



Lamont Koerner, Interim Lead Pastor  
Brandon Newton, Executive Pastor  
Steve Thomason, Family Faith Pastor

May 30, 2019

Greetings,

It is a *New Day Dawning* at Easter Lutheran Church. I am excited to announce that we are *Finding Our Way* and looking forward to an even better future because of your commitment to our church community!

My name is David Unmacht and I am honored to serve as President of the Vision Board for 2019-20. My wife, Mary, and I have been coming to worship here for over 25 years, and our children, Sarah, Matthew, and John, were all confirmed at Easter. This is my 5th year on the Vision Board. I, along with my colleagues\*, serve with passion, energy, and pride. As we transition leadership roles on the board, I want to thank Sandy Bull for her three years as President. Sandy led the congregation during times of change, and the demands on her time were extraordinary. She never wavered in her commitment and served with honor and excellence.

I am happy to note that Sandy has one more year on the board and will be chairing the Call Committee for our new Lead Pastor. A common question we receive is "When will the new Lead Pastor be selected?" It is difficult to predict at this time. When the Call Committee begins their work in June, we will know more.

This introductory letter has a purpose rooted in the core elements of who we are, and how we want to position ourselves as a congregation in search of an outstanding new Lead Pastor.

First, who we are. The new Lead Pastor will join a church with a strong mission *to grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ*. We have high standards of excellence as framed by our mission and vision, and carried out by our ministries. We hear this common response all the time: the reason people join Easter is the many opportunities to worship, volunteer, lead and serve, engage and participate, and grow in their faith. These qualities define who we are, what we do, and how we serve Jesus Christ. Our track record and reputation of *carrying on the work of Jesus Christ* will be very attractive to Lead Pastor candidates.

Second, how we position ourselves as a congregation. The reality is a church is a business. The business of our congregation is grounded in our pastors, staff, programs, and facilities. Although strong, we are interested in improving the business of our church. Over the past few weeks, you have heard our pastors speak about the *New Day Dawning* (short-term) appeal. The goal is to help position the business of our church as an attractive quality of Easter for Lead Pastor applicants.

Our operational budget and facilities require additional dollars to maintain and support our mission, vision and ministries. We have purposely established an aggressive goal — \$750,000 — to support our ministries and to make necessary repairs to our buildings and grounds at Easter by the Lake and Easter on the Hill. The needs of our ministries and facilities will not go away. They must be addressed at some point, and we think now is the right time.

On behalf of the Vision and Finance Boards, the pastors and staff, we ask that you consider making a pledge to help us position ourselves to attract the best and brightest Lead Pastor candidates from across the country. Easter Lutheran should hope for nothing less. Pledges are being received through Sunday, June 16 and contributions can be made through the end of this year. To make a pledge, contact Easter's Finance Director Darci Dawson at [DDawson@easter.org](mailto:DDawson@easter.org). If you have questions about the strategy or where the dollars will be allocated, please reach out to Interim Lead Pastor Lamont Koerner at [PastorLamont@easter.org](mailto:PastorLamont@easter.org). Will you consider joining my wife and me in making a pledge to the *New Day Dawning* appeal?

Thank you to all who have made a pledge or have already donated money to the appeal. This is an exciting time to be part of the future of our congregation! Thank you your leadership and support for our *New Day Dawning* and for all that you can do.

David Unmacht, Vision Board President

\* 2019-20 Vision Board Members: Renee Bartels, Wade Anderson, Stephen Gray, Mark Swanson, Cathie Ford, Sandy Bull, and Laura Leckband