



Tanque Verde Lutheran Church
A Community Church

Jim Cords, Lead Pastor
Fred Heinrichs, Director of Operations

April 8, 2010

Dear Bishop Talmage, David Strong, and TVLC Congregation,

We have struggled mightily since the decisions of the ELCA at its churchwide assembly in August, 2009. I not only disagree with the decisions that were made regarding human sexuality, but I very strongly disagree with the way those decisions were made.

I firmly believe that the Lutheran Confessions, which I have vowed to follow, are very clear that salvation is through Jesus Christ alone. I believe they are very clear that the Bible is the only authority to which all teachings and teachers are subordinate. I see the ELCA moving away from these convictions and I do not wish to do so. I fully recognize that we are brothers and sisters in Christ, and that I am not the one who will judge the conduct or beliefs of others.

It has been a privilege to serve at TVLC and I am honored to have worked with this amazing body of believers. Thank you for the many many ways you have lifted others up in Jesus' name. Marilyn and I are enormously grateful for the generosity that has been put forth in our mission together. It is my sincere hope that the future will bring many opportunities in which we can stand together in ministry to support the work of Christ in the world.

I have however decided that my Calling requires that I not continue as a pastor in the ELCA. Effective April 30, 2010; I therefore submit my resignation from the clergy roster of the ELCA and from the position of Lead Pastor and Tanque Verde Lutheran Church.

I will be joining Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ as a pastor on their roster and serving within that community of Christ's Church in the world.

May God richly bless you all as you seek to serve our risen Lord!

Respectfully,

James D. Cords
Lead Pastor

8625 E. Tanque Verde Road • Tucson, AZ 85749
Phone (520) 749-1606 • Fax (520) 749-9814
Email tvlc.office@tvlc.org • Web www.tvlc.org
Preschool/K (520) 749-1738 • Email preschool@tvlc.org

Our Mission:
To Know
Christ Jesus
and Make
Him Known