



March 5, 2025

Dear Members of Federated Church,

For everything there is a season...

With both gratitude and sadness, I write to let you know that I have decided to conclude my tenure as your called minister at the end of May. I have discerned, with much prayerful thought and conversation with trusted loved ones, that the time is right in my life to retire from full-time ministry. I don't yet know what is next for me in ministry. For now, I will focus on time with family, which will be a gift after 25 years of full-time ministry and seminary study. In particular, it will mean the world to me to spend more concentrated time with our beautiful and beloved new granddaughters.

I am grateful for all that we have experienced together: holy seasons of worship, book and Bible studies, retreats, meals, picnics, Confirmation journeys, Fed Talks, pastoral visits and calls, services of memory for loved ones, wedding celebrations, and gathering together at the communion table. Thank you for trusting me, and for walking together in faith.

My last day will be Sunday, May 25. I look forward to sharing with you this Lenten Season, the joy of Easter, and the service of Confirmation in May. I know that Federated Church is in the midst of creative transition, and I pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance. I am grateful to you for welcoming me into your hearts and homes and sharing honestly with me your spiritual and pastoral concerns. I give thanks for your love for God and for your neighbors, your dedication to Federated Church, your desire to seek, serve, and love, your care for one another, and for those well beyond the church's boundaries.

God bless you and keep you, and may God's grace surround each of you, and your lives together in God's beloved community.

With Love,

Betsy

Rev. Betsy Wooster
Pastor of Spiritual Formation