



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

129 Chestnut Street * Toms River, New Jersey 08753-5306
Phone 732-349-8155 ~ www.fumctr.com

Dear FUMCTR Family:

As most of you know, as it was announced in worship this past Sunday morning, I have accepted the call to be the Senior Pastor of First Congregational Church of Ramona (United Church of Christ) in Ramona, California (San Diego County). After much prayer and discernment, Amanda and I feel God's call for us to take this big step in our faith and family journey. The move will bring our children, Henry and Bonnie, closer to their aunts and uncles and cousins and grandparents. It will also allow me to pursue my call and to serve a congregation that is in need of faithful leadership and pastoral care.

We cannot express how grateful we are to our First United Methodist Church family and to the Toms River community. You have nurtured us, supported us, and provided a real home to our family. You supported me in my education and allowed me to flourish as a pastor and a scholar. It will be profoundly difficult to leave and we will miss you. You are forever part of who we are! Your friendship and kindness has shaped us. We are especially grateful for the love you've shown to our children and for the impact you have had on their lives.

I am grateful for the strong leadership and generous mentorship of Pastor Ed Davis. Working with Ed for these past 5 years has been the joy and honor of my career. Ed is an advocate for the young people, children, and families of our church. He and our Staff Parish Relations Committee will ensure that the youth, college, and family ministries of our church continue to have strong leadership and vibrant faith formation. I leave you in good hands.

We are equal parts sad and excited about what God has in store for us and First United Methodist Church of Toms River. May you always know that you belong to God and to each other. May you know and believe the good news that you are relentlessly loved by the God of the universe. And may you become more and more the people God created you to be.

Warmly,


Pastor Wes and Amanda Ellis
(And Bonnie & Henry too!)

Birthdays

Vickie Gernert (11)
Edna Fischer (13)
Swee Chan (14)
Andrew Boufford (14)
Maria Mosqueda (17)
Dave Faber (18)

Anniversaries

Doug & Laurie Leifert (11)
Dot & Cliff Vaughan (17)

Electronic Giving Address:

www.fumctr.com/donate

To Mail Your Offering *(thank you for the gift of a stamp!)*

ATTN: Financial Secretary, First UMC
129 Chestnut Street, Toms River, NJ 08753

In Person: We pass the plates/baskets during worship or you may drop off your offering to the office during the week.