

Thoughts from the Moderator

So far, this has been a very busy year for your Executive Committee. Several meetings were held as we finalized the details of our compensation package for Pastor Christine during this five month (December 1 through April 30) period at three quarter time.

The Executive Committee and the Council await the results of the Stewardship Campaign. Following the campaign, budget planning will begin for 2010/2011. The impact of having a pastor time reduced to three quarter time is now being felt and will be evaluated as we look forward to what we as a church will define as our future.

Our Settled Pastor Search Committee has begun its work. The dedication of the committee took place on February 14. As both a committee and a church, we made a sincere and sacred commitment to the process of seeking a settled pastor. This was such a moving experience to have these church leaders stand before us and pledge their time, talent, experience, and knowledge to this task. Please include them in your prayers.

The Interim Team presented a successful Faith Forum on January 31. There were 50 who were there to hear the team tell its story and prepare for this initiative of the Triplets. Thirty members volunteered to participate in the Share & Prayer Triplet program this spring. I am so pleased with the response. As time goes on, the Interim Team will report our learning to the congregation.

Service Committee and Food for Food Committee will meet on February 24 at 7 pm. At that meeting we will discuss guidelines for the work behind the hospitality our church offers to our members and the community. If you are interested in this work, please join us for this important meeting.

God is still speaking here in Springfield at the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! Are we all listening?

Peace, Anne