



PARADE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTOR JIM'S THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS - FEBRUARY 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Loving God! Have you ever considered how much you've changed over the years? On other hand, perhaps you think you haven't changed at all.

Speaking of change, this past week I spent time reading through our most recent "Church Pictorial Directory". I looked at the photos, read the captions and read through the names on the membership lists. It was nice to see all of the smiling faces!

Changes, people's names change, people get married, children grow up. People get older, yet their faces and smiles remain the same. Some people are still attending our Church; it appears others have moved away. Some people have gone on to Heaven to be with our Loving God. There are new people, new faces, new smiles, and new babies. So many memories, for so many people, so many changes!

Then I realized what hasn't changed at all? ***GOD'S LOVE NEVER CHANGES!*** God loves us the same today as He did yesterday. God loves us the same in 2017 as He did in the when our churches began years ago.

I also realized something about God never changes. ***GOD HOPES WE CHANGE EVERY DAY!*** God wants us to love Him more today than we did yesterday. God wants us to love our neighbors, and our family, more today than yesterday. God wants us to understand His purpose for our lives more today, than yesterday. God wants us to serve Him more today than yesterday!

So my Friends, perhaps we should ask this question every day, "Dear God, what new and exciting plan do You have for me today?" Putting it another way, perhaps every day we should wake up and say. "God, Thank You for giving me another day to serve You. Then we should ask God, "What is the blessing You have for me today?" and "How do You want me to be a blessing to others today?"

I hope each of us change each day, as our understanding of God's love deepens, and we discover all of the new and exciting things He wants us to do for Him and our brothers and sisters, each and every day of our lives! I'm looking forward to seeing you in church.

Blessings, Pastor Jim



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of the United Methodist Church



Pastor Jim



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