

October 8, 2017

It is with deep sadness that I announce my resignation as the Conference Associate Minister for Congregational Life and Vitality.

I have had a wonderful experience here in Penn Central Conference over the past 7 years. Your willingness to try new things, to think in new and creative ways about church growth and your genuine desire to reach new disciples have inspired and energized me. I am truly grateful for this opportunity to serve God in Christ among such faithful people.

I have accepted the call as the Lead Pastor of Christ Church in Bethlehem, PA. Yes, I really do love Pennsylvania! My accent aside, you have all welcomed me and made me feel less like an "outsider" and included me in your ministry. That inclusion and love, has made me want to stay.

As of today, I am giving 90 days' notice and therefore, I will conclude my full-time ministry here on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

It has been an honor to get to know each one of you. Over the next few months, I hope we can celebrate our time together. I will continue to keep you and your congregation in my prayers.

In Christ,

Laurene Beth Bowers