

Pastor's report: 11/8/18

Here are some of the highlights of the past 2 months:

- My installation in October and hosting the AMC gathering here in November have been life affirming events for myself and the congregation, I hope. Both involved significant work together as a church body and with others outside our doors, while welcoming many into our space of worship and fellowship.
- I continue to connect with the broader community through attending inter-faith ministry events (Inter-faith luncheon; CROP walk planning; community round table discussions surrounding faith and how we shape our faith communities; Shabbat service at Brit Shalom) and meeting with community religious leaders, informally, (lunches with Bonnie Smeltzer and David Ostrich) to develop relationships and increase my understanding of the wider community.
- Ben and I meet every other week to process our work, especially focusing on the mission of 3rd Way Collective.
- Attended Boundaries Workshop at Akron Mennonite Church (hosted by Atlantic Coast Conference). This workshop is mandated by MCUSA for all credentialed leaders.
- Attended AMC pastor's gathering in Bedford, PA, as a way of supporting and receiving support from other AMC leaders.
- Meet with elders and leadership team to discern needs within the congregation and how to best support one another as the body of Christ.
- Meet with worship committee to plan services; taking a deeper dive into what worship means and how we intentionally live out our beliefs through our weekly worship time.
- Met with Children and Youth Committee to support their work in building programs for our children.
- Met with Meetinghouse committee to assess needs and joyously participated in helping to clean and spruce up our building.
- Brought communion to several members of the congregation who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship.
- Continue to meet individually with members/attenders to learn to know one another and support their journey of faith-led living.
- Prepare sermons (probably my single most time intensive activity).
- Continue to assess where we are as a community and what our needs are, inside and outside our building.
- Pray for us: individually, as a community and in our work in the wider world.