

Hello Immanuel Lutheran Family,

We have some exciting news to share. We're going back to Colorado! I have been issued a call to serve at St. John's Lutheran Church at their Renewal campus. We are so excited and grateful for this opportunity!



Renewal was started four years ago in the Highlands neighborhood in Denver. The church building is surrounded by a growing community with many young people relocating to Colorado. It sounds like an exciting young congregation that is looking to reach out to the people around them. They have already made us feel so welcomed and loved.



Call Day was a wonderful experience. The campus was buzzing with excitement and energy. My father flew in to be here for the service, and the rest of our friends and family were watching along with us on the livestream. It was such a joy to find out not only where we'll be serving, but also where our close friends will be going as well.

We will be finishing up our time here in St. Louis shortly. We have absolutely loved our time here at the seminary. We are soaking in our last few weeks with this community we love

so dearly with a schedule packed full of events: a luau-themed Springfest celebration, concluding students banquets, a skit night, women's get-togethers, graduation celebrations, and more. My graduation is on May 20. Afterwards, we'll finish packing up, visit family in Minnesota for a week, and then move to Denver. We will likely hit the ground running as my



ordination will be at Immanuel on June 5 and will be installed the following Sunday in Denver. We cannot wait to get started!

Melanie is finishing up with her job as an IT recruiter. We are thankful for the gift her employment was in providing for our family

during seminary. She is looking forward to being Talek's primary caregiver and working on her master's degree when we move to Denver.

Talek is growing like crazy! He has transitioned from a baby to a little boy. He is playful, exploratory, and constantly on the move. His vocabulary continues to blossom, including several animal noises (although his "meow" sounds more like "money"). He now folds his hands to pray, shakes hands when we say, "Nice to meet you," and he knows where his nose, eyes, mouth, hair, tummy and belly button are. He has gotten a little pickier regarding food, but still eats unbelievable amounts of any and all fruit (we cannot imagine how much he is going to eat when he is a teenager!). He tries to get us to go outside as often as possible



and will get very snuggly when he's tired. All of his growth has come with a little bit of the signature toddler "angst," but we are loving it all nonetheless.

As we conclude our time at Concordia Seminary, we want to thank you for coming alongside this journey with us. We have the blessing of leaving seminary and heading into ministry without any debt, and this is only possible because of your generous support. We know that we could not have made it through without your love, prayers, and support. We hope to cross paths somewhere down the line. If you find yourself in the Denver area, come say hi! We wish you the best and pray God's blessings on the many ways you continue to serve him.

God's Richest Blessings,

*PJ, Melanie, & Talek Aarsvold*

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