

Dear Congregation,

It is our privilege to announce that Reverend Gregory Rapp has been appointed to FUMC as our Senior Pastor effective July 1st. Pastor Greg graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2002. Prior Pastoral appointments include Leesburg Charge in Shippensburg and First United Methodist in Hershey. Pastor Greg is currently the District Superintendent of the Wellsboro District of the Susquehanna Conference and has held this position since 2009.

Pastor Greg's background is in theater which is how he met his wife Robin. Prior to answering the call to ministry, Pastor Greg and Robin worked for several professional theater companies. Pastor Greg and Robin have 2 daughters. Autumn is a freshman at Millersville University and Alexandria is in the seventh grade. The Rapp family is excited by some of the opportunities FUMC provides such as VIM, hand bells, and Disciple. The family enjoys outdoor activities such as camping, backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, biking and running. They also enjoy music, movies, reading and eating good food.

Pastor Greg has many strong pastoral gifts that fit well with our church. First, Pastor Greg shares the vision that our Vision Team and our congregation have for the future growth of our church. He has strong leadership skills which will help push us forward to achieve our vision goals. He is experienced in mentoring Pastors, lay speakers, and lay leaders. Pastor Greg has a gift for preaching. He is energetic, engaging, and uses stories to bring the scripture alive. He has experience with leading youth, training youth leaders, and redesigning a contemporary service. He is passionately dedicated to expanding Bible study programs and making disciples. Pastor Greg wanted us to share that he is *"looking forward to serving as your pastor and greatly looking forward to working with Brendan, Judy and the entire staff"*. Please pray for the Rapp family during this time of transition.

It is our privilege to announce that Pastor Brendan Hock has been appointed to the full time Associate Pastor position at FUMC. Pastor Brendan has been our part time Associate Pastor since 2009. During this time, Pastor Brendan has been attending Wesley Theological Seminary and he will be graduating in May. This is a very exciting time for Pastor Brendan and Meagan in that this is their first full time appointment.

Pastor Brendan has many Pastoral gifts including music, preaching, and teaching. His leadership skills are evident through the New Song Worship Team and Praise Band which have resulted in growth and development of the contemporary service. Pastor Brendan has a gift of being able to connect with people and has used this for outreach into our community. His Faith is strong and is evident in his daily walk. Please take the time to congratulate Pastor Brendan and Meagan.

This is a very exciting time for our church. The Vision Committee is prayerfully and diligently working on the Vision Statement for the next 5 years. We are confident that this Vision will be both bold and courageous looking at strengthening ministries we already have as well as identifying new areas for ministry. God has a plan for FUMC.

We recognize and thank Pastor Tom Jacobs for his leadership over the last 4 years. During this time FUMC strengthened and grew new ministries. He provided leadership for unique outreach opportunities such as *the church has left the building*. Who can forget the Preacher that arrived by horseback one Sunday morning? Pastor Jacobs led this congregation to where we are now and prepared us for the plan that God has set before us.

God has Blessed FUMC throughout the years with gifted Pastoral leadership. God is providing that leadership once again. We are confident that Pastor Greg, Pastor Brendan, and Pastor Judy are the Pastoral team that can lead us in achieving the goals that the Vision Committee has set through God's guidance. God is Good and God is Faithful.

We encourage you to write notes of welcome and congratulation to both the Rapp and Hock families.

Rev. Greg, Robin, Autumn, and Alexandria Rapp
35 Fair Acres Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901

Pastor Brendan and Meagan Hock
241 Georgetown Road
Littlestown, PA 17340

In Christ,
Staff Parish Relations Committee