

# **AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE OF SERVICES**

Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester PA *from* St. Peter's Lutheran Church, York PA

## **SUMMARY**

- St. Peter's Lutheran Church has agreed to provide pastoral services for Christ Lutheran Church beginning October 1, 2019
  - Thirty-day notice of termination must be given by either party.
  - This agreement will remain in force as long as all parties agree with any adjustments being made to reflect any necessary changes.
- During this time, the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel, will be stated pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.
  - Pastor Schlegel will lead worship, preach, and celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday mornings. For other special services, the members of Christ Lutheran Church will be invited to a combined worship service with St. Peter's Lutheran Church.
  - Pastor Schlegel will perform or designate someone to perform all official pastoral acts as needed.
  - Pastor Schlegel will attend the Congregation Council meetings and any Congregation Meetings of Christ Lutheran Church.
- The congregation of Christ Lutheran Church will commit to the Gospel by faithful participation in worship, learning, and fellowship activities and will support the ministry of the congregation through service and gifts.
- The congregation of St. Peter's Lutheran Church agrees to free Pastor Schlegel from some of her responsibilities to allow her time to serve as the pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.
- The members promise to pray for and support Pastor Schlegel as she ministers to the members of Christ Lutheran Church, brothers and sisters in faith.
- A joint Mutual Ministry committee will be formed with members of both congregations.
- A joint Steering committee of three people from each congregation and the pastor will meet quarterly to support this agreement.
- Pastor Schlegel and the Congregation Councils and other leadership of Christ Church and St. Peter's Church will continue to work with members of our synod staff and other synodical volunteers on future mission planning.
- The members of Christ Lutheran Church and the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church will support one another in prayer, in fellowship, in attendance of one another's joint worship and fellowship opportunities, in engagement in one another's ministry projects, and in communication through newsletters.
- They will work together to develop new ministries that will serve these congregations and the surrounding communities. They will continue conversations about other joint/shared ministries to which God may be calling them.

- For the pastoral services provided by Pastor Schlegel, Christ Lutheran Church will reimburse St. Peter's Lutheran Church \$3,200 per month.

### **Purchase of Service Cooperative Ministry Christ, Manchester and St. Peter's, York**

**Rationale:** We can fulfill the mission of God better together than separately.  
We share a common calling with other congregations to make disciples of all nations.  
We want to love our brothers and sisters in Christ and assist them in time of need.  
We want to be good stewards and live with the means God is providing.

**\*\*\*What it is not:** A merger or consolidation of congregations.

**What it is:** A relationship of two congregations with contracted shared staffing and programming.

**How it works:** One congregation (Christ) pays the other congregation (St. Peter's) for a portion of the staff time rendered and associated costs. In this instance, Pastor Schlegel will lead worship and conduct or supervise pastoral acts in both congregations, as well as be present for Council and Congregation meetings. In addition, she will equip healing and eucharistic ministers and, with them, provide visitation to homebound and hospitalized members of both congregations.

#### **What it means for St. Peter's:**

- We will receive \$3,200 per month from Christ to assist with compensation for the pastor's time and travel, vacation/emergency coverage and any material used.
- We will need to accept changes to our customary schedule:
  - Our service will begin with announcements at 8:45 a.m.
  - Pastor Schlegel will be available for conversation from 8:30-8:40 a.m. *before* the liturgy.
  - Council members will greet worshipers *after* the liturgy, so that Pastor Schlegel can travel to Manchester.
  - Town Hall meetings requiring the pastor's presence and input will need to be scheduled for Sunday afternoon or on a weeknight, or *we* pay for a supply pastor for Christ.
- We will need to take more responsibility for planning, visitation, inreach and outreach.

**What it means for Christ:**

- We will provide \$3,200.00 per month to St. Peter's to assist with compensation for the pastor's time and travel and any materials used.
- We will need to accept changes to our customary schedule:
  - Our worship time will need to change to allow Pastor Schlegel time to travel.
  - Our service will begin at 10:30 a.m. with announcements.
- We will need to take more responsibility for planning, visitation, inreach and outreach.

**What it means for both congregations:**

- When St. Peter's has a Sunday morning Congregation Meeting, Christ will have a supply pastor.
- Christmas Eve at Christ will be at 7 p.m. and at St. Peter's at 10:00 p.m.
- Other special services will be held jointly at St. Peter's, unless otherwise indicated or agreed.
  - Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil (St. Paul's), Easter Sunrise
- Vacation/Continuing Ed. Sundays will be staffed by the same supply pastor for both congregations.
- Opportunities to share in each other's programs will enrich our lives as disciples of Jesus.
- We must adjust our expectations of the pastor's time. She will be available for pastoral care and conversation by appointment or phone call but may not be available for social events or committee meetings.

**Who decides:**

The Congregations Councils met jointly in August and finalized the terms of agreement. Each congregation held a Special Congregation Meeting on September 15 to approve the agreement as proposed by each Council. The agreement goes into effect October 1, 2019.

**Questions:** Please talk with either Peggy Kling, Chris Kann, Pastor Schlegel, Greg Gross or Dan Stoup.