

St. Andrew Lutheran Church 3650 S. Honore Street Chicago, IL 60609

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November 8, 2015

Dear Chairman Taylor and Members of St. Andrew,

After much thought and prayer I have come to the conclusion that the time has come for me to announce my retirement from full time ministry and the office of Pastor here at St. Andrew. There are many reasons that I have come to this conclusion not the least of which is my ever increasing hearing loss and the fact that I will be 66 years old on my next birthday. I have chosen June 30, 2016 as the date of my official retirement.

I am announcing my retirement at this time to give the congregation the opportunity to call a pastor to replace me. It also gives the congregation the option to request a candidate from the 2016 graduating class of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and having him begin his work shortly after his graduation.

I have served St. Andrew since June 15, 1980. My ministry and my life have been here for 36 years. I pray you will respect and accept this decision. I also pray you will support and work with whoever becomes your new pastor so the work of the Lord at St. Andrew may continue.

In the Service of our Lord,

Douglas Semenske, Pastor St. Andrew Lutheran Church