

With this newsletter, we are preparing to say goodbye to Pastor Adam and the Bowling family. Perhaps like me you are starting to realize just how much Adam has done in the life and work of this congregation. Adam began his ministry at First Presbyterian in July of 2007. There is not enough room in this newsletter to list all that Adam has done in his eleven plus years here. I list a few highlights:

Pastoral and program leadership for eleven classes of middle school, high school, and college students, organized around service, worship, study, fellowship, and family. Creation of small groups model for Sunday mornings and other times of study, service, and fellowship.

Countless conference and mission trips for youth and adults, local, national, and international.

Development, along with the gifted, creative leadership of Erin Bowling, of a week-long Vacation Bible Camp with over 100 church and community children participating in day-long activities.

Development of a Wednesday after-school program, "God's Backyard Bible Club," with pick up from local schools for Bible study, snack, homework help, choir, and free time. Resources were written by Adam. At the end of each semester, the children participated in a Christmas pageant or music program for families.

Wednesday night programming each fall and spring, including Advent and Lent.

Creative worship leadership with special services, magical Times for Children, and well-prepared monthly sermons.

Pastoral care for families of all sizes and stages, including weddings and funerals.

Improvement of church communication through social media and live streaming.

Acting head of staff during the sabbatical leaves of the former pastor and before arrival of transitional pastor.

Please do these things to show your appreciation for Adam, Erin, Parker, Chase, and Lily Paige:

- Attend the luncheon following worship on Nov. 11. There is no charge for the meal, but donations toward the cost will be received. At the meal, there will be a Gratitude Basket for notes of appreciation and gifts to the Bowling family as a love offering. These expressions also can be dropped off at the church office.
- Be in worship on Nov. 18, a special service of Consecration with the giving of our pledges for 2019 and Thanksgiving with special music, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, message by Adam, and a special blessing for him and his family.
- Lastly, pray for the Bowling family. Give thanks for how Adam has led you in growing and going deeper in faith and shown you about serving our Lord. Pray that God goes with him and his family to his new calling and blesses him as he blesses others.

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