Pastor Lynne Ogren, Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, Montana

The Montana Synod has been fertile ground for me to grow into this role of pastor. I came out of two previous careers, public school teaching and Associate in Ministry serving a congregation in Washington. Both of these roles planted the seeds for ordained ministry, and in this synod, surrounded by the encouragement of clergy colleagues, gifted Lay Pastoral Associates, and our Synod Staff I am blessed to be serving my first call here. In this year when we celebrate 50 years of women’s ordination in the Lutheran Church, I am grateful for the women pastors who paved the way for me to enter this role much more easily than that those in the first few decades. Change in the church seems to take longer than it should, so may we continue to open doors to the gifts and callings of all people.