



25 June 2021

Dear Friends,

I wanted to reach out and bring you greetings as summer begins. I wish you blessings in this time of great beauty and renewal--here in the foothills of the Rockies. Although we traditionally head off on some type of holiday or get away over these months, that may very well still be a bit uncertain for some of us this summer. Gratefully, we are now seeing some light at the end of the great COVID tunnel, with numbers dropping dramatically and many of us having successfully received our second dose of the vaccine.

It has been heartening to have in-person worshippers back in the sanctuary again. We are now permitted up to 50 people. I encourage you to begin this important transition back to in-person worship—where health protocols will continue to be maintained for your protection. Christianity is an embodied faith that not only takes shape in Jesus' physical body—but also in each of our “in-person” bodies as well. Something unique happens when we gather together in-person. I look forward to seeing you soon in the sanctuary with me. If all continues to go well, our hope is to have most health protocols removed by September. This will be such welcome news for our congregation, and it will be a joy to see you all in person once again. The thought of seeing real faces and getting to chat with you in the foyer warms my heart. I deeply miss seeing you and talking with you! But never fear, our online ministry will also still be offered each week.

I realize that Rev. Jared's resignation as our Associate Minister, Together in Mission will still be a source of sadness for some of you, particularly those who have worked closely with him in Family Ministry and theCreek. Departures can be hard. Change can be difficult. I hope those of you struggling with Rev. Jared's resignation will find comfort in knowing Rev. Jared loved the people of St. Andrew's and that his and Beth's discernment has now led him to a call in a different direction. We are heartened by word that this new possibility is taking shape for Rev Jared--with a more formal announcement through presbytery anticipated soon. We wish Rev Jared and his family all the best from St. Andrew's in whatever direction God's call takes them.

Our ministry at St. Andrew's will look a little different in the coming months—with our ministry staff down to just one of the three ministerial positions. I certainly have lots to do, as always. I am currently working with leaders at St. Andrew's and our General Presbyter, Dr. Jean Morris to find a workable coverage for our ministerial needs. With the complexity of two vacancies, Presbytery will compile new terms of reference before naming a new Interim Moderator in the near future. We continue to be blessed by the work of Dr. Geoffrey in pastoral care. Dr. Peter Coutts will also be providing some emergency pastoral care when Dr. Geoffrey has some well-deserved vacation. And as always our faithful office staff continues to support the congregation in carrying out its important ministry. Despite the extra demands on me, it is my hope to shed some of my administrative responsibilities in these coming months so that there can be more space for connecting with you more personally—whether through virtual messages or in-person.

Please continue to pray with me for our community of faith, for our In-person re-gathering and the fulfillment of our vision of **Growing. LIFE. Together. With God.** I look forward to all that God will accomplish in us and through us for the good of our city and our world over these coming months.

Peace to you all,

Dr. Tim