

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Creator!

I am so excited to write this letter to you, my colleagues and friends, about my call to the Community of Good Neighbors. We are exploring what it looks like to be grounded in the love and grace of God on the East Side of Buffalo, along with community partners such as Resurrection Village. You may be asking, “what does exploring mean?”. Valid question! And exploration is when a mission developer, along with the synod, does some intense and intentional listening and discernment about beginning a new worshipping community in an area.

We are following the legacy of Resurrection Lutheran Church who has faithfully worshipped God and served the community for many, many years. While that church as we knew it will no longer function as it did, and is under synodical authorization, we have the gift of true resurrection that comes from this new mission development and all of the possibilities we have to be a witness to God’s love and grace in our neighborhood.

Not only am I the Pastor of Community of Good Neighbors, but I will also be partnering with Resurrection Village to make sure all of the amazing ministry that has taken place in this space can continue to do so. I give thanks to God and to all of you for your support as I have discerned my call to ministry in this synod and grown into the Pastor I am today!

If you know me, you know I am not shy about asking for help. Resurrection Village Food Pantry is in need of supplies such as gloves, masks, and sanitizers. There is also some serious electrical work and other important building maintenance projects that must be done as soon as possible to keep our community safe.

I hope you will partner with me, whether that be in prayer or in financial support.

If you would like to know more about what we’re going on the East Side, visit cgnbuffalo.com, follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and give me a call!

In the peace that passes understanding,

Pastor Miranda Hammer

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