

## Senior Minister's Report to the Board of Trustees

January 2018

I will use this report to highlight some of the programmatic changes we have made in the last quarter.

- **Addiction Recovery Ministry:** This has been a goal of mine for some time. I had had good success with this program in my last church, and given the heightened awareness around the Opioid crisis, I felt the time was right for a launch here. Jim Francek who has training and experience in this field is the primary lead on this ministry. We agreed that it would be best to bring a group of dedicated people into a team and chart out the best route for introducing this. Six people, all of whom with experience in this field, came forward and we laid out a six month plan. I preached on this in early December and the team was ready to talk to people after each service. Others have come forward to help. Now we are focusing on three initiatives; a series of speakers talking about addiction, providing resources for those facing addiction, and increasing the number of 12 Step Groups using our church. We now have three such groups; AA, Overeaters Anonymous, and Al-Anon. We are also now reaching out to our larger community.
- **#MeToo:** This group has been convened to address issues of sexual harassment and abuse in our congregation and our wider communities. Following the service on this subject, two workshops for men and women have been planned. The first was held on January 6<sup>th</sup> and was successful. A worship service being run by the #MeToo team is being planned for January 28<sup>th</sup>. The group is still discerning goals and further activities.
- **Family Ministry:** Mary Collins, Shahan Islam and I have started a new program to support the families of the church. Surveys tell us that what families need most of all is time together. Once a month we will hold a worship service for adults and kids as well as a facilitated discussion on topics ranging from bullying to electronic boundaries.

As we further develop our metrics for measuring our ends, I will be considering how these and other ministry programs are meeting those ends.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Dr. John T. Morehouse

Senior Minister