roster Form IV

LCMS Roster Form III

## 6.2.4 THE PROS AND CONS OF FORMING A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH

### PROS

- Can prolong the life of a congregation
- Preserves the identity of each congregation
- Enables the congregations to afford a pastor (meeting the costs of salary, benefits, housing, etc.)
- Can provide for good stewardship of time (allows for the combining of programs, activities, events)
- Convenience for members (i.e., minimizes disruption to the members/ministry in each congregation)
- When life is challenging for the pastor in one congregation, it tends to be a joy and blessing for him in the other congregation
- Fosters working together for the sake of God's mission
- Provides for the sharing of expenses (bulletins, S.S. materials, VBS materials, office equipment, etc.)

### CONS

- Loss of some congregational independence
- One congregation/ministry may be slighted
- Tendency toward maintenance ministry
- Congregations do not always get along with each other
- Scheduling tensions (e.g., worship, Sunday School, Confirmation, Ladies' Aid, etc.)
- Location of pastor's residence can be an issue
- Time wasted in travel between the congregations
- Budget and equity issues
- Communication challenges between the congregations
- Time-consuming duplications because many things need to be done more than once (e.g., Sunday bulletins, orders of service, etc.)
- The congregation in which the pastor's family will hold membership can be an issue

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### 6.2.5 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FORMATION OF A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH

1. What is the primary reason/need that brought you to discuss the possibility of forming a multi-congregation parish?
  
2. In your estimation how would cooperation between the congregations empower or inhibit the mission of
  - a. Each congregation?
  
  - b. The church-at-large?
  
3. What is peculiar to the history of the congregations that would make a multi-congregation parish arrangement
  - a. Highly likely?
  
  - b. Highly unlikely?
  
4. What areas of negotiation would need the least attention?
  
5. What areas of negotiation would need the most attention (What one thing might cause this process to deteriorate)?
  
6. In your estimation is a multi-congregation parish partnership feasible?

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**6.2.6 ITEMS WHICH NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH AGREEMENT**

**Pastoral Duties and Expectations**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Identification and negotiation of pastoral duties requested by each congregation in the parish
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expectations of time to be spent by the pastor in each congregation in the parish
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expectations of the pastor as parish and congregation administrator
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expectations of the pastor as confirmation instructor and spiritual overseer of the parish's educational program
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expectations of the pastor as visitor in members' homes and as pastor for shut-ins, the youth, inactive members, hospitalized members, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expectations of the pastor as counselor and advisor to congregational and parish committees and boards
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provision for periodic review and adjustment by the pastor and parish of their expectations

**Pastoral Support**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Determination of pastor's total compensation (i.e., salary, benefits, housing, utilities, professional expenses, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identification of each congregation's obligation for pastoral compensation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determination of the method of payment of compensation to the pastor (e.g., one or more congregations pays its obligation to one congregation in the parish, which then pays the pastor directly, or some other arrangement)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Location of the pastor's residence
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determination of the method for allocating professional expenses and mileage expenses to the congregations in the parish

**Multi-congregation Parish Organization and Structure**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Separate congregational voters' assemblies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joint oversight board or committee for the multi-congregation parish agreement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrangements for periodic review of the multi-congregation parish agreement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrangements for joint oversight and review of pastor's service
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordination of congregational schedules within the parish
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordination of congregational programs within the parish
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identifying times for Sunday or weekend worship services at parish congregations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provision for changing the Sunday or weekend worship services schedule on an annual or seasonal basis
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determination of the times of worship services for festivals and special occasions (e.g., Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Confirmation, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determination of method for selecting lay delegates to district conventions from the congregations of the parish

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### **6.2.7 FORMALIZING THE MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH AGREEMENT**

1. It should be drafted by a joint committee following discussion of the concerns/needs/expectations of each congregation.
2. It should be presented to the District President for consideration and feedback.
3. It should be revised, as necessary, by the joint committee.
4. It should be presented to each congregation for consideration and feedback.
5. It should be formally adopted by the voters' assembly of each congregation.
6. It should be ratified by the voters' assembly of each congregation.
7. It should be signed and dated by the following representatives of each congregation:
  - a. Chairman of the congregation
  - b. Chairman of the Board of Elders of the congregation
  - c. Secretary of the congregation
8. It should be signed and dated by the pastor (if one is serving one of the congregations under a call), which indicates his willingness to serve the other congregation(s) as their called pastor.
9. It should be signed and dated by the District President.

