

A Message from The Pastor



Have you ever taken one of those stress tests in which you check off events that have occurred in your life within the last year? Each event has a value assigned to it. When you have completed your checkmarks, you add the values to indicate what your level of stress likely is currently. Some of the events in the list are negative, like loss of income, and some of the events are positive, like getting married or going on vacation. These events are all changes in your life. Change is stressful! We need change and change is inevitable. Change is an opportunity for growth, but it is often difficult.

We are all going through changes right now. Our society seems to be changing. Our denomination is changing. Technology is constantly changing how we manage our lives. Our own lives change. These changes are positive and negative, sometimes at the same time. A major change in the life of Perry Hall UMC is the retirement of Pastor Vic and my own appointment as your pastor. There is negative in that change: you will miss Pastor Vic, his family, and the way he did some things around here. There is positive in that change: you will welcome me and my family, and some of the ways I will do things around here. In the UMC, we are reminded that each pastor is appointed for a season, and that God has reasons for each pastor's season with a church. We are encouraged to rejoice in all the wonderful ways in which Pastor Vic led you and all the gifts and grace that he gave and received in his season with you. We are encouraged to search out the things God would have us do and who God asks us to become in this season as I serve as your pastor.

I am excited and curious to discover where God is already working in your lives, in the life of Perry Hall UMC, and in the life of our surrounding community. I look forward to joining you in the work which God is already doing. I will be getting better acquainted with you one-on-one and in small groups in the coming months. I cannot address concerns or celebrate joys if I do not know about them, so I ask that you contact me as we minister together in God's kingdom.

In the midst of the changes in our lives, we know that we can trust in God's guidance, wisdom, and strength. God is indeed the same yesterday, today, and forever. May we rest in the confidence of God's children as we seek to follow God's leading for us, individually and as God's family present at Perry Hall UMC. May God bless us and keep us now and forever.

Pastor Margery