

Good Morning. My name is Bud Read and I am chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. I know that we have been anxiously awaiting an announcement from our District Superintendent, Rev. Joe Archie, about who our next pastor will be.

SPRC met with Rev. Archie and that person on Friday night. Sometimes you do not have to look far to find the right person. Today, I am pleased to announce that the Rev. Dr. Mary Catherine Miller will be assuming the position as Pastor at Newark United Methodist Church. Effective July 1st, she will give up her title as an Intentional Interim and officially become our Pastor.

When Mary Catherine joined us in January we reviewed her education and previous work experiences. This appointment will be her 10th position as an interim or fulltime pastor since entering the ministry.

Pastor Mary has been working tirelessly to get to know the congregants, work with our various ministry groups and leaders, and learn where our hearts are in order to guide the future direction of our church. Fortunately, the groundwork she has

established will allow us to seamlessly move forward in these challenging times in the history of our church and nation.

Mary Catherine said before she arrived at NUMC that she comes with an open heart and looks forward to continuing the journey with us. She continues to affirm those feelings. We thank our Lord for bringing us a pastor that displays excellent leadership skills and whose primary interest is helping us to continue to radiate God's love and minister to both those in our building and reaching out to our community.

Thank you.