

In Brent's Words...

Jesus said. "Come, follow me." Mark 1:17

Each person, no matter how old, has an important work to do. This good work not only accomplishes something needed in the world, but completes something in us. The work we do in the world, when it is true vocation, always corresponds in some mysterious way to the work that goes on within us.

~ Elizabeth O'Connor

The Old and New Testament include numerous accounts of the people of God who are on their way; Abraham, Moses and the children of Israel, Naomi and Ruth, Christ and his disciples, and the Apostle Paul are some of the God followers that you and I can recall. In every situation, God is present and at work in amazing ways.

Similarly, you and I are on our own individual and communal journeys. About 41/2 years ago, my family and I traveled away for a short while to minister in a far off land called Tennessee but a call to teaching in the public school setting and the demands of our family whispered for us to come back home to N.C. and to the First on Fifth family. Martha, Bryanna, Ray, Hailey, and I gladly returned in the summer of 2017.



Now, you and I have the opportunity to travel together as a Family of Faith on a somewhat new path that might allow me to serve as your Interim Minister of Discipleship. I am certainly open and excited about this possibility to work on a very part-time basis as a leader and partner with you that will seek to help our congregation grow as a learning and teaching church who strives to know Christ and make Christ known. As we consider the road map that is before us this, I am praying that the Spirit of Christ will help us find consensus, clarity, and a spirit of peace about partnering together in a way that calls us to grow and go as disciples of Jesus. I look forward to partnering with our pastoral staff, working with current bible study groups, sharing coffee and conversations with individuals and families, and launching new efforts in the days ahead if you call me to serve.

Oh Christ, may we have your eyes to see, your ears to hear, and your wisdom to seek and do your will as you desire. Amen.