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March 3, 2023

Dear Church Family,

As we continue in the season of Lent, it is so encouraging to see signs of life in the azaleas and also signs of growth in our church. We welcomed new members in February, and more are planning to join soon. The church self-study forms have been mailed to each member (please notify the church office if yours has not arrived by the end of the week), and some completed studies are already coming in. If possible, plan to get together with other members to discuss and complete your self-study by Easter Sunday. There are still openings on the 40 Meals in 40 Homes in 40 Days sign up. The self-study results will be very helpful in our formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and in our understanding of who we are and what we value as a congregation.

I rejoice that this church is such a caring community. We have been through a lot since 2019 when Covid upended the way we worship together. We have been through changes and challenges but the core that has kept this church together is resilience and our love for Jesus Christ. In caring for one another, we show how much we love Christ. During this season, I encourage all of us to look within, to notice where we can be more loving and gracious, to notice how we can encourage and uplift each other, and to make time for prayer. You can join the prayer list by contacting the church office to be added to the email list. Once you do, you'll receive prayer requests and prayers as they arise. And you can always add prayer requests to the prayer chain by contacting your deacon or a pastor, so that we can all lift your concerns to God.

God is working in this church, even during transition. My prayer for all of us is that we open ourselves to God's grace, forgiveness, and wisdom as we journey through Lent together.

In Christ,

Rev. Tricia