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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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October 20, 1971

To the Members of
Trinity Lutheran Church
8 SE Pleas-Valley Road
West Bend, Wisconsin 53095

Dear Christian Brethren:

It was with deep regret that we learned of the decision of your congregation to sever its affiliation with the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

We realize full well that there are problems of church doctrine and practice within our synod which have not as yet been officially resolved. In fact we share a number of your valid concerns.

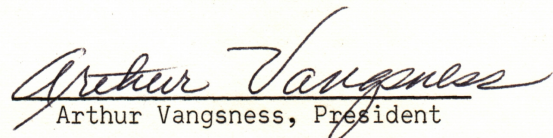
On the other hand, we are also convinced that our role at present is to strengthen the hands of our president and his administrative assistants in their efforts to keep our synodical doctrine and practice in line with Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. We feel that constituent congregations owe much to the synod which for so many years and in so many ways has acted on their behalf and for their mutual good, and that at a time of stress such as the synod is experiencing now we need to stand together to help each other in finding evangelical and God-pleasing solutions to the problems facing our church.

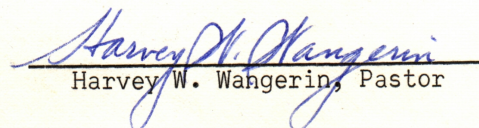
Although this may sound unrealistic, we would respectfully hope that you might give further consideration to the important role your congregation could play as a reinstated member of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

In the meantime, be assured that the concerns expressed here are voiced in a spirit of Christian brotherly love.

Yours in our Savior's name,

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
GLENDALE, WISCONSIN


Arthur Vangness, President


Harvey W. Wangerin, Pastor