

February 19, 2024

Dear Friends,

I am writing to let you all know that I am resigning my position as Pastor of First Congregational Church. I have accepted a call to the Community Church of Fontana, United Church of Christ in Fontana, WI.

As the Church began to seriously consider moving the pastoral position to part-time, I reactivated my ministerial profile in case I would need to seek a new call. I knew then that should things continue in this direction I could not financially afford to stay as your pastor. My search process has moved quicker than I could have imagined, and I have been given a great opportunity for continued ministry in Fontana.

We began ministry together at a time when the church was still closed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, and while we opened in May of 2021, the effects of the pandemic have continued to impact our communities even now in 2024. It has been an honor to have been of spiritual comfort and assistance to families and individuals in the church who faced difficult circumstances. I am also glad that together we have been able to begin the first phase of the "Making All Things New" Capital Campaign.

This congregation is filled with wonderful and talented individuals with a passion for ministry and for living out the church's mission statement of loving God with heart, soul, and mind, and loving our neighbors as we love ourselves. Thank you to all those who faithfully supported my ministry and the ongoing work of the church. I'm confident that God's Spirit will continue to lead you in discerning your future mission and purpose as you serve the people of Port Washington.

It is always difficult to say goodbye, and I will miss the friends I have made here in the congregation. But we will have the time necessary to say farewell between now and my time of departure in the coming months. I know our Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Jane Anderson, will be helpful as you all move into an interim process and begin to discern new directions. With the strength of faith present in this church and the guidance of God's Spirit your ministry will continue on, and you will find the resources necessary to fulfill God's call.

Peace, Courage, and God's Blessings,
Scott