



Pastor's e-Note

Morristown United Methodist Church (9/27/2018)

Greetings to you from the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. I am attending the Leadership Institute 2018 this week. About 1,800 pastors and church leaders from 44 states and other countries are participating in it this year. The Church of the Resurrection (or COR) is the largest United Methodist Church with 20,000 active members. It offers several worship services – traditional and contemporary – in three beautiful worship centers. Recently, it added an on-line worship service with about 800 faithful participants. FYI, Matt and Jacqueline Zeller, who are active members of our church, came from COR.

The core purpose of COR is “build a Christian community where non-religious and nominally religious people are becoming deeply committed Christians.” Its vision is “to be used by God to Change Lives, Strengthen Churches, and Transform the World.” And the church states that “OUR JOURNEY is To Know, Love and Serve God.”

Pastor Adam Hamilton, who wrote many books and study guides, started this church 28 years ago when he was only 25. He had no money, but he was blessed with a wife and two young daughters...and lots of vision and passion for ministry. He started his worship service in a local funeral home with 90 people and chose the name “the Church of the Resurrection” for his new church.

I was struck by the quality of the very best hospitality ministry by its volunteers. Each participant in the Leadership Institute is surrounded by the prayers of three members of COR every day this week (that is 5,400 praying partners). Its bathrooms and classrooms are spotless. Both traditional and contemporary services are providing inspiring worship by connecting each worshipper to God. Serving others is its core value.

I am taking workshops on worship and church finance and will share my learning and resources with you later. Please keep this Leadership Institute and its participants and leaders in your prayers.

Several youth from our church and Nueva Esperanza will be attending this year's IGNITE Youth Celebration Gathering in the Wildwood Convention Center. Thanks to Pastor Charles Perez, Hayoung (our new pastoral intern) and other leaders who are serving as chaperones. About 1,300 youth from many United Methodist churches in New Jersey will be attending. God bless them!

This coming Sunday, we will be blessed to hear a message from Jack Scharf, our own Certified Lay Minister, on "Miracles Everywhere: Courage." Please come and hear his inspiring message.

On Sunday, we will also be participating in "The Morristown Fall Festival" from 12 noon till 5:00 p.m. We will have an informational booth for our community friends. We are still looking for more volunteers who can greet and share our ministry brochures. It is a great way to connect with people. Please contact Jack Scharf, this year's Fall Festival volunteer coordinator, if you can help.

I will be returning to New Jersey Friday night. I look forward to seeing you on Sunday. In the meantime, may the joy and peace of the Lord be with you and have a blessed weekend. See you in church.

Blessings,

Pastor Brandon