



March 1, 2021

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

During this time of Lent, we are focusing our worship services on the big picture of God's story in the world. Sometimes our storylines within the narrative take us to unexpected places. A little more than four years ago I had no idea my path would bring me to Corry. As United Methodists, our pastors are always under appointment, one year at a time, meaning that each year we can be moved.

I announced in the services last week that I am being reappointed to another church starting July 1st. Beginning on that date, I will be serving Cabot United Methodist Church, which is near Butler, PA. Our Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and the District Superintendents feel that my gifts and experience will be a good fit with that congregation and its ministries.

I have been sensing that it was time for a change this year. I feel like I have done the things I know how to do to move us forward. I think you will benefit from a new leader, and I will benefit from being in a new church. I asked the Bishop and the cabinet to help me in that discernment process and see if that was the right step at this time. They believe this is God's leading for this coming season.

The Bishop and District Superintendents are now in the process of discerning the pastor who will be a good fit to lead this congregation into the next phase of your ministry in the Kingdom of God. Our DS of the

Erie-Meadville District, Dennis Swineford, will be meeting with the Corry First's Staff-Parish Relations Committee in the coming weeks to talk about this church's vision, hopes, and desires for ministry.

When the new pastor comes into that role, I trust you will welcome him or her with love, with kindness, and with your support as the leader God has brought here for the next stage. I invite you to be praying for the process of discernment in making the appointment, as well as for the person who will be coming, especially since he or she does not yet know they will be moving here.

I treasure the friendships, the memories, and the ministry we have done together over these nearly 4 years. I know that God will continue to work through you as the congregation of Corry First. He is always faithful to his promises. We don't know where our storyline will take us or what our paths will be, but we know that God weaves it all together for his plan for the world.

In Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jonathan Fehl". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Pastor Jonathan Fehl