



The Rev. Gwen Drake
District Superintendent

Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

March 29, 2015

Dear Friends and Members of First United Methodist Church of Eugene,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

As you know, Pastors Debbie and John Pitney will be retiring on June 30, 2015 after serving you and the Eugene community for sixteen years. I have consulted with your Staff Parish Relations Committee and received information from your congregational survey, church profile, and visioning retreat. The Bishop and the Appointive Cabinet met to prayerfully discern the best possible leadership for you.

This letter is to announce to you it is the intention of Bishop Grant Hagiya of the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area to appoint the Reverend Pamela Nelson-Munson as the Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church on July 1, 2015. Pamela met with your Staff Parish Relations Committee who affirmed the Appointive Cabinet's discernment.

Pamela comes with many years of effective and vital ministry. She is passionate about vibrant worship, encouraging new leaders, and helping people claim their ministry. She is currently serving Ashland United Methodist Church, a Reconciling Congregation. She has also served Trinity United Methodist Church in Eugene, Albany United Methodist Church, and Valley United Methodist Church in Veneta. She knows the Eugene community well. Her husband, Brian Nelson-Munson is a retired United Methodist Clergy.

The Bishop and cabinet will hold you in prayer while Pastors Debbie and John continue to lead you through the next few months of ministry, mission and transition. I know you are planning ways to appreciate them and send them off in style. I also know you will work on ways to welcome your new pastoral leadership. The Appointment Cabinet will be working with the Rev. Pamela Nelson-Munson during their discernment of who will come to serve as your Associate Pastor.

Please know this: I trust the Holy Spirit is at work in powerful ways in this process, ways we don't always understand. I thank God for each of you and pray you will be Christ in the community and Christ to one another. May God bless you and keep you.

In ministry with you,

Gwen Drake, District Superintendent