

July 2022 Pastor's Report
(**Bold** = Pastor will for sure talk about at Council Meeting)

- Day Camp Follow-Up:
 - o Went well! A multitude of thanks for all the volunteers that helped make it happen
 - Those who did the pre-planning and administrative stuff, especially Beth W. and Mary U.
 - Those who donated food
 - People who donated gift cards and meals, housing for the counselors
 - The people who donated their time and helped lead the groups
 - Everyone who helped for even a day!
 - o While great, it was also very tiring. Unclear on how much of this is normal and how much of it is the fatigue of group gatherings in a Covid world
 - o I'm curious about the feasibility of offering something like this (not full day, and not all week) during winter and spring breaks from school. That was my goal with the Break Out Sessions. **Council's thoughts?**
- Confirmation Camp Follow-Up:
 - o 3 kids, very fun and also tiring
 - o Strong connection to RTL
 - o In the future, I'm willing to go for up to half a week. A full week was too long for me to be gone from my family at my son's age
- Summer Series on Elijah and Elisha (1 & 2 Kings) will conclude on August 14
- August 14 in service, we'll be installing the Preschool Teachers and Staff
- July 17 Meeting with Bishop Gonia, Pastor Hesron, and representatives from the Indonesian House Church
 - o There was a lot of clarity, and part of that clarity is that this is an evolving partnership
 - o **Big points:**
 - The house church does indeed want to merge into Holy Love and become part of Holy Love's community
 - There would be a second service twice a month in Batak (Indonesian dialect) and English at 3 pm. As Holy Love's Pastor, I would lead and preside once a month. Pastor Hesron and/or lay leaders would lead the other gathering
 - This would be a 2nd service for Holy Love. We'd become one entity. One budget, one membership roster, one income, and one community
 - Folks from the 3 pm service would attend the 9:30 am service as they are able with work schedules on Sundays when the 3 pm service isn't running
 - People are welcome at BOTH services! Always!!!
 - Pastor Hesron would still have some formal leadership role, but the Pastor of Holy Love [currently me] would be primarily responsible for all pastoral needs
 - Pastor Hesron is ordained in a Lutheran denomination that does not have bilateral relations with the ELCA
 - Bishop Gonia is working on writing a proposal and notes from the meeting. That will be shared as soon as it's available
 - This will still come before the congregation for a formal vote and meeting
- **I'm co-authoring a fiction book about three clergy women in a rural, American Western town, set for May 2023 publishing date**
 - o This is something I'm doing in my own time for personal fun
 - o Was on a writing retreat 7/11-7/15 for it
 - o I am not looking to leave congregational ministry. This is a side project, an outside activity. I am not looking to get famous or wealthy off this either
 - o No, you are not going to be a fictional character in the book. Sorry, friends!
 - o Bishop Gonia knows and is supportive

- PM Bible Study not meeting until August; we're on a summer break

Time off:

- Was off July 6-8, 11-15
- Will be off August 4-8, Pastor Nic covering
 - o Rev. Terry Schjang of New Beginnings Women's Ministry was going to lead and preside at service on 8.7, but she has a family emergency and is unable to do so. I am working on finding a substitute.

Building Use Requests:

- o Followed back up on All-Stars COI; should have something to report by Council Meeting time
- o Building Use Requests and keeping track of various COIs will move to the responsibility of the Executive Committee at a date TBD