

Harrison

Harrison hailed from Champaign. Yet the easy way did not seem to be for him. There he was in Normal, majoring in Human Resources at Illinois State!

You might not expect Harrison to be a Lutheran today, let alone a Lutheran pastor. He did not expect it himself. In college he was a self-described “secular Jew.” The way to Christianity was not easy for him.

Really, it never is, for any sinner. We all deserve only God’s wrath. Any Christian can say, “I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to Him.”

Harrison read those words in Luther’s Small Catechism, which he got as a gift from Pastor Damon Jirovek of Wittenberg Lutheran Center at ISU. The Holy Spirit called Harrison by the Gospel. By God’s grace, Harrison believed in Christ his Lord. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran church in 2003. Today Harrison describes the ‘Berg not just as a house of worship, but as his true “home.” It was through the campus ministry at Wittenberg, he says, that the Holy Spirit saved his soul.

Also at Wittenberg he met his future wife, Lisa Fornoff, whose home church is Trinity Lutheran in Manito. And still more changes were in store! Pastor Jirovek took Harrison and his friend and fellow Wittenberger Tim Lorenz on a road trip to Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne – where Harrison ended up enrolling after he graduated from ISU in 2006. He was ordained in 2010. He now serves the Lord as pastor of two congregations each named St. Paul Lutheran Church, a dual parish in Winside and Carroll, Nebraska.

The Lord used your congregation’s gifts to the Central Illinois District to put Wittenberg Lutheran Center in place and maintain its ministry, for folks like Lisa and Harrison. Thank you!

“I thank my God . . . because of your partnership in the gospel” (Phil. 1:3-5).

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