

## From your Moderator



Restoration is busy! It's a good busy. It indicates vitality, enthusiasm and most of all dedication. As we approach 2020 when we celebrate our 200 year anniversary a lot of things are in place and in motion. In place we have a new Minister who already has made a significant impact. Reverend McKinley has been active in a lot of areas, chief among them in my mind is with Pastoral care, an area that we have not been good at in the last couple of years. I've always said that we are judged first by how we take care of each other and how we give consolation and comfort to those who cannot be with us because of personal hardship including sickness. Additionally, Reverend McKinley's preaching rarely fails to inspire us. He has diligently provided us diverse theological lenses to look at our world including his own Christian lens.

Also in place we have an amazing cohort of worship associates that in every measure provide us with imaginative and relevant worship services. Our music under Jane H. is arguably some of the best music in the region. Our building & grounds team keep our building in good shape, including the mechanicals of the building. It's reassuring that every time we enter our facilities the the room temperature is comfortable, they are relatively clean and the outside of the building is nicely maintained.

There also is the movement for a potential name change for our congregation. There currently is a process that is happening that will determine if we change our name or not. Understandably this movement is creating some anxiety and perhaps tension. Everyone should rest assured that the process will be transparent and fair, while your church leadership along with the Name Change committee will make every effort for all to have a voice. We will adhere to our democratic process.

This all brings me to our financial resources. By the time you read this newsletter you will have already gotten your pledge packets. They're a little different this year and the pledge drive itself will be a little different. Our theme this year "We're on our way" which is indicative of where we are now and that we are on our way to our 200th anniversary. We plan to hold a number of early Sunday morning breakfast where members and friends can come and see how "sausage is made" at Restoration. In other words to see and hear from the folks that manage and coordinate major parts of our budget. We will end our drive with a celebratory meal at the church.

Our focus for the pledge drive this year is to maintain our vitality, energy and momentum and to ensure that we can keep our Minister to complete the second year of his contract with us.

We want Reverend McKinley to remain with us.

So in closing I want to thank everyone for what you do to keep our church family thriving, energetic, and vital. Stay tuned for more information about our upcoming pledge drive and also the process around our potential name change.

*Yours in Service, Tim S.*