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Letter of Appointment for Synod Authorized Ministry

+ *In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

This is a Letter of Appointment authorizing _____ to serve as a Synod Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament to _____.

The length of this authorization is _____ through _____.

The authorization may be renewed based upon the demonstrated need for its continuation, the request and consent of the congregation, the consent of _____ and the approval of the synod bishop. The synod bishop may revoke authorization at any time. _____ will have the title of Synod Authorized Minister (SAM) of Word and Sacrament. She or he has authorization to teach and preach the Gospel, conduct worship services, preside over the Sacraments of the church – Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, and provide ministry to the members of _____. The appropriate dress for a Synod Authorized Minister is alb and pectoral cross, not a clerical collar or stole. Synod Authorized Ministers are not to be addressed as “Pastor” but by their given name. This authorization is valid to the appointed location or parish only.

Limitations to this authorization include but are not limited to the following:

- The Synod Authorized Minister is not to offer counseling as part of this ministry;
- The Synod Authorized Minister will participate in on-going theological education (i.e. Region 3 SAM training, Fall Theological Conference); the congregation is expected to cover the costs for on-going continuing education.
- The Synod Authorized Minister will meet monthly with an ordained minister approved by the synodical bishop, for ongoing support, concerns, mentoring, etc.;
- The Congregation Council will participate in an annual review of this ministry with the Synod Authorized Minister and in conversation with the Bishop.
- The Synod Authorized Minister will participate in an annual meeting of Synod Authorized Ministers with the Bishop of this synod.

Authorized by: _____ Date: _____

The Rev. Amy J. Odgren
+Bishop of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America