



January 2020

Well, the year 2019 is already gone and we are just at the very beginning of the new year 2020. I hope that you will have a very Happy New Year!

I know that Trinity and Peace UMC had been experiencing some degree of sorrow due to an excellent Pastor Wiley deciding to leave these two congregations to serve God in the Salvation Army. This is an organization that can be traced back to the Methodist movement when William Booth was converted to Christianity in 1844 (during his early teens) through the Wesleyan movement. Even though Pastor Wiley left these churches and our denomination, the Good Lord has provided these two congregations with another servant to help them to move forward into the tasks set before us, which are laid down in the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church.

Here we are in this New Year during which there are many roads we need to travel together and many decisions we need to make together. There is no doubt in my mind; we are going to face a big challenge as our denomination gathers together in the month of May (from days 5 to 15) in Minneapolis, Minnesota for the General Conference.

Besides the challenges that we are going to be facing during and after the General Conference, we need to look into our own human resources and see how we can stand together and join in strength, so we can move ahead with the mission of the church. How we respond to the final decision of our denomination is very important. Even more important for these two congregations is how we are going to stick together and face the challenges that we have before us. As a Christian community that has gathered together for over 2 centuries to worship and praise God in this place, you have been serving this community and this country in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

My hope is that we may be able to keep working together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This year 2020 will bring new challenges and my message and invitation to you will be to stick together as the body of Christ, dedicated to the tasks God calls you to in this place. Make disciples, love and embrace each other with the love of Christ.

In the meantime, Happy New Year once again!

In Christ,
Pastor Rey Diaz
Trinity United Methodist Church
Peace United Methodist Church