

# Rev. McMiller's Ordination for Italy

**A few weeks ago I celebrated my ordination into the Pastoral Office.**

Needless to say, it was one of the most important days of my life. As I think back on my years of church work (the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Illinois and Wisconsin), I am thankful for my experience and I look forward to future service as a Pastor in Italy.

Personally, the most exciting part of the work in Italy is the four men in three cities studying to be Pastors. As I reflect on my ordination, a large part of my call is to be an example of the Pastoral Office to these men. Even now from the United States, I meet with them regularly to mentor them in their online Seminary studies. In our conversations, I remember Paul's words to Timothy, "*I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands*" (2 Tim 1:6).

**Looking at the bottom picture to the right, I have a picture of these four men.** Sitting back left (hand in the air) we have Michael Morizio. Michael lives with his wife Nancy (back right) on the East coast of Italy. **Both Michael and Nancy are already amazing Christian missionaries to their friends and neighbors.**

In front of Michael is Luiz who lives in the Northeast Corner of Italy. **Luiz is also studying to be a Pastor and has been a member of the Lutheran Church in Italy for 5 years...** one of our oldest members! **In front we have Lorenzo (front left) and Joshua (front right) who are old friends.** Lorenzo is working hard on putting together the first ever Lutheran hymnal in Italian. Joshua, on the other hand, moved to Italy when he was 12 years old and prayerfully considers being a Pastor to both Italians and the very large Pakistani community in Italy. Both Joshua and Lorenzo live in Rome.

As I continue to create a network of supporting Christian individuals and congregations across the United States, my family and I are thankful for all of you. Your Christian sacrificial support and prayers make my work possible. **I am especially thankful for all the hard working folks at Mission Central like *Ol' Missionary Gary* and the *Office of International Missions*** who tirelessly work to connect us with individuals and congregations. Many of you have already generously supported my work through one of those two organizations. We thank you for your continued partnership! **At the bottom left corner of this August Newsletter is more information.** God's richest blessings to you all!



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