

**Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**Epiphany 3 – “It’s Your Call” Sunday**

In 1975, Pastor Carl Onofrio, Lutheran chaplain at the University of Calgary invited me to consider going to seminary. My response was to laugh at the preposterousness of the idea. Who me? I wasn’t holy enough. How could I be good enough to be a pastor? I talked about my misgivings and questions. Who would have known then that not only would I become ordained but 25 years later end up as a seminary professor!

For most, the call to ministry (either ordained or diaconal) does not come in a flash of lightening. Usually, the call to ministry comes slowly, gently and vaguely. Perhaps you have considered it occasionally or someone else has encouraged you. Most of us initially dismiss the possibility or say “Maybe, later.”

These days, seminary students come in all shapes, sizes, ages, etc. Some come with previous work experience and others right out of university. Some are married, others single, some divorced or widowed; some with children and even grandchildren. There is no “right” way to be a seminarian.

Is God calling you to consider full-time ministry? Is God calling you to encourage someone else? God continues to call through the Word, the Sacraments and the gathered community, individuals to lead God’s church. I encourage you to consider the possibility. Take with your pastor, visit one of our Lutheran seminaries in Waterloo or Saskatoon, or contact your synod office. Maybe God is calling you. Maybe it’s not so preposterous after all!

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