



NOTES FROM PASTOR JIM, YOUR TRANSITION PASTOR Sunday, May 27th

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:

In this column for these next 4 Sundays, I will continue 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 during these days.

- On this **Festival of the Holy Trinity**, we are invited to listen in on a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, a leader of the 1st Century people of God (John 3:1-17). How will WE respond to this conversation? Will we hoist our sails and catch the Wind, the Spirit of God, blowing in the great Sea of Life?
- By now you have had two opportunities to meet and greet **Pastor Eric Youngdahl and his family**. He is being recommended to you by the Call Committee to serve as the next pastor here at House of Prayer. I hope you have been able to attend one of these gatherings. If not, a handout containing a brief bio of Pastor Eric is available from the ushers. Next Sunday at 10:45 a.m., the Congregation gathers for a special meeting to vote on the recommendation. A two thirds majority is required to call Pastor Eric. No proxy or absentee voting is permitted by our constitution. So, do come and express your wishes.
- If you were not here last Sunday, I want to let you know we **prayed for the ten persons by name** who lost their lives in the Santa Fe, Texas shooting a week ago Friday (the 18th). They are Cynthia **Tisdale**, Ann Perkins (both teachers), Aaron Kyle McLeod, Angelique Ramirez, Chris Stone, Jerod Conrad Black, Kimberly Jessica Vaughn, Shana Fisher, Christian Garcia, and Davila Skeikh (Pakistani Exchange student).
- **This was my prayer at the very beginning of our worship experience:** *O Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness, blow into the lives of these families and friends who have lost loved ones with your gentle breeze. We grieve their losses with them this day. Blow into the lives of people all over this land. Bring an end to these senseless deaths that are all too frequent these days in our nation. Bend the hearts and wills of those in leadership to address gun violence in new and effective ways. In Jesus's name, Amen.*
- **Tom Williams and Geri Spratlin** were HOP's voting members at the Synod Assembly last weekend in downtown Houston. They are bubbling over to share some of what they experienced. Watch for their coming "testimony."