

## *A Message from The Pastor*



How did you find your way to church? My parents took me when I was so young that I can't remember it. I do have vague memories of attending with my grandmother and going to the preschool class of Sunday School. Maybe you went to church with a friend when you were a teen; you went to youth group or Sunday School because you were with your friend. As an adult, maybe you came because someone you knew invited you. That is the main reason that someone attends a church: they were invited. Perhaps they didn't even want to come to church, but they wanted to be with or to please their friend.

We do know stories of persons who came to church on their own or may even have sort of accidentally found a church, but most of the time, people come to church because someone they know is attending that church. When was the last time you invited someone to church? You don't have to start with a worship service; you may want to invite someone to a fun event. You could invite someone to help you with a mission in the church: the Fibers of Love or the monthly spaghetti dinner or VBC or the Thrift Shop. We all want to know that we have made a difference in the world and helping you to help others is a great way to invite someone to make a difference. We have been hearing and reading stories of what the church means to members of PHUMC. I invite you to think for a bit about what the church means to you. Wouldn't you like your friends to have that same experience, that feeling of being part of a group that is making a difference and who accept you for who you are and somewhere you can belong? Invite them to join you and experience what you have experienced here at PHUMC. Once they have found belonging here, they may find a real relationship with our Lord, if they have not already done so. You don't have to preach or know any theology; you only have to invite them to come with you to your place of belonging, here at church. The invitation will be as easy as inviting them to lunch or to go shopping or to any other experience you want to share with a friend.

*"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!' – Psalm 122: 1  
"Nathaniel said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see'." – John 1: 46*

Blessings,  
Pastor Margery