



Pastor's e-Note

Morristown United Methodist Church (1/24/2018)

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the peace of Christ!

Congratulations to all of our church leaders whom we dedicated last Sunday. We are blessed to have a group of committed, gifted and dynamic servant-leaders who are serving as the hands, hearts and feet of Christ through our vital congregation. God bless each of them!

If someone asked you to name what your passion in life is, how would you answer? If you are a baker, you might say that your passion is baking the most delicious bread for people. If you are a doctor, you might say that your passion is making people healthy again. If you are a teacher, your passion might be in teaching your students all the knowledge and wisdom. If you are a disciple of Jesus Christ, you might say that your passion is living, loving and serving like Christ Jesus.

As for me, my passion is connecting people to God and God's amazing grace through Jesus Christ. Between the last Christmas season and this Epiphany season, I have spent some quality time with God to review my passion in ministry and reflect on my specific mission for the remaining years of my active ministry. And I have come up with the following mission focus: "My mission is to serve to create 'a future with hope' for next generations and all God's people of various backgrounds and walks of life in Jesus Christ."

I find myself focusing on what God has stored for me in the future rather than dwelling on my past. I am on the constant forward movement with God into God's future. Our past is a wonderful teacher (we learn from our yesterdays), but we live for the present and future.

Our church's mission is "to become God's Beloved Community, Change Lives and Transform Communities." It is a concise and powerful statement on what God is calling us, as the body of Christ, to be and to do. I invite you to pray for your church with this mission statement in mind.

This Thursday will be the last Noon Concert for the season. It will feature. "A Musical Heritage," which includes cello, piano and violin. Their program is entitled "Nature as Reflected in Music." These folks have performed here several times in the past and are always well-received. Our heartwarming thanks to Sarah Michal, the Concert Series Coordinating Team, and all the volunteers for making this season's Noon Concert so delightful and memorable.

This coming Saturday, you are invited to a special movie night in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. We will show the movie entitled "War Room." We will have a pot luck dinner together, so please bring your favorite dishes to share with your friends. For more information, please contact Holly Dinneny.

As several of you know, I will be taking a couple of weeks of rest and renewal time from January 24th to February 7th. I will return to my church office on February 8th. Pastor Charles Perez, Jack Scharf and Kris Hansen will serve as a pastoral care team to provide any urgent need you might have. Please contact the church office.

Until I see you again in a couple of weeks, please stay warm and well. May God's grace and peace be with you always.

Peace and Grace,

Pastor Brandon