

### **Rev. Jason Adams (WTS '14)**

Rev. Jason Adams graduated from Wartburg Seminary this May and was ordained on June 5, 2014 and installed three days later at Reformation Lutheran Church in Las Vegas, Nevada. Pastor Adams grew up in Florida and lived in Las Vegas prior to seminary. He and his wife Ivy have three children. Pastor Adams says of his new call, "I never thought our family would return to Las Vegas for first call, but my training and passion for mission development prepared me, and the timing was right too for this church to call a full-time pastor. The conversations that I had with the Director for Evangelical Mission while on internship helped me articulate the kind of ministry I felt called to, and when the opportunity came up to serve a church in the Grand Canyon Synod, they knew me well."

Pastor Adams says he feels well prepared by Wartburg Seminary for the ministry he is undertaking at his congregation in Las Vegas, "The academic curriculum at WTS is rigorous and the theological training I received there opened my mind and heart and gave me a vocabulary for speaking the faith to others, witnessing to my faith experience, and faithfully proclaiming the gospel. The experiences I had doing ministry in places like Georgetown, Guyana, Pine Ridge, South Dakota, rural ministry, college town ministry remain as I enter into ministry in the inner city." He adds, "The relational ministry that I learned at Wartburg prepared me for what I'm doing now, which so far has consisted of welcoming and walking with people, getting to know them, and listening to their stories."

What excites Pastor Adams most about his new ministry, he shares, is "serving as the pastor for a church engaged in an intentional process of revitalization. We have so many assets with which to begin this new effort. I see us spending time in prayer, studying scripture, and listening to what God is doing in our context. The needs in this community are great, and I'm excited to see how we allow ourselves to be centered in worship, and then led by the Spirit out into the world to serve those around us. Already I've been spending time with other local pastors, local organizations and advocacy groups, as well as community leaders actively serving here. Building an understanding for the people we serve and the needs around us will prepare us for building new relationships as we do ministry together."