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Menomonee Falls, WI
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9 June 2010

Atlantic District Scholarship Committee
c/o Mr. Peter Labenberg
171 White Plains Road
Bronxville, NY 10708

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for the financial and spiritual support you have provided to me and my family as we have prepared for the Office of the Public Ministry these last five years. It's hard to believe the end is so near.

Since July 1, 2009 I have served as vicar at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School in Menomonee Falls, WI under the supervision of Pastor Warren Granke. (www.grace-connect.org) The boys enjoyed attending a Lutheran Day School. Joelle and I were motivated by the challenges of ministry to a large suburban congregation. As the fourth straight vicar the people of Grace welcomed us with open arms and treated me as a valued member of the pastoral team. We loved being in southeast Wisconsin close to so many of our family and friends. It was nice to be able to stay home for the holidays.

At April's Call Day Service at Concordia St. Louis, I was called to be Associate Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, Crystal Lake, IL. (www.immanuelcl.org) It is a situation very similar to what we experienced here at Grace only about 2 hours south. We are thankful to continue to be able to send the boys to a Christian Day School and to be close to family and friends. In May I graduated from the Seminary pending completion of my vicarage on June 30th. In July we will welcome the third Neider child into the world just in time for an August 15th baptism/ordination/installation at Immanuel. We look forward to many family and friends joining in the celebration including our "home pastor" Adam Wiegand and his family from St. Paul's Lutheran, Saratoga Springs.

The Lord continues to bless us here as He has in the past. I thank God for the role you play in helping me prepare for service of God and His church. I ask that you keep us in your prayers as I begin ministry to His flock in Immanuel Lutheran, Crystal Lake.

Sincerely,

Erik D. Neider
Vicar

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