From the Pastor

June 27, 2017

St. Francis of Assisi loved God. He also loved the church. He sought to reform the church with all his heart. Unlike other reformers, including Luther, Calvin and even Wesley, Francis and the organizations he started remained within the church he served throughout his life.



The church in all its representations always needs reforming. Of course, we live in a day and time when there are real disagreements about the nature of reform needed. We see this clearly in our discussions related to homosexuality.

In his <u>recent blog</u>, included in this newsletter, Bishop McAlilly shares his thoughts on developments in the church. It is his hope we can stay united as we face the challenges before us. The words he shares touch my heart. I hope they touch yours as you decide how you will respond to matters that not only impact the United Methodist Church, but all the church and our world as well.

I am more grateful than I can say for the privilege of being a part of the United Methodist Church and the Wesleyan tradition. Please take time to prayerfully consider the words of our bishop. Let's stay <u>United</u> Methodists!

With Much Appreciation,

Craig