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Revised April 2017



## **6.2.8 SAMPLE AGENDA FOR A MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH EXPLORATION MEETING**

Opening Prayer

The Pros and Cons of Forming a Multi-congregation Parish

Discussion Questions regarding the Forming of a Multi-congregation Parish

Steps of Negotiation in Forming a Multi-congregation Parish

The Multi-congregation Parish Agreement

The Pastor

Dissolution of the Multi-congregation Parish Arrangement

The Timeline for Establishing a Multi-congregation Parish

A Trial Period

(possibly have the pastor of one of the congregations serve the other congregation(s) for six (6) months to a year prior before formalizing the arrangement)

Questions and Answers

Next Steps

Reviewed April 2015  
Revised April 2017

**6.2.9 SAMPLE MULTI-CONGREGATION PARISH AGREEMENT**

**between**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Lutheran Church of** \_\_\_\_\_  
**and**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Lutheran Church of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preamble**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church of \_\_\_\_\_, give thanks to God for their partnership in the Gospel since \_\_\_\_\_. Desiring to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to them, we agree to continue our partnership as a multi-congregation parish under the following provisions:

**The Pastor**

A joint meeting of the Voters' Assembly of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, and \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, will be held to call a pastor. Such action will not be delegated to a smaller group or an individual. The joint Voters Assembly will decide whether to request a seminary graduate or to call a pastor from the field.

The pastor will spend approximately [75]% of his time serving the needs of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church and [25]% of his time serving the needs of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church.

The pastor will reside in the parsonage located at \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_.

**Expenses related to the Multi-congregation Parish**

Expenses related to the multi-congregation parish agreement will be based upon the annual average worship service attendance of each congregation on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

For 2017, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church agrees to pay [75]% of the expenses related to the pastor and \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church agrees to pay [25]% of the expenses related to the pastor. These expenses include: salary and benefits (Concordia Health Plan, Concordia Retirement Plan, Concordia Disability and Survivor Plan).

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church will provide the parsonage and utilities for the pastor. The maximum utility allowance is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year. If the utility cost exceeds this amount, the pastor will be required to pay the additional cost.

\_\_\_\_\_ will provide the pastor with a cell phone.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church will bill \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church for its share of the expenses. \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church will remit this amount to \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church on a monthly basis.

## Mileage Reimbursement

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church will provide the pastor with a monthly car allowance.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran church will reimburse the pastor for business miles driven on behalf of the congregation at the current IRS rate.

Professional expenses (conferences, conventions, continuing education, periodicals, etc.) will be shared by the two congregations according to the percentage formula for the year in which they are incurred.

The pastor will be granted one day off per week.

The pastor's vacation time will be established by following the District's Salary Compensation Guidelines.

## **Times of Worship Services**

Members are encouraged to attend worship in either congregation when the times fit their schedules better.

### **Regular Sunday Worship Services**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church – 8:00 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church – 9:30 a.m.

These times may be adjusted by mutual agreement.

### **Midweek Advent and Lenten Services**

The congregations will alternate on an annual basis in hosting the Midweek Advent and Lenten Services.

In 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ will host the Midweek Advent Services

In 2018 \_\_\_\_\_ will host the Midweek Advent Services

In 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ will host the Midweek Lenten Services

In 2018 \_\_\_\_\_ will host the Midweek Lenten Services

### **Special Services**

Special worship services (e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, etc.) will be established on an annual basis by the Multi-congregation Parish Committee.

### **Joint Meetings**

Joint meetings of the voter's assemblies of the two congregations will be held at mutually agreeable times.

When possible the two congregations will work to hold joint meetings (e.g., Junior Confirmation, Sunday School Teachers, Vacation Bible School, etc.) to conserve the pastor's time.

**Multi-congregation Parish Committee**

A Multi-congregation Parish Committee will be formed. It shall consist of three (3) individuals chosen by the Voters' Assembly of each congregation.

The purpose of the committee is to monitor the Multi-congregation Parish Agreement and recommend needed changes.

The committee will meet twice a year.

**Dissolution of the Multi-congregation Parish Agreement**

In the future, if the advancement of the Gospel and the Kingdom of God appears to call for the dissolution of this multi-congregation parish agreement, a period of negotiation shall be entered into by each congregation. During this time each congregation will be called upon to assess and communicate what is best for their congregation. In addition, due consideration must be given to the service of the pastor so as to uphold the divinity of the call. If, following the period of negotiation, at least one of the congregations thinks dissolution of the agreement is in its best interest, a [75]% majority vote at one quarterly voter's meeting, with a [75]% majority ratifying it at the next quarterly voter's meeting, is required to dissolve the multi-congregation parish agreement. Should such a vote pass, the partnership will be dissolved one year from the date of ratification. It can be terminated in less than one year by mutual consent of all congregations which are part of the agreement.

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**Signed by Representatives of the Congregations and the District President**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, Board of Elders, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_, MN)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, Board of Elders, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_, MN)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman, Board of Elders, \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_)

**Ratified by the Voter's Assembly of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary of the Congregation) Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Ratified by the Voter's Assembly of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary of the Congregation) Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Ratified by the Voter's Assembly of \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church, \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary of the Congregation) Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved by the President of the \_\_\_\_\_ District**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed April 2015  
Revised April 2017

## 6.2.10 A SAMPLE MULTI-CONGREGATION AGREEMENT

PARISH AGREEMENT  
OF  
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, MARENGO  
AND  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, GLIDDEN

Trusting in the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ and in the leading of His Holy Spirit, who, through His Word, commends fraternal relationships saying: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Ps. 133:1), and convinced that Christ's kingdom is best served by our mutual cooperation, we, the members of

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Marengo, Wisconsin  
and  
Trinity Lutheran Church of Glidden, Wisconsin

do willingly commit ourselves jointly to call a pastor and cooperatively support the work of the Holy Ministry among us according to the following guidelines.

