

Ponderings from Pastor Paul

September 2018

"... be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to God in your hearts, giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of Jesus the Christ." Ephesians 5:18

We are being filled with the Spirit! This summer, by combining our distinctly different worship services into one, an opportunity was created for our family of faith to unite and sing new songs with one voice. It has allowed us to explore new forms of worship and be bound together in Spirit in worship, in song, and in fellowship. We gave thanks for what God is doing in, and from, this place in our ministry and lives. While we have loved this opportunity to bring our community together, we are filled with the Spirit and are ready to KICK-OFF our new ministry year!

Beginning September 9 (RALLY DAY) we will resume our two-service worship schedule (8:30am & 11:00am). And... be on the look-out for a future alternative worship service opportunity!

We are being filled with the Spirit! Our Peace United Church of Christ of staff has worked faithfully to develop focused ministries, for all ages, for the 2018-2019 ministry/program year. Over the summer we have dreamed, planned, worked tirelessly, and dreamed again to create awesome experiences to engage our lives and faith! Exciting times are ahead! The planning is now complete and are working full-speed to engage our faith family in dynamic ministry in new shapes and forms! :-)

We are being filled with the Spirit! Through the incredible support of so many Peace UCC members, we will have an exciting new Faith Formation year for our children, youth, and adults – and wonderful new opportunities for intergenerational ministry where diverse ages will work and learn together. There will also be numerous opportunities for engagement in/with mission experiences and special presentations and activities!

We are being filled with the Spirit! Over the last couple of years, we have been discerning ways to develop and focus on a specific ministry (a Shared Cause) that our faith family can work on together. We feel we have been filled with the Spirit to develop a food ministry to feed children and families with a simple/healthy meal, and provide fellowship and community opportunities for fellowship and faith. Food-Fellowship-Faith!

We are being filled with the Spirit! We continue to provide learning and engagement opportunities to better understand the needs of our brothers and sisters on the border. We will be providing intergenerational opportunities to widen our understanding of immigration issues, and how our faith informs our response. We will also be providing trips and ways to participate in awareness events. Be on the watch for "Lens on the Border" opportunities.

So, be filled with the Spirit! AND... get ready to engage, sing and give thanks to God for everything God is calling us to do!

Peace,

Pastor Paul