



North Central District

of the United Methodist Churches of Indiana

November 11, 2021

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Dear Church Family of The Promise,

Our time together at The Promise United Methodist Church has come to an end, with our final worship celebration on Sunday, November 7, 2021. The day was indeed bittersweet. There was grief in closing the church and breaking up as a church family. Yet the day was also sweet in that we had a great turnout with former members and pastors coming back to celebrate the church's life with us. We shared table fellowship both during worship, as we received Holy Communion one last time here at The Promise, and as we gathered around tables for the fellowship dinner following the worship service. The day had dignity. We have been faithful to the end of what has been.

But as God is ever a God of new beginnings, we must also look on the day as the beginning of what God has in store for all of us moving forward. We are blessed to be a blessing. The Promise UMC church family has not only been a blessing, but our legacy and continues to bless those brought to Christ and nurtured in love at The Promise. Well done, good and faithful servants of Christ!

One thing that is of great importance to me as your Conference Superintendent, is seeing everyone settled in a new church home. We don't want to have to account to Jesus for any lost sheep. We are now missionaries sent out to enrich the Body of Christ in the surrounding area. Some may choose to remain connected and worship together in a new church home. Other's may feel led to new opportunities where their spiritual nurture, witness and service may continue.

I encourage you to worship this Sunday. Find a place where you can continue to serve in ministry and mission. Find a place that nourishes your walk with Jesus and gives you opportunities to share your gifts. The Requesting Transfer of Church Membership form will help you know the United Methodist Churches in the area. Please complete the form and return to the Promise when you have decided on a new place to call your church home. You are not limited to the choices on the form, and you will see a place to write in the church family you choose to join if they are not on the list. When the Promise receives your form, it will be shared with my staff who will work with the church of your choice to facilitate a transfer of your membership.

The Promise can receive your form until June 15, 2022. You can send to The Promise Church, 12648 E. 116th Street, Fishers IN 46037. After that time, you will need to contact the district for a transfer of your membership. I encourage you to make every effort to find a new church home as soon as possible.

Let us go forward in faith knowing that God goes before us and prepares the way.

Blessings in Christ Jesus!

Rev. Dr. Saneta Maiko North Central Conference Superintendent