

TYPES OF PASTORAL MINISTRY

A **Bi-Vocational Minister (Worker-Priest)** is defined as follows: a theologically trained, certified, called, **ordained parish pastor** or **certified lay minister**, who by definition of his parish call fulfills his ministry by devoting some of his time to other employment, the income of which is a commensurate part of his financial compensation.

Certified lay ministers are most often trained at Concordia University in Mequon, Wisconsin.

A **Deferred Vicar** is a person, usually a second-career man, who is studying to be ordained. He has completed his academic studies at the seminary, is assigned to a congregation by the Council of Presidents Placement Committee. If the partnership works well for all, the congregation has the opportunity to call him as their permanent called pastor. If the Deferred Vicar is a second-career man, he often has insurance and some sort of other income.

A **Regular Vicar** is a person who has not completed his academic studies at the seminary. He is assigned to a congregation for one year. After that year, he returns to the seminary to complete his studies.

A **SMP (Specific Ministry Program) Vicar** is when a specific congregation partners with a person who has made application to this program at either of the LCMS seminaries. It is a definitive partnership between the congregation and the man. Once his application is accepted, he serves the congregation as a SMP Vicar for two years. He is also studying during that time. At the end of the two years and with the completion of his studies, he is ordained and serves that specific congregation as their pastor. Next, as an ordained pastor, he continues his studies for two additional years.

A **Seminary Candidate** is a man who is graduating from the seminary and ready to be called by a congregation. The Spring Placement is the largest class of Candidates. The next placement is in the fall. The fall and winter placements usually are low in numbers.

CALLING FROM THE FIELD

The office of the District President can issue you a **Call List** which would include pastors who are currently serving in a called position. The congregation appoints a Call Committee and they work with their congregation's Circuit Counselor or the District President or another District representative.

(Southern District Salary Guidelines are posted on our web site www.southernlcms.org.)

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