



NOTES FROM PASTOR JIM, YOUR TRANSITION PASTOR Sunday, March 18th

In this column each Sunday I will be sharing some personal news, reflections about this time of transition we are in, and highlighting what is and will be happening in our congregational life these days. So here goes this week:

- With the Council's approval, beginning with April, I am instituting a **different way of filling all the slots for the worship teams each week**. The present method is not working well. In the monthly MESSENGER Eli, our Secretary, will fill in the names for all the ministry tasks needed for Sunday worship that month. These will be with folks who have indicated a willingness to serve in specific areas. She will no longer be waiting for people to sign up for the various tasks. If one cannot do the ministry task assigned for a particular Sunday, it will be his/her responsibility to exchange with someone or find a substitute. The email reminder each worship servant receives each week will contain an attachment with persons listed who have indicated a willingness to serve in that particular area. Their contact information will be included. You will still have an opportunity to volunteer in advance or communicate to Eli dates you are not available to serve.
- Our **last scheduled open Listening Sessions** (one is planned specifically for our youth right after Easter) **are TODAY** between services and after the late service. Folks who have attended one of these have expressed appreciation for the opportunity to process what has happened around Pastor DJ's sudden resignation as well as look to the future with humility and boldness, with tenacity and surrender. Pastor Beth Marie Halvorsen, who is leading these Sessions, has some excellent skills in helping congregations move through their grief to reengage in God's mission with hope and new vitality. If you cannot attend one of these Listening Sessions but would like to still do so, please let me know. We can schedule an additional Session.
- Several folks in our midst are thinking about or have indicated they would **like to officially join House of Prayer's ministry in the near future**. We are looking to do this on a Sunday in April. If you are one of those folks, please speak with me. My contact information is on the front of this worship folder.
- **The Sunday Adult Class—"Reformation 2107: Re-fermenting the Church"** continues next Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Last week we engaged in "A look at what happened in 1517" using two brief videos by Pastor Ron Rude, ELCA Campus Pastor at the University of Arizona. You can access these by going to youtube.com, entering the name of the class, and then "Ron Talks 1A and 1B". Next Sunday's class will deal with "What has happened in the 500 years since?" **The Thursday Adult Bible Study** at 10am will focus on Mark's Passion Narrative (14:1-15:47). Both are led by yours truly and both are in the library/conference room upstairs.
- **My office hours** this week are similar to last week—**Tuesday**, 1-5pm; **Wednesday**, 3-6pm; **Thursday**, 11:30-4pm; **Saturday**, noon-3pm. Barring an emergency or a need to do pastoral care in the community, I should be in the office and available. I am available at other times as well by appointment. A reminder—the quickest way to reach me is by text or call to my cell phone—208-571-6309. I check emails (jamesggrunow@gmail.com) only a couple times a day.