

North Rose United Methodist Church

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Dear Friends,

After much prayer, I have decided to retire on July 1, 2016. I am profoundly grateful for all we have shared together in ministry over the past 18 years. However, as I approach my 60th birthday, I sense God calling me to the next chapter in my life's journey; I'm looking forward to the joys of retirement and of spending more time with my family. I will deeply miss all of you and the amazing privilege of being the pastor of North Rose United Methodist Church and serving the NRW community. I know in my heart that this is God's plan for my life, so this decision will not change in the future.

What is next for the church? In the United Methodist Church, a church's pastor is assigned by the bishop. The Staff-Parish Relations Team (SPRT) first meets with the district superintendent (Rev. Jeff McDowell). They prayerfully discuss the key qualities of a new pastor which will best help the church to fulfill its mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Then Bishop Mark Webb and all 12 district superintendents in Upper NY (called "The Cabinet") pray about the best pastor to be appointed. That person is introduced to the SPRT, usually in late Spring, and then to the congregation; he or she will begin serving the church on July 1, 2016. It is important to note that the new pastor will fulfill all pastoral duties as of that date, and I will no longer be available for baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

North Rose United Methodist Church has an exciting future ahead, based on 3 pillars of strength: a dedicated & faith-filled membership, skilled & experienced Christian leaders, and a new pastor with his/her own unique set of spiritual gifts and enthusiasm for ministry.

What can you do? Please hold the church in your prayers daily in this time of transition. Pray for God's guidance for the SPRT and for our bishop & district superintendents. Pray for the new pastor whom God is planning to send to North Rose.

If you have questions or ideas in the coming months, feel free to contact any of the members of SPRT (see below).

As we look to the future, let us remember the promise of Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV): "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

God's blessings always,

Pastor Dan Corretore

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