

## Pastor's Blog

Rev. Brad Beeman

August 23, 2018

Friends, it's been a long time since I've had to share news about staff and potential staff changes. In as much as some of those times have been centered on potentially negative things, this time there are some positive things that have happened in the lives of some of our staff that have forced either a change or a departure. Here's what's happening.

As many of you are aware, Hanae Straub, is leaving her position as second service choir director. The growth of Hanae and her husband Nathan's music business has made it just too challenging to continue her role at Aldersgate; add to that the fact that they are first time parents. Her last Sunday with us will be the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Please come and say goodbye to her as we thank her for her bright, shining, wonderful, spirit-filled presence as she lead the choir and sung solos. In the interim, as we search for her replacement, Jason Suchan will be taking on both roles, as choir director and organist / accompanist. A search committee has been formed out of the Core Leadership Team and with Hanae and Jason's help, will begin to look for our next choir director.

Second, Dave Carver's construction business has grown, and grown quickly. Dave no longer has the time to work as our facilities manager. Dave, being Dave, has offered his maintenance services as a member of the church, now as a volunteer. What he doesn't have time for is the property upkeep. We're hoping to find volunteers to mow, cut, trim, weed, etc. in the interim as we search for his replacement.

Finally, at least for today, because of our financial situation, we've had to move Pastor Laura's position to 1/4 time. What this means is that Pastor Laura's time at church will be reduced by a day, and she will be at church one day a week and on Sundays. We cannot take that action without an All Church Conference. **The All Church Conference will take place on September 17 at 7:00pm.** It is a one agenda item All Church Conference. Our normal Core Leaders Team meeting will follow immediately at 7:30pm. As always, anyone is welcome to attend the All Church Conference and all are welcome to attend any meeting of the Core Leadership Team.

Committees are forming to hire new staff. The search committee for the second service choir director includes: Dorothy Beeman, Robbin Price, Laura Baumgartner, Peter & Carolyn Coffee. They will be meeting soon to begin that search. If you would like to be a part of that group, please let any of the members of that committee know. Peter Narmita will head the search committee for a new facility manager. If you are willing to serve on a search committee and/or volunteer to help with grounds maintenance, please let Peter know. As many of you are aware, we have already made a change regarding our custodial work. We now have an outside contractor doing the work for both the Preschool and the Church. If you have questions about any of that please see Dorothy Beeman in the Preschool office. She is the liaison between Aldersgate and the cleaning company.

That's it for now. If you have any questions about any of this please let me or Joe Lee know. We're happy to share whatever we can about these changes. Our ongoing hope is to be as transparent as possible about the things going on around us at Aldersgate. Thank you for your prayers as we search for the next staff persons who will serve this amazing place.