### A. PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

1. The parish council shall consist of the following fourteen representatives, seven from each congregation: the chairman of the voters assembly, the vice-chairman, the secretary, the treasurer, two members of the board of elders, and the chairman of the board of trustees.
2. The pastor, by virtue of his call and office, is to be present to exercise his God-assigned duties at all meetings of the parish council.

### B. PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

1. The chairman of each congregation, alternating by years, will serve as parish chairman who shall call and conduct the meeting of the parish council.
2. The parish secretary shall be the congregational chairman who is not the parish council chairman for that year. The parish secretary shall conduct any meeting of the parish council in the parish chairman's absence, and shall appoint a secretary *pro tem* for that meeting.

### C. PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. The parish council shall meet during December of each year. The annual meeting shall be held at the church building of the parish chairman: at St. Paul, Marengo, in odd numbered years and at Trinity, Glidden, in even numbered years.
2. Additional meetings of the Parish Council may be called by the Pastor or either congregation's Council. The location of such additional meetings shall alternate between the congregations.

#### D. PARISH COUNCIL DUTIES

1. Each congregation will share in the financial support of the pastor. Salaries, allowances, vacation time, worship services meeting schedules, etc. are to be proportionately proposed by the parish council in consultation with the pastor.
2. These proposals shall take effect upon approval of both voters assembly meetings in January, shall be subject to district guidelines for subsidized congregations as long as the parish is subsidized and all financial proposals which are approved shall be retroactive to January 1 of that year.

#### E. PARISH REPRESENTATION TO DISTRICT

The congregations will alternately provide the parish lay delegate to district conventions.

#### F. CALLING A PASTOR

To call a pastor, the voters' assemblies of the parish shall be subject to the Synod Constitution's procedure and meet jointly to elect a new pastor, the time of the call meeting to be determined by the congregations in consultation with the appropriate district officials.

#### G. DISSOLUTION OF ALIGNMENT

1. Dissolution of this parish alignment requires that the congregation desiring it gives the other congregation a six-month notice of intent unless the sister congregation, in the best interest of the work of Christ's kingdom, agrees to an earlier dissolution.
2. Should dissolution occur, both parties understand that the pastor must determine, after prayerful examination, which congregation God's Spirit desires him to serve and from which congregation he must resign.

#### H. CHANGES

The terms of this agreement are subject to review at the annual meeting of the parish council. Any changes must be made by mutual consent of the congregations' voters assemblies.

#### I. PASTORAL SERVICE

It is understood and agreed to by all parties to this agreement that the pastor called to serve the parish shall be a rostered member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, that he shall be called according to the normal procedures currently in force in the Synod, and that he shall be under the ecclesiastical supervision of the district president of the \_\_\_\_\_ District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

#### J. CONDUCT OF OFFICE

It is understood and agreed by all parties to this agreement that the pastor called to serve the parish shall conduct his office in conformity with the Holy Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and the teachings and practices of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

It is further understood and agreed that the called pastor shall not be required or expected to function in any way that is contrary to the Holy Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and the teachings and practices of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Finally, it is understood and agreed by all parties to this agreement that in the event of disagreement or controversy concerning the terms of this article, the local LCMS circuit visitor, as the representative of the district president, shall be contacted in order that he may assist the parish in resolving the disagreement or controversy.

**K. DISTRICT APPROVAL**

It is understood and agreed by all parties to this agreement that the president of the \_\_\_\_\_ District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall approve all the terms of this agreement before submitting a call list to the parish. It is also understood and agreed to that any changes in this agreement shall have the approval of the district president before being placed into force.

The above "Agreement" was duly approved by the voters' assemblies of

_____ Lutheran Church	_____ Lutheran Church
_____ Chairman	_____ Chairman
_____ Elder	_____ Elder
_____ Date	_____ Date

Reviewed April 2015  
Reviewed April 2017



**6.2.11 SPECIFIC TERMS OF AGREEMENT – SAMPLE**

FOR THE PARISH OF:

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, MARENGO, WISCONSIN  
AND  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, GLIDDEN, WISCONSIN

Term of the Agreement: May 22, 1983, to January 1, 1984

We hereby commit ourselves to the following terms:

1. Financial Support of Pastor's Salary, Housing, Insurances and Other Allowances:  
Trinity, Glidden - 50%  
St, Paul, Marengo- 50%
2. Weekly Schedule Guidelines: We mutually understand that the pastor, to be most effective, must be able to organize his own weekly schedule, but respectfully recommend the following:

2 days at Marengo, 2 days at Glidden (1 office day, 1 day for worship services)  
1 day off

3. Worship Services:

St. Paul, Marengo: Sundays at 10:30 a.m.  
Trinity, Glidden: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

All "special services" will be scheduled by the pastor in consultation with the respective board of elders.

St. Paul Lutheran Representatives:

Trinity Lutheran Representatives:

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Elder

\_\_\_\_\_ Elder

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Reviewed April 2015  
Reviewed April 2017

