

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Minot, ND  
[www.anchoredminot.com](http://www.anchoredminot.com)



# The Acts of the Apostles

The Ministry of the Gospel in a Messy Church & Conflictive World

Acts 1:12-2:26

There are no modern-day Apostles. Despite what modern-day charismatics say, nobody today is an Apostle. It is not a modern-day office in the church. No super-Apostles! The original Apostles existed in the first century and were chosen by Christ. When the original Apostles died, that was the end of the Apostles.

And so, there is technically only one office in the church – the office of pastor. The church has created other offices, though, but these offices are created under human ordinances - for the sake of good order and serving the church. For example, Directors of Christian Education, District Presidents, Circuit Visitors, Worship Directors, Synodical Presidents, Trustees, Acolytes, and so forth have been created to serve the local church. They are respected and honored for the service that they give to the church. But unlike the office of pastor, these offices do not have the Word &

Sacrament attached to them. They are not connected to a local altar and a local church pulpit.

So, concerning preaching and teaching, it is essential to note that all Christians are given the joyful ability to confess the Word of God. Parents are especially given the calling to teach the Word of God to their children. However, it is important to note that just as the Apostles were once called, Pastors are called likewise called to preach the Gospel, baptize, loose sins, and administer the sacrament of the altar. This is the office of public ministry that is to be conducted 'publicly' in the church by men 'called' into the office of the ministry. And the office of pastor is a ministry of service to Christ and Christ's blessed sheep. Pastors are mere servants of the Word and the Church.



