



PARK RIDGE
Free Methodist Church

MONTHLY MEMO

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Pastor Merry Kendall, Lead Pastor

June 2023

From the pastor's pen...

On March 26th, Superintendent Pam Braman and I notified you that I would not be reappointed to Park Ridge in the 2023-24 Conference year. On that day, June 30th seemed a long time away. But suddenly, June is here and the 30th is just days away.

When I accepted the appointment to Park Ridge in 2020, I truly expected to retire here. As time went on, though, I understood that would not be so.

We lived through the seemingly endless months of the pandemic. Some of my most trying times were dealing with a microphone, eyeglasses, and a mask on Sunday mornings. The sound techs can tell you I was not always a happy camper as they made adjustments to the microphone that messed up my hair and make-up!

I am grateful that I got to walk with you through the joys of welcoming 13 new members, 3 of them joining by a first-time public profession of faith! A great memory of mine was on June 26, 2022 when five people came forward to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit! What an honor to witness that powerful day. On March 12, 2023, I was honored to present Tom Rende as a Licensed Ministerial Candidate who is exploring the call to Consecrated Deacon in the Free Methodist Church. And on May 11, 2023, I was honored to be the Sponsoring Elder of Pastor Lance Mitchell as he was ordained an Elder in the Free Methodist Church.

While it is an honor to walk alongside you during these joyous occasions in the life of the Church, it is a humbling experience to minister to members and walk alongside the families and friends of those in hospital rooms and hospice centers. As the Family of God, we grow, laugh, suffer, and grieve together. I cannot imagine doing any of it alone.

It is now time for a new season to begin in my life and in the life of Park Ridge. As you receive a new pastor, welcome him or her into your presence along with his or her new perspective, new ideas, and new gifts to share. Allow this person to lead you into the future that God has planned for you with hopeful joy!

In Christ's service,
Pastor Merry

Men's Gathering - Saturday, June 24, 2023 @ 1pm: Tour of *Military History Society of Rochester Museum*, 250 Goodman Street North, 2nd Floor, Suite 201, Rochester, NY 14607 (Village Gate campus). Artifacts from the Civil War to present day, including some made in Rochester, Buffalo, and Albany. Optional lunch at Old Pueblo Grill, 55 Russell Street, 14607 (within walking distance) at 11:30am. Sign- up using the Contact Card in church. Contact the church office for more information.



Wednesday Night Lunch Bunch
Continued thanks to everyone who joins us to make the lunches for the people who need it. It is a simple task but a necessary task to support the needs of our community.

Tom Rende, Coordinator



Rochester Clean Sweep

Several Powerhouse youth and leaders participated in Rochester Clean Sweep in late April. They worked, alongside other community members, in the 19th Ward and then attended the Red Wings game. At the game, Park Ridge FM Church was announced as one of the organizations participating in the City of Rochester event.

Congratulations Graduates!



Alex Aspromgos
Gates Chili HS

He will attend MCC in the fall to study Spanish, and plans to attend Brockport after MCC. He is interested in becoming an interpreter.

Wyley Kielkowicz
Greece Olympia HS

He will attend Fredonia in the fall to major in psychology and theater.