

Musings from Pastor's Office--Updates on Choosing the Faithful Path

Happy New Year! May God, the source of love and peace, guard your heart and mind and give an extra-measure of strength through which we can withstand all the kinds of negativity and woe that the Pandemic has brought forth. The consolation and conviction given to people of Israel by the prophet Isaiah may be resonant with us all for such a time as this: "Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:30-31)

I'd like to give you some updates on "Choosing the Faithful Path." It took 13 weeks for a group of 20 to complete an intensive study and discernment of the future of the UMC of Peace since September 13, 2021. After taking a great deal of time with rich conversation and discussion to make a final recommendation, the group suggests choosing the Re-Innovation path that requires ability, willingness, and commitment to complete this project. I deeply appreciate all those who have participated in this study. Those are true warriors of the prayer and faithful servants of the Lord. I observe how passionate they are about ministry and mission of the church and how faithful they have been to God's kingdom work so far. Their work, sweat, and tears will continue.

In the coming months, ministry and mission board members will devote to developing the action plans of re-innovation of mission and ministry of the church while non-board participants of the study will continuously engage in the project through prayer and support including daily prayer at 2pm.

The work doesn't end with the book study. Rather, it has just begun. We ask all of the faithful servants of Church of Peace to participate in this endeavor and help us to renew, re-innovate, and re-think the way we have done our ministry together. Once the action plans are fully developed, they will be brought before the whole congregation, which is subject to voting. If it's approved, then it will be owned by the whole congregation.

One thing becomes so clear. We chose to be faithful no matter what. That's our hope.

Blessings in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Woojae Im