

Weekly Message

January 10, 2018

Members of Covenant,

It's great to be with you. I have come to "hold your hand". What do I mean?

Sometimes we hold someone's hand in order to romance them; the first step on the journey towards greater commitment. I will not be holding yours in that way. I am not available for call or any permanent involvement at Covenant. I have come to be your interim pastor; I have come in order to leave.

At other times we take someone's hand in order to bring them comfort and assurance in times of grief or uncertainty. As individuals and as a community, that I am here to do as is needed. Although just for the interim, I am here to be your pastor.

But there are times, and I think this is one of those times, when you take someone's hand and say to them, *"Let's take a look at maybe going this way."* or *"Have you tried looking over here?"* This hand holding is my primary task as your interim pastor. It's the best way that I can give you a "helping hand" during this interim time.

And the truth is that we are all "interim". We have all come in order to leave; and hopefully to leave things a bit better than when we came. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *"What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."*

In Christ,

Pastor Don