

Adapted and Modified: "An Order of Farewell to a Pastor or Deacon," Copyright © 1992 UMPH, alt. 2015 (to include deacon in full connection) by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. Also, from "a liturgy for leaving" from M.C. Tirabassi and M.I. Tirabassi's book "Before the Amen."

AN ORDER OF FAREWELL FOR REV. ERIN NEWCOMB-MOORE



Sunday, June 27, 2021

Nate Olin (Chair of SPRC):

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church family. Our church family is ever changing. Loved ones are born into this family of faith and loved ones come to the end of their lives here. Individuals come and go in our church life. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and new beginnings. We celebrate the gifts Pastor Erin brought to us as Associate Pastor, mentor, leader, friend, and sister in Christ.

Alison Smythe:

Pastor Erin, today we share words of farewell with you. You came to our family of faith in July of 2017, and although we are sad that your time as an Associate Pastor is ending, we wish you joy in your new journey. When you came, we welcomed you with open arms, delighted for what God would share through you. Today, we thank God for the amazing difference you have made. We will remember you as one who was a caring and gentle shepherd. You ministered to our souls, you rejoiced with those who rejoiced and mourned with those who mourned, and your words of wisdom spoke to our own spirits who longed for a connection with God.

Morgan Bengel:

Pastor Erin, we have worked with you and laughed with you. We shall miss your open heart, your smile, and your creative ideas. We give thanks for your faithful service to God while with us. Wherever God leads you now, take the love and blessing of this church with you.

Pastor Erin:

I thank you, the members and friends of Trinity United Methodist Church, for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you. I am grateful for the ways we partnered in ministry together and for the memories we shared. For these meaningful ministries and relationships formed, I am grateful. For the promise of new beginnings, I give thanks.

Congregation:

We receive your thankfulness, and accept that you now leave us to seek God's path for your life in new ways. For your presence and work among us, we are grateful. For this time of endings and beginnings, we give thanks.

Pastor Erin:

Now we continue our journey, but in different directions. We go our separate ways but continue in the spirit of God. While my journey is leading me someplace new, I hope you continue your ministry here. I hope you continue in faith. And, wherever you may end up—here or elsewhere--I pray that God will bless you in the days and years ahead.

Pastor René

Let us pray. **Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting, we give you thanks for cherished memories and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions. Